

STANDING REGULATIONS.

Correspondents must send their communications written in a legible hand, and, unless they desire the names of new subscribers, or remittance of postage, and return as in evidence, with their proper names and address.

The Editor holds not himself responsible for the opinions of correspondents—claims the privilege of modifying or rejecting articles offered for publication—and cannot pledge himself to return those not inserted.

Communications on business, and those intended for publication, when contained in the same letter, should, if practicable, be written on different parts of the sheet, so that they may be separated when they reach us.

Communications and exchanges should be addressed to the Editor, No. 11, St. John Street, N. B.

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The Wesleyan Ministers of the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Districts are our Agents; who will receive orders and make remittances.

THE WESLEYAN.

Halifax, Saturday Morning, February 2, 1866.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO CHRISTIAN EFFORT.

HOPE OF SUCCESS is essential to all well-directed effort. None but the insane would engage in a scheme, the attainableness of which were absolutely impossible. While the success of not a few projects appears problematical in the view of all except their adventurous promoters, and whose beneficial results, if the object should be attained, are equally as questionable; we can with confidence affirm, that no such difficulties beset the benevolent operations of Christianity. The object is good and attainable—the effects are beneficial and permanent. This consideration, if rightly pondered, will act as a powerful and continuously impulsive stimulus to mighty and unremitting effort.—Christian enterprise aims at nothing short of the universal diffusion of religious light and knowledge, the rescue of our fellow-men from the debasing thralldom of sin here and its consequences hereafter, and their recovery to holiness and happiness in both worlds. Many subordinate ends are likewise embraced in the ample sweep of the generous scheme, all tending to promote, on reasonable grounds, the well-being of the individual man, and that of the human race collectively considered. The principles of action are simple, efficient, and clearly defined. Utopian dreams have neither countenance nor place. Appointed by the INFINITELY WISE AND MERCIFUL GOD, and tested by the experience of ages, those principles, wherever welcomed and allowed to operate, have been found fully adequate to secure all the ends previously indicated. Impediments have existed, and do still exist. Wilful ignorance, resistance of truth, indulgence in vice, preference of worldly to spiritual good,—these singly, but much more unitedly, constitute no visionary obstructions. The formidable character of these obstacles is admitted; nevertheless christian agents have no just cause for despondency. Potent succours may ever be counted upon in the free and subduing influence of the Divine Spirit. He can open a "wide door and effectual" for the introduction and success of his own appointed instrumentalities. Yielding to his gracious power, the deaf ear opens—the hard heart softens—the stubborn will bends—impressive and affecting views of sin and coming wrath, of the love of God and the willingness and ability of Christ to save, are obtained—repentance is manifested—faith is exercised—the wondrous deliverance from guilt is felt—salvation, free and full, is realized—the path of peace and pleasantness is reached—firm footing is secured on the "high-way" of holiness and obedience, progression in which will conduct to the regions of the blessed, the metropolis of the Great King. "He is faithful that promised." The instances in which God has accomplished his gracious

purposes, he is able to repeat—and repeat on a larger scale than our world has yet witnessed. In no questionable enterprise has the christian Minister, or christian philanthropist, embarked. He is engaged in a cause whose success is certain. Other projects, like bubbles on the ocean wave, may burst and be lost in the surrounding mass; but the course of Christianity is onward.—It shall continue as long as the sun and moon endure. Its triumphs, through its appointed and recognized agencies, are to be multiplied in all lands, until the lofty psalm shall rise to heaven from the saved millions of our race, and the chorus shall be taken up and chanted by angelic hosts—"The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever."

EDUCATION.

THE article, in our last, on the subject of Education, has brought out a furious editorial in the *Chronicle* Newspaper, abounding with unsupported charges, and illiberal insinuations, with more than a quantum of abuse. The *Chronicle* appears to be very touchy on the subject of education. He can have his opinions and throw them broadcast over the country; but pity upon the poor Editor who may dare to think for himself, and express his deliberate convictions, if these should not harmonize with those of our cotemporary. He may rest assured that such spicy articles as the one which graced his columns of Tuesday last will not "frighten" us from our propriety, nor deter us from discussing in a temperate manner the all-absorbing topic of education. We brought no charge against the "Legislature or Government"—for the best reason in the world, because neither the present Legislature nor Government had decided anything in reference to the future basis of education. The *Chronicle* therefore had no authority to say that we had "grossly maligned and misrepresented" either the one, or the other, or both. We must wait until we see what is really done in the premises before we can pronounce on the merits of the case. We did however express a fear that an attempt would be made to "thrust on the country a scheme of education on a purely secular basis, regardless of the conscientious scruples of thousands, and to withhold all Legislative aid from Schools and Academies in which the religious principle is recognized." We see no just cause to withdraw this expression. Does the *Chronicle* question the fact that we have grounds for the entertainment of such an apprehension? Does he not remember that a member of the Government in his heat, during last year's debate, denounced denominational Educational Institutions as a curse to the country and affirmed that the sooner they were swept away the better? But we have no wish to enlarge at present. We shall bide our time, until the Educational measure is brought down. The idea that we wished to "frighten our legislature"—is preposterous! We do desire, however, that the basis of popular education should be carefully looked after, and we suppose, we have a right to state our honest convictions as to what that basis should be. If the *Chronicle* differ from us—why let him.—The right shall prevail. He knows our aim—and he has very charitably attributed to us the best of motives! Our aim is the good of the people—the benefit of the young and rising generation.

Contingent Fund.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—I beg leave to call the attention of the Wesleyan Minis-

ters of the Nova Scotia District to the direction of the last District Meeting, that a collection be made annually in all our congregations for the purpose of defraying sundry expenses incurred in carrying on the work of God which are not provided for from ordinary sources of income.

I am happy to state that the adoption of this measure meets with the cordial approval of the Missionary Committee. Consequently, nothing is requisite but the unanimous and prompt action of the Ministry, and suitable liberality on the part of our numerous congregations, to bring this branch of our Wesleyan economy into effective operation for the future.

It may not be known to many of our friends, that notwithstanding the aid generously afforded by the Parent Missionary Committee to extend to the more destitute portions of our population the ministrations of religion, there has been for several years past a serious deficiency of funds to meet the limited claims of our Ministers, and that unpaid arrears are constantly accumulating to a painfully inconvenient extent. The numerous pressing demands upon the Parent Body, for the wider diffusion of Missionary labour in heathen lands, forbid the hope that increased aid, commensurate with the growing necessities of this colony, can be obtained from that source. More effort must therefore be made by ourselves, or our work must not merely cease to extend, but must of necessity be contracted.

I cherish the cheering conviction, created by intercourse with the official members of the Circuits visited during the current year, that by a more systematic and vigorous application of our admirable system of finance, we shall have a gratifying increase of Circuit and Missionary receipts. But the contingent Fund must be placed on a respectable and permanent footing, in order to liquidate the outstanding claim for deficiencies, and to prevent their future accumulation. In order to this the movement must be universal in the District. Let an appeal be made, after due notification and explanations, to every congregation, great and small, and let personal application be made to persons possessing the requisite means, for annual subscriptions or donations to this Fund. If these appeals are suitably met by the thousands who are enjoying the privileges of Wesleyan Methodism, the result will soon be apparent in the employment of additional labourers, and the ingathering of souls into the fold of Christ in regions of the country where they are perishing for lack of knowledge. Yours, truly,

EDWARD EVANS,
Chairman N. S. District.

Halifax, January 24th, 1866.
To the Editor of *The Wesleyan*.

PROTESTANTS IN LYONS, FRANCE.—Out of about 200,000 inhabitants, 9,000 are nominal Protestants. There is one evangelical Protestant Church of 420 members, from 2,000 to 3,000 of whom are converted Catholics.

A Bible Society has been formed among the Choctaw Indians, with encouraging success.

REVIVALS.—The *Advocate* and *Journal*, and *Zion's Herald* give encouraging accounts of revivals of religion. It seems to be with our American Brethren a time of religious prosperity. May they increase yet more and more!

RELIGIOUS PAPERS.—It is estimated that 150 religious newspapers are published in the United States, circulating above half a million of sheets every week.

THOMAS MOORE, the poet, is said to be closing his earthly career in a state of mental imbecility. (The *Art-Journal* contradicts this report.)

INFIDELITY.—In the case of a witness recently called to testify in the Court of Quarter Sessions, Franklin County, Penn. it was proven that he said he did not believe in a future state of rewards and punishments—that when a man died, he died like a dog—that the Bible was a fable, and there was no punishment after death. Judge Warr promptly rejected his evidence, and refused to permit him to testify.

THE INDIAN MISSION CONFERENCE (U. S.) reports a membership of 3,829. Collections for Missions amount to \$811,221.

In Philadelphia the Methodist Episcopal Church has 19,476 members.

METHODISM IN MICHIGAN now numbers between sixteen and seventeen thousand, nearly equal to the members of the Baptist, Congregational, Episcopalian and Presbyterian Churches.

The *Toronto Christian Guardian* speaks encouragingly of the Missionary Meetings, and of the state of the work of God in Canada West.—"Large additions on some Circuits have been made to the membership."

The *South African Commercial Advertiser*, of Nov. 2nd, says, among the opening prospects of Africa, the grandest geographical discovery of modern times has just been announced, that, namely, of the Grand Inland Lake, so long supposed to exist, to the south of the Cape.

Arrangements are making for a steam vessel to proceed from Edinburgh to Iceland, with persons on a tour of inspection, about the time of the next meeting of the British Association.

Mr. John Duncan, the African traveller, died on Nov. 3rd, on board of her Majesty's ship *Kingfisher*, in the night of Benin. He was lately appointed vice-consul to Dahomey, for which place he was on his way when he died.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

(Selected chiefly from the City Papers.)

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FRIDAY, JAN. 26.

Petitions.

Mr. Tarnet presented a road petition from Euseburg—received and laid on the table.

Consolidation of the Laws.

The house went into committee on the consolidation of the laws bill. The chapters touching the counties and county officers were taken up. On the clause setting out the affidavit to be taken by a sheriff,

The Speaker moved an amendment which he read—and stated to be much simpler than the one at present in use which occupied two pages of paper; while the amendment embodied everything which was necessary to enforce the due performance of a sheriff's duties. The amendment passed unanimously.

On the chapter relating to Coroners' Inquests—Mr. Fraser moved in amendment that, in the absence of a Coroner, any one justice be entitled to hold an inquest. After some desultory conversation the amendment passed unanimously.

A number of other chapters passed with some slight amendment.

The committee adjourned.

Horses.

Mr. Dickie from the committee appointed to examine the accounts of expenses of the Horse-Bill-Founder-Morgan reported a recommendation that the horse should be sold as soon as possible. This part of the report was adopted and the committee authorized to carry out the suggestion. The committee also recommended that the horse Norfolk should be sold; but this part of the report was left open for future action of the house.

Agencies.

Hon. Mr. Johnston called for the second reading of his Bill to make the agent of English Companies liable. The bill was read and referred to Committee of the whole house.

Petitioners.

Mr. Dickie presented a petition from a person in Cumberland, with reference to a sailing packet—referred to a Committee on Navigation securities.

Mr. Budd presented a petition from J. Morton, of Digby, administrator of the Estate of the late Elkanah Morton, of Digby—praying a consideration of certain claims of the late collector.

Mr. Fraser explained at length the circumstances of the cause and moved for the appointment of a special Committee to investigate the facts fully.

Mr. Marshall said that it was not a matter for this house to consider at all. It was the duty of the Executive to examine into the matter. How often do we find the duties of Public officers discharged carelessly or fraudulently, and the Executive ought to take notice of irregularities instantly. If we are to appoint committees in every case like this, what is the good of a Responsible Government? They have all the power, all the patronage, all the pay, and they ought to do the work.

Mr. Fraser differed from this view. He appeared to him that investigations of a committee of the house would be more satisfactory to the country. He did not like the public officers to have too much power in such matters.

Mr. Marshall said, he had no objection to a committee if it would do more substantial justice to the heirs of Mr. Morton. There was a good deal of loose work going on now in the collection of duties on rum, and per-

haps the investigation of a committee do good.

The petition was referred to Mr. Marshall, Fraser, and Kilham.

Mr. Dickie presented a petition from a road from Springhill to some. Mr. Fraser presented a petition from Port Medway in Liverpool to some hour improvements—the Committee on navigation services. The house then adjourned till Saturday.

SATURDAY.

Petition from Richard Ne-

Hon. G. R. Young presented from Mr. Richard Neagher, of I had been hired a Prisoner—but who was unfortunately, circumstances some and blind. The petition of the House to carry him away to get a place in a Blind Asylum. Mr. Fraser opposed the petition as it had been passed upon a committee and the House.

Hon. G. R. Young advocated the petition most strenuously.

Young man only 29 years of age—blind—a man of high moral character—good intellectual attainments—without friends—utterly destitute—shook off the misfortunes which befell him; and this Legislature did duty to the petitioner last year, sent him away without response. They did not do as the Legislature would have done—had erected all sorts of benevolence to relieve such cases, and if could not do that they ought to towards the relief of particular. Mr. Fraser reiterated his objection that the people of Halifax had been not to relieve this sending it to the Legislature—would one day give him credit he was taking.

Mr. Howe enforced the claim of a particular case.

Mr. Fulton advised the house to allow the petition to lay on. It was possible a committee might be moved now, while the sum might in a future stage of the session great an economist as any one, thought he should vote for this.

Mr. Marshall intended to oppose in veto. He would put his pocket and give a pound to be young man to the States; but admit claims from the rich citizen year after year, while he is source of cases of greater country sections of the Province as he had confined for relief to as much as possible, instead of them to the Legislature.

Mr. Harrington said it was aside by rules of political expediency, but he did not think should shut out all sympathy. He hoped the House would particularly had case of the year consideration, send the petition and allow them to report to Mr. Dickie was much and claims should be repeatedly to the House. The learned gentleman to a profession which could anything; but a modest man shrink from forcing this claim year after year. If he were the petition to committee, being against his own county.

Hereupon an altercation out of the remark of Mr. Dickie the Legal Profession, resulting shall be calling the non. Attorney. The Gallery was cleared. [We understand that when closed, the petition was ordered table.]

Petitions.

When the gallery was re-opened to read a petition from Gough, Inspector of Fish for Queen's, respecting a suit charge of his duty—referred to Messrs. Kilham, Marshall, and Snow, to report thereon.

Hon. Attorney General presented from Robert Watson, compensation for services the 1st of May to 1st of August in Cape Breton—referred to Education.

Hon. G. R. Young asked a petition from Thomas H. New Brunswick, Mr. The petition was received a select committee composed of Kilham, and Carl.

Division of Cape.

Mr. Harrington said he had a petition from the County of C. He should in the absence of that County present. It was the County of C.