

have been, but they executed that plan, not only, but they did not execute it. When they were about half-way to the proposed light, and their horse was whirling the light vehicle in which they were seated with great velocity, a sportsman, who was endeavoring to fulfill the end of his creation by hunting on the Sabbath, suddenly emerged from a thicket by the roadside, and discharged his fowling-piece at a wabler who was uttering his Sabbath hymn of praise to his Maker from the bough of a beautiful elm, standing in the field on the opposite side of the way. The horse took flight and ran away. The young men were thrown violently out of the vehicle. One escaped without injury, the other had his shoulder dislocated, and was confined to his chamber for several weeks. His business was, in the meantime, in the hands of an incompetent and dishonest man, so that he suffered great pecuniary loss.

They were made to be happy, but they were not made to be happy, in violating the Sabbath. Men were made to be happy in obeying God. They will meet the designs of their Creator in no other way.

Obituary.

HANDLEY NELSON A BAPTIST SCHOOL SCHOLAR. Died, at East Aylesford, on 17th June, Handley Nelson, son of James E. and Eliza Nelson, Shubnace, aged 12 years.

Handley was a fine little fellow and of excellent moral character—did not profane language, and indeed was very distant to him, but he habit to which two or any else, both older and younger, are sadly addicted. He was very fond of the Sabbath school, and never was absent when he could be present, and was very diligent and attentive when there. But on the 17th June poor Handley was taken violently ill while at school, and could with difficulty get home, complaining of great pain in the head and bowels; and although everything that his uncle and aunt Parker with whom he lived, and a skillful doctor could do, on the following Sabbath week, poor Handley was "no more."

With regard to state of mind near the close of life his uncle writes,—"Not long before he died I asked him if he thought he would not get well? He said, 'I think I shall not.' He was then asked if he was willing to die? He said, 'I am,' and where he would go when he died? 'To heaven.' You wish to go to heaven, and why? 'Because Jesus is there and it's such a happy place.' He said, 'O, there is no sickness nor pain there, but all is joy and happiness.' I asked him if all would go to heaven the wicked as well as the good? 'O no, the wicked would go to that dreadful place where they would be punished for their wickedness.' A little after his aunt coming to his bed-side asked how he was? He said pretty well. I am going to leave you. He was asked where he was going? He said, 'I am going to heaven.' His aunt replied, 'But I shall be so lonely without you.' He said, 'O it will not be long we shall be parted, but you will come after me, we shall soon meet again.' Thus do we find this dear youth at so early an age happy in God and happy in anticipation of seeing Jesus and living happy with Him forever.

The day he was buried (Sunday 24) there was a very large congregation, and Bro. J. Jacques the excellent Superintendent, had all the Sabbath school to walk in procession next the mourners, and being drawn up in line in front of the Methodist Chapel, the Sabbath School scholars sang that beautiful and in this case very appropriate tune and hymn "Mount Zion" changing the word *Sister* to *Brother*. A sermon was preached on the occasion from Job xiv. 1-2, "My Parents, Brothers and Sisters and Sabbath school companions and all meet in—"

"That land of pearl delight,
Where angels inhabit
And pleasures banish pain."

R. E. C.

Ayleford, East July, 1866.

(Christian Messenger please copy).

(From the Light-house, New Jersey, Gazette).

W. S. McMorran.

Died in New York city, on Wednesday, June 27, after a short illness, William S. McMorran, eldest son of John McMorran, Esq. of St. John, N. B.

The above melancholy record will cause the tear of sad surprise to start from many an eye which has looked upon the healthy, vigorous form of the promising youth whose career was so suddenly terminated.

Although not a resident of this place, he became during a winter's sojourn here intimately associated with its youthful society, and many warm friendships were the result of this intercourse.

In addition to the genuine refinement of his character, and the unvarying manliness of his deportment, he possessed true excellencies of heart, which were more fully developed by the religious influences brought to bear upon him.

During his stay in this place, a revival occurred in the M. E. Church, in the progress of which he became deeply interested, and finally himself embraced a Saviour's love.

Since that period (1864) he has remained firm in his attachment to the church of his choice, and through exposure to all the fascinations of a residence in New York city, he has ever maintained his consistency as a Christian, and this affords an unassailable comfort to his bereaved parents.

Far away from home and his loved ones, but surrounded by friends who were kind to him by his own sake, he suffered the short but severe attack of typhoid fever which terminated his existence in four days.

His remains are laid to their final repose amid the hallowed beauties of Greenwood Cemetery.

M.

Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 1866.

Conference Documents.

THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTION.

The following are the resolutions of the Conference on this department of our educational enterprise—

1. That the Conference has received with much satisfaction the reports of the Theological Professor, and of the Examining Committee, and is thereby more than ever confirmed in the conviction that great advantages must result to our Connection from the efficient maintenance of this Department.

2. That the very cordial thanks of the Conference are due, and are hereby presented, to the Rev. C. DeWolfe, D.D., for his valuable services as Theological Professor during the past year, together with the full assurance of our deep interest in his work, and of our prayers to Almighty God, that he may receive abundantly the grace needful for his responsible office, and that the students from time to time may come forth from the Institution well qualified to be able ministers of the New Testament.

3. That the Conference is gratified to learn that some progress has been made, through the efforts of the treasurers of the C. F. Allison Professorship Fund, in collecting unpaid subscriptions during the past year, and would still urge upon the Superintendents of Circuits the importance of keeping in view any available sums remaining upon the subscription lists, and of endeavoring to collect them without any further delay.

4. That the Conference, fully recognizing the prerogative of Almighty God to call whomsoever he may please to the Christian Ministry, rejoices to know that some provision will before long be made, through the appropriation of the Jubilee Committee, to aid young men, approved by the Conference as candidates for our work, who may require assistance to prosecute a course of study necessary to fit them for their great work.

5. That the Conference has learned with great satisfaction that the Library of the Theological Institution has received some valuable additions during the year, which it would hereby most gratefully acknowledge; and devoutly hopes that, through the liberality of friends of the Institution, this library will soon be supplied with such books of reference, &c., as are absolutely necessary for the efficiency of this department.

Brought forward.

SPECIAL GRANTS, AS FOLLOWS, viz:—

President's Expenses..... \$55 00

Conference Printing..... 70 00

Returned to Districts in accordance with existing by-laws..... 43 36

To Treasurer to correct errors in amount of District, last year..... 124 65

Additional to Trust District, to make up under-estimated of expenditure..... 137 70

To Bro. Chapman, for rent, 16 63

To Bro. T. D. Hart, Circuit expenditure..... 9 00

Special Grants for funeral expenses, personal and domestic affliction, and other claims not chargeable to Circuits, (being less than 14 per cent on the amounts recommended from the Districts), as follows, viz:—

Hallowell District..... \$ 9 62

St. John..... 13 86

P. E. Island..... 4 40

Frederick..... 3 30

Annapolis..... 19 25

Liverpool..... 13 75

Newfoundland..... 12 10

90 02

\$13,441 52

CONTINGENT AND HOME MISSION FUND.

Resolutions of Conference with regard to the Contingent and Home Mission Fund.

1. In view of the crisis of affairs affecting this Fund the Conference requests the Financial Secretary, the Rev. H. Dickard, D.D., to introduce to the notice of the Missionary Committee and the British Conference, the financial history of our Conference, especially in relation to the extent to which the work of God, and the interests of the Church, have been promoted by the grants to this Fund from the Committee, together with the necessity which still exists, (owing to the purely missionary character of much of our work) for a continuance of the kind assistance which has hitherto been given by the Parent Conference.

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Candidates for the Ministry.

The course pursued in British Methodism in the examination of candidates for the Ministry, is thus described by the *Methodist Recorder*:—

Of all the Committees to which are entrusted the management of the various departments of our Church, there is not one which has more weighty or important functions to perform than the Committee for examining those candidates for the ministry who have been formally recommended to Districts in accordance with the provisions of the *Methodist Recorder*.

In the lifetime of the founder of Methodism, admission into the ranks of its Travelling Preachers was a much shorter and simpler process than it is at present. A word of command or even a letter from John Wesley served all the purposes of preliminary examination, and sent the young evangelist unquestioned upon his way. According to long-established usage, however, the responsibility of recommending a candidate for the ministry in our Church primarily devolves upon his Superintendent. In his exclusively is invested the constitutional right of submitting the candidate to the Quarterly Meeting of the Circuit, in which the candidate resides. The Superintendent is directed by our rules to use all practical means in order to assure himself of the piety and general fitness of a candidate before committing himself to a recommendation of him; to take counsel with his colleagues upon the question; to hear the candidate preach, and to ascertain by private examination the genuineness of his conversion, his acquaintance with our standard works and firm attachment to the doctrines and form of attachment to the Theological Institution there was no later than the notice of the Missionary Committee and the British Conference, the financial history of our Conference, especially in relation to the extent to which the work of God, and the interests of the Church, have been promoted by the grants to this Fund from the Committee, together with the necessity which still exists, (owing to the purely missionary character of much of our work) for a continuance of the kind assistance which has hitherto been given by the Parent Conference.

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On Monday afternoon the Canadian Deputation were formally introduced to the Conference by the President, and the Resolution of the Canada Conference read, inviting their attention to the organization of one consolidated Wesleyan Church throughout the whole of British North America. They were not authorized to make any distinct proposition, nor to offer any definite plan of Union, but merely, as a preparatory step, to invite the Eastern brethren to an expression of opinion and feeling on the general subject. The reception given to the Deputation by the Conference was extremely cordial and hearty, and the response to the suggestion of the Canada Conference was equally so. The Rev. Dr. Butler, well known and highly esteemed in Canada, and the Rev. Dr. Fisher, Ex-President, and Principal of the Wesleyan College at Keble, were appointed to attend the next session of our Conference at Hamilton, at which it is expected some plan of Union will be considered. A wonderful change has taken place in the sentiments of the people of Eastern British America, on the subject of the Confederation of the Provinces. On that subject the difficulties which formerly existed, and which were of a geographical and financial kind, for the people of British America are already, as it respects their national origin, their colonial history, and their general character. The same may be said of the Wesleyan Methodist people of British America. One, also, in doctrine and discipline, in their relations to the

Parent Conference, singing out of the same hymn-book and adhering familiarly to the same mode of prayer, and to the same mode of conducting their services, in order to adopt, of great importance, in order to a union. If, however, this subject should be, as is probable, considered in connection with that of a division of the Canada Conference, and an organization into General and Annual Conferences, these matters will be presented to the Double Conference in a form sufficiently mature to prepare for an intelligent and definite decision. On questions of so grave a nature, in consideration of measures which are designed to be permanent, let us trust that Divine guidance will lead us to the wisest and most beneficial conclusions.

During the earlier years of his ministry, the district which formed the principal scene of Mr. Macdonald's labours, was in a condition of most deplorable spiritual darkness and despondency, very similar to the religious state of the rural parishes of England in John Wesley's day. Mr. Macdonald's biography, himself a Scotchman, says, "In many parishes of the north there were ministers whose influence, to the most powerful, was also the most deadly. To all the worldliness, to much of the immorality, and to some of the power of the chiefs of other days, they added as their own the hypocrisy of the profession of Christianity. To read on the Sabbath the pithless paragraphs of a musty sermon, which had at first excited, begged, borrowed, or stolen, to a handful of sleepers, was almost all the duty which they did. The one duty to which they were obliged to attend, and, judging by their lives, the one which they were most anxious to perform, was to minister in their own souls, as if they were the only man who did what he likes, if he continues in the safe possession of his living." Such is the picture of northern Scotland a little more than half a century ago, drawn, too, by no unfriendly hand; and such was the "dreary desert," to which the Lord's word was sent, and which Wesley served all the purposes of preliminary examination, and sent the young evangelist unquestioned upon his way. According to long-established usage, however, the responsibility of recommending a candidate for the ministry in our Church primarily devolves upon his Superintendent. In his exclusively is invested the constitutional right of submitting the candidate to the Quarterly Meeting of the Circuit, in which the candidate resides. The Superintendent is directed by our rules to use all practical means in order to assure himself of the piety and general fitness of a candidate before committing himself to a recommendation of him; to take counsel with his colleagues upon the question; to hear the candidate preach, and to ascertain by private examination the genuineness of his conversion, his acquaintance with our standard works and firm attachment to the doctrines and form of attachment to the Theological Institution there was no later than the notice of the Missionary Committee and the British Conference, the financial history of our Conference, especially in relation to the extent to which the work of God, and the interests of the Church, have been promoted by the grants to this Fund from the Committee, together with the necessity which still exists, (owing to the purely missionary character of much of our work) for a continuance of the kind assistance which has hitherto been given by the Parent Conference.

2. The Conference would call the serious attention of our Church and congregations to the notice of the Missionary Committee and the British Conference, the financial history of our Conference, especially in relation to the extent to which the work of God, and the interests of the Church, have been promoted by the grants to this Fund from the Committee, together with the necessity which still exists, (owing to the purely missionary character of much of our work) for a continuance of the kind assistance which has hitherto been given by the Parent Conference.

3. That, in the opinion of the Conference, the time has come to bring directly and fully before our people the claims of Home Missions, by holding a Home Missionary Meeting on all our Circuits this year. Financial District meetings are therefore directed to make all necessary arrangements for the accomplishment of this object.

(From the Christian Guardian.)

The "Apostle of the North."

A precious biography under this title, has just been issued from the press, a review of which we take from the *Methodist Magazine* for June:

On the 24th of July, in the year 1805, the Presbytery of Cuthbertson licensed a young man to preach the Gospel, whose future career as a Christian pastor and evangelist won for him a distinguished rank among Scotland's most successful ministers. John Macdonald was at that time in his twenty-fourth year; and gifts of Providence and grace, a warm buoyant heart, a robust constitution, a godly training, a disciplined and cultured mind, and unfeigned love to Christ, well furnished him for the glorious work into which, during a period of forty-three years, he threw himself with an ardor of zeal which never appeared to know either abatement or weariness. Desire for the salvation of souls glowed within him, as the fire of a holy passion which, as years advanced, seemed but to "burn brighter and hotter." So incessant were his labours, and so abundantly were they blessed,

especially in the Highlands, that he came to be familiarly known as the "Apostle of the North." Hence the title of the work before us, a volume which few can read without feeling their hearts quickened into a more earnest longing for a fuller baptism of the Holy Ghost and his sanctifying energy.

During the earlier years of his ministry, the district which formed the principal scene of Mr. Macdonald's labours, was in a condition of most deplorable spiritual darkness and despondency, very similar to the religious state of the rural parishes of England in John Wesley's day. Mr. Macdonald's biography, himself a Scotchman, says, "In many parishes of the north there were ministers whose influence, to the most powerful, was also the most deadly. To all the worldliness, to much of the immorality, and to some of the power of the chiefs of other days, they added as their own the hypocrisy of the profession of Christianity. To