

In this year's account (1843) we find not only missionary agent paid £172, but others paid for attending Missionary meetings the sum of £150 8s. 5d., besides the expenses of the deputations, and £56 is appropriated to the contingent fund; after all which payments, a balance is acknowledged to be in the Treasurer's hands of £769 1s. 2d.

In the year from June 1843 to June 1844, the sum of £2136 11s. 10d. was contributed, and £1621 18s. 10d. appropriated for mission purposes, & £3257s. 11d. for miscellaneous purposes, being also above 30 per cent on the amount appropriated for missions: as this is the last year in review much depends on the fact whether there was money balance in the Treasurer's hands or not. We have proved that one sum of £302 10s. is not part of the balance but owing to the fund, but this £302 10s. is included in the above balance. We have no proof that the remainder of that which is said to be the real balance is actually cash in hand, for in the account of the last year, there is an item of £135 17s. 11d. for sums debited to the Treasurer, but never received. This is the fourth entry of the kind which has been made, the whole of which amounts to £737 17s. 8d.; surely, when such an error had once been committed, discovered, and rectified, it could not have happened again under ordinary management. In a note attached to this report we are told that the real balance in the Treasurer's hands is £453 19s. 7d.; consequently, here is an admission that £759 6s. 11d. is not the real balance. No one can find fault with our calling this a fallacious account, we would gladly give it a better name if we could.

In reviewing the whole up to the past year, we observe that £154 13s. 3d. has been paid for printing and binding the report. When it is considered, the sum raised for Missionary purposes is only about £2000, and the report costs as much as if £10,000 had been raised, it seems extravagant to print a report when all the purposes of satisfying the contributors could be accomplished by publishing it in the *Guardian*; by which it would cost the Missionary fund nothing. What is worse, this sum has been expended for printing a fallacious report.

Missionary agents have absorbed the sum of £419 1s. 3d. in three years; and for additional expenses for attending meetings, the sum of £292 11s. 9d.; altogether £1512 9s. 2d. has been appropriated to other than Missionary purposes. We also notice with regard to the Success mission, in addition to the allowances in the Missionary report, there is a considerable sum contributed by the members of the Church in that place, which does not appear in the report.

Having performed so much of our duty in relation to these Church funds as we have space for at present, we again earnestly and respectfully appeal to the members of our Church, requesting them to pry attention to our statements, and to sustain, or condemn us, as they find we are supported by facts or not. It is not for us to give directions to the Membership not to contribute to these funds till there is a full and satisfactory statement given of them; we believe they will not, after the disclosures now made; and we do not believe they will perform their duty to the Church, to their families and to their successors in the Church, if they do not insist on lay-representation, or its equivalent.

Another view of the management of the Mission business may be taken. The number of Missionaries employed, estimating the appropriations with them, is equal to about 24 missionaries, which at £80 per annum each would be about £2000 per annum. This agrees very nearly with the report as to the money actually expended. It follows, as an inevitable conclusion, that the balance in hand has not been required for missionary purposes, nor the large amount of miscellaneous appropriations; that the people have supported the missions of the Church, that there is £779 in hand towards next year's expenses; and if no more missionaries are sent out, instead of £2000 for the following year, only £1250 will be required.

THE CENTENARY FUND.

By mistake, in our notice in the extra we published on the 24th ult., the Centenary Fund was mentioned, and not the Centenary Fund.

Respecting this fund, the members of the Church

of money received, or how it has been disposed of. We regret the absence of a plain and simple statement from the beginning, of the amount received, and how the same is invested, as its leads to conjectures painful to all parties. If we should be wrong in our conclusions on this subject, the blame rests on those who have given merely scraps of information from time to time, and yet have withheld a plain statement. Out of these scraps of information from the same authority as we derive some knowledge respecting the Mission Fund,—the *Methodist Almanac*; we find the amount collected up to June 1842, to be £3,266 12s. 6d., and the amount subscribed for, about £10,000. If the Almanac for the present year, we are informed that the interest of the Centenary Fund is, £111 15s. 9d. This amount is appropriated to the Superannuated Fund, which according to the plan of appropriation first decided on, and published to the community, was only to receive one-half, two-tenths were to go to the Book room, two-tenths to furnish parsonage houses, and one-tenth was to be at the disposal of Conference, for missionary and other purposes. According to this plan of appropriation, £223 11s. 7d. would be the interest of the money received, but we have only an account of the appropriation of one-half. Now it is evident, that we must either take the amount of £111 15s. 9d., to be the whole, or half the interest for a year of the amount of Centenary money received. It will also be evident that £111 15s. 9d., is the interest of about £1,900 at 6 per cent, or of £3,800 at 3 per cent. But as the amount acknowledged to have been received, is not £1,900, but £3,266 12s. 6d., and as it is probable that a few hundreds have been added within a short time, to make it £3,800, it follows that the interest received, is at the rate of 3 per cent per annum; while the legal interest of the Province is double that amount. Either they have not received the amount they report to have received, or they have invested it far below its value. It is for the managers to say which; the people have a just claim to an explanation. But as the whole subscribed for, is about £10,000, and as up to June 1842, the amount received was £3,266 12s. 6d., and as it was then stated, that it being the fourth year since the subscriptions were made, it was expected that the remainder would nearly be paid in during the then present year (1843) we should expect that the Almanac for 1843, would report the receipt of a much larger sum than that which would yield interest to the amount of £111 15s. 9d., which we have showed is only about the interest of £3,266 12s. 6d. at 3 per cent.

We need not ask the question, has nothing more been received since June 1842, to produce a larger interest than £111 15s. 9d.? We have only to go through the numbers of the *Guardian* since that date, to point out acknowledgments of receipts from the Centenary Fund, sufficient to prove that more money has been received than £3,266 12s. 6d. Then, where is the account of it, how is it invested, and what is the amount, and what is the interest received for it?

We conjecture that the Book Room has got it all on easy terms; and if it is thought that we are too hard upon the managers of the fund, to come to this conclusion, let them explain, and we will be the first to do them justice by publishing satisfactory explanations.

We fear we shall not have space to admit of entering upon the subject of the Victoria College Fund, till our next number. We must therefore conclude, by suggesting the only remedy for these abuses—Lay-representation; and that with reference to the standing Committee, one half ought to be lay-members of the Church, for it is impossible for a few members of the Conference, if they were ever so zealous in the affair to have any influence. We remark that all the important business of the Conference is performed by Standing Committees, and when the Conference opens, all they have done has only to be admitted without a question. As the separate Committees are unanimous; they are all composed of the leading preachers of the body, and no one Committee will oppose another; consequently members of Conference who are not on these Committees, have no more power than the lay-members; they must vote in submission to the previous decisions of these committees.

THE CHRISTIAN GUARDIAN AND THE WESLEYAN METHODIST.

In the interval between our present, and preceding number, we thought proper to publish in the form of an extra, a letter which appeared in the *Globe*, on the 8th of April, to which was added some remarks on an article in the *Guardian* of the 2d ult., relation to our journal. The letter referred to, signed an Official Member, we adopted on that occasion, for the reasons then mentioned; but we did not particularly notice the individual names set forth on both sides of the question. We have since noticed the personal descriptions in that letter, which is the only part we can find fault with. We should have preferred to have seen no personal description, as it is difficult for a writer to avoid exalting those on his own side, and depreciating those on the other; and if he had no such design it is sure to be imputed to him, if a pretence for doing so can be found. That opportunity seems to have been afforded in some degree, but we cannot believe the writer intended personally to exalt one party or to depreciate the other; his object being apparently, only to give to the public in general, the best means of deciding the question proposed to them, which could not be done completely without a very minute description of the persons on both sides, as it is well known that there are often other considerations besides that of the question as to the mere numerical majority. It is possible that the twelve names which were produced by the *Guardian*, might, under some circumstances, equal in influential value, the nineteen on the other side. If the official member could prove that both as to number and influence, the advantage was on his side, no one ought to blame him for showing it. With reference to the names of the minority, we take the opportunity of saying, that we heartily recognize them all as worthy and respectable members of our Church, with the exception of one who has been arbitrarily appointed by the Superintendent of the City Station. There is no question whatever between us and them, and if the publication of their names has given them pain, we regret it; but, it ought to be remembered, that the *Guardian* began that mode of opposition to our journal.

But the official member in the *Globe*, in our opinion, has not drawn to the full amount on facts and circumstances in his favour. He might have stated, that with regard to the minority of twelve, whose names were published in the *Guardian*, that the two leading persons on the list, were more zealous on the other side of the question a few months ago than six of the twelve reside out of the city; that nine of the twelve have no influence being exhorters and leaders, who attend to their own spiritual and secular duties entirely, and know nothing of the questions in dispute, but through the Preachers; and who are not so deficient in charity, as not to believe them. He might also have said, that of the remaining three of the said twelve, only one knew anything of the former proceedings of Mr. Ryerson, in relation to the affairs of the Church and politics, and that he does not