

THE WESLEYAN

The only Methodist Paper published in the Maritime Provinces.

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Having a large and increasing circulation in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Bermuda, it is an ADVERTISING MEDIUM IT HAS NO EQUAL in these Provinces.

Rev. S. ROSE, Methodist Book Room, Toronto, is Agent for this paper.

All Wesleyan Ministers are Agents.

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1876.

TRANSFER COMMITTEE.

A notice has been received from Dr. Ryerson, President of General Conference, summoning the Transfer Committee to meet in the Mission Rooms at Toronto, on Thursday, May 18th, at 10 a.m. The Representatives from the Eastern Conference will govern themselves accordingly.

The Editor left for Baltimore by the mail steamer "Caspian," last Tuesday. A desire to look in upon the American General Conference, as well as the demands of his constitution for brief relaxation, have led him to act upon the generous advice of his brethren, by taking the respite of a few weeks. Everything necessary has been done toward carrying on the different interests of the Book and Publishing departments in his absence, Rev. J. Lathern kindly consenting to take charge of the WESLEYAN till the Editor's return.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON CONNEXIONAL MATTERS.

Two or three important enquiries reach us this week. One has relation to the vexed subject of members, as related to the Children's Fund. A minister in Nova Scotia, whose position is not a solitary one, asks whether he is to refrain from receiving into full membership some scores of converts who have nearly completed their probation, and escape the tax for the Children's Fund by reporting those members as on trial. Moreover, he alludes to members who, living so far away that they cannot attend class, are dropped by superintendents from the lists of returns, the tax in this way being partially reduced. He recommends the "retired list," which, in some New England Churches, is adopted by way of keeping members, not fully returned, under the inspection of the pastor.

It may safely be assumed that the Nova Scotia Conference will change its principle of sustaining the Children's Fund at its next session. There is no fair reason why a circuit, because its membership, through mercy, has been doubled, should be required to pay twice its former amount to the Children's Fund. Yet this is what must ensue if no alteration shall be adopted in the constitution of our Fund. It would be well for all interested to keep the subject in view and deliberate upon modes suitable for recommendation.

Another subject which we are asked to write upon, and which frequently has demanded our attention of late, is that of the guardianship of our pulpits. A trustee enquires as to the proper authority from whom permission is to be obtained when a stranger desires to occupy one of our churches. He challenges the right of superintendents to take any responsibility of this kind, unless the office of trustee is to be regarded as a mere name.

We had supposed that the relative powers of ministers and trustees, in regard to the use of our churches, were fully understood by all superintendents at least. Those places of worship are secured to the connexion by deeds, which specify the objects for which the churches are to be used. The responsibility of guarding our churches from the intrusion of preachers of doubtful character or doctrine we have always regarded as a very serious one. It is certain that in England no conditions are more carefully watched than those of the occupancy of our pulpits. No stranger, for instance, should request permission to preach in any church, who is not prepared to present satisfactory certificates that our people shall not be imposed upon. In the absence of such certificate—indeed in any case—trustees are the legal guardians of our property, and should be consulted first.

We endorse the following from the Presbyterian Witness: ZELL'S POPULAR ENCYCLOPEDIA.—We have now received the first 12 numbers of this excellent work, bringing the subjects down to Car. The whole will be completed in 64 numbers. So far as we have been able to test the work it is accurate, full, concise and reliable.—A sample number, 40 pages with elegant map, will be sent to applicants for 20 cents. Horace King, Thomaston, Conn., is agent for New England, and the Dominion of Canada. Mr. H. Kimball, Librarian of N. H. State Historical Society says of this work: Mr. HORACE KING.—Dear Sir,—I am glad to testify to the superior value of Zell's Encyclopedia, recently placed in this Library. It is so exceedingly comprehensive and concise, supplying "in a nut-shell," comparatively, all the essential facts of knowledge—that the more expensive, cumbersome, and wordy Encyclopedias are evidently destined to be largely superseded thereby.

pect to the requests of strangers to preach in our pulpits. Circumstances may possibly justify the laying aside of this rule; but instances of this kind need special consideration.

THE BOOK COMMITTEE.

The Annual Meeting of the Eastern section of the Book Committee of the General Conference, was held last week at the Book Room, Granville Street. The only member of the Committee absent was W. E. Dawson, of Charlotte-town, who could not, without great inconvenience, cross the gulf in time for the meeting. The Balance Sheet for the year 1876, as submitted to the Board, showed in separate and distinct account the amount of sales for the year; cash and credit,—the WESLEYAN account, with a fair margin of profit—the printing department which, during the six months in which it has been in operation, after paying up all expenses of fitting up the office, and various extras, has still an encouraging balance in its favor—the ordinary expenditure. Profit and loss in which the item "Balance nett profit," is sure to command attention. Liabilities and assets in which, as compared with former years, the amount to balance has changed sides greatly to the interest of the concern.

The Committee of Audit, Rev. Dr. Pickard, Principal Inch, and D. Henry Starr, Esq., after an examination of the statements of accounts, made with more than usual care, "regard it as affording perfectly satisfactory evidence that the business in all its departments is in a very healthy and prosperous condition."

A resolution expressive of gratification with the exhibit of this year, and appreciative of the enterprise and successful administration of Bro. Nicolson was unanimously passed. The Rev. W. H. Heartz, D. H. Starr, and Wm. B. McNutt, Esqrs., were appointed Audit Committee for the next year.

THE NEWLY ELECTED BIBLE AGENT.

Mr. Russell did such admirable work that we are anxious to see his place well occupied. As will be seen by the following notice, the agency for the Bible Society has been assigned to Mr. Toland of N. B. If his mission is to prove successful, Christians everywhere must receive him readily and co-operate with him.

At a meeting of the Nova Scotia Auxiliary, held in the Y. M. C. A. building on Friday, 31st March, the Hon. S. L. Shannon in the chair, Mr. John Toland of Studholm, N. B., was elected agent in the room of Rev. A. Russell, resigned. Mr. Toland will be able to enter upon his duties early in the summer, and the Committee would confidently bespeak for him a continuance of the kindness and consideration given to his predecessor, by the several branches among whom he is called to labor. JAMES FARQUHAR, Secretary.

A. T. STEWART lived to the age of seventy-two. He had ample time for consummating his best purposes respecting the good which his enormous wealth should accomplish for mankind. But he went on accumulating till death came and surprised him. He gained eighty millions of dollars—a sum which none can understand in its full meaning—yet died without completing his plans. Does it not strike the minds of observers that it is ceaseless, tireless, desperate pursuit of wealth is a cruel delusion? Society has claims upon our energies quite as much as business, and God most of all. Twenty millions of dollars, with a rounded life, an influence remaining destined to affect multitudes for good, would be something grand; but eighty millions of dollars, with little else than a name for business habit and diligence, seem to us, after all, scarcely worth the toil and unrest of a long lifetime.

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NEWFOUNDLAND.

The letter from Newfoundland which we publish in another column, giving a specimen of circuit work in Green Bay, will be read with interest. The narrative of the turn around the Bay, involving travel upon snow-shoes for nearly two hundred miles, reads like a chapter in the most heroic period of Methodist history. To the brethren engaged in pioneer work in Newfoundland, carrying the blessed message of salvation to the spiritually destitute settlements, we accord the highest recognition; and we rejoice in that colony the abundant success which in that colony has cheered the hearts of these intrepid and self-denying laborers. The appeal for tracts and such literature as is now abundantly provided for gratuitous distribution, we commend to the consideration of the Colportage Committee. We regret to say that from Newfoundland we have received a communication of very different kind, informing us of the continued illness of Rev. C. Ladner, and the necessity in his case of rest. We deeply sympathize with our esteemed brother in the interruption of his ministerial work, and trust that enforced rest may tend to rapid recuperation of strength.

HALIFAX AND DARTMOUTH SABRATH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.—There will be a meeting of the above on Tuesday evening next, May 9th, in the basement of Brunswick St. Church, at half-past 7. Subject for discussion, "Teachers' meetings—their importance and object."

ENGLISH DEPUTATION AT THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The General Conference of the American Methodist Church which is now meeting at Baltimore, is one of the most influential ecclesiastical assemblies of modern times. British Methodism will be represented by two of her most solid and scholarly men, the Rev. W. B. Pope, Professor of Theology, and the Rev. Dr. Rigg, Principal of Westminster College. It was our privilege last year to be present during the introduction of the distinguished British deputation, the Rev. Luke H. Wiseman, whose calm statesmanlike address made a profound impression; and the Rev. Morley Punshon, whose thrilling impassioned eloquence wrought the Conference and audience to a height of enthusiasm which we have never seen equalled on such an occasion. Though not gifted with the same oratorical power as their predecessors in this honorable appointment, Messrs. Pope and Rigg will nobly represent the British Conference. These gentlemen are appreciably referred to by the English correspondent of the Christian Advocate:—

Mr. Pope is one of the best biblical and theological scholars in Methodism, and to put him at the head of this rank would neither be flattery to him nor injustice to his brethren. His preaching is scholarly, theological, and closely reasoned, and is especially characterized by deep reverence, and great refinement of religious feeling. For many years he has been one of the principal contributors to the London Quarterly Review, and sole editor of it for the last few years. He is the author of a volume of sermons on the Person of Christ, a Compendium of Theology, and the "Prayers of St. Paul," the latter work is just now issuing from the press. But Mr. Pope's writings will be too well known to your theological thinkers to need any description here.

Dr. Rigg was born at Newcastle-on-Tyne, on January 21, 1821, and educated at Kingswood. He is too well known among the Wesleyans of the United States to need any formal introduction to them. He is a man of enormous reading, and very wide range of information. In fact, it would be difficult to find one better acquainted with everything in the sphere of human interests, both as regards this world and the next. To those who know what a vast amount of work he gets through he is a veritable puzzle of tenacity and human industry. The Education Department over which he presides, has, during the last few years, been far more severely tried than any other department of Methodism. This severe trial has been inevitable from the change in Wesleyan opinion, and from the movement of the nation for a more complete system of national education. Dr. Rigg defied his position with conspicuous ability and perseverance, and though in the heat of debate some hard things were said, there is no soreness left. The Doctor has a forgiving spirit, and he neither sulks nor bears malice. His contributions to the London Quarterly Review have been numerous, and the wide range of these subjects indicates the breadth and generality of his sympathies and culture. Philosophy, theology, sociology, literature, biography and history, have all been treated by him. He is only now in the prime of life, and the following list of his publications bears witness to his ability and dili-

gence: "Principles of Wesleyan Methodism," in 1851; "Congregational Independence and Wesleyan Connectionalism Contrasted;" "Lecture on Premillennialism;" "Modern Anglican Theology;" "Essays for the Times;" "Religion for John Wesley and Wesleyan Methodism with the Church of England;" "The Sabbath and the Sabbath Law before and after Christ;" "National Education;" and "The Living Wesley." It is rumored that an early number of the Contemporary Review will contain a contribution from Dr. Rigg on the Churchmanship of John Wesley.

CIRCUIT SUPPLIES.—Several of the Conference Students now attending the College at Sackville will be prepared to take Circuit or Home Missionary work during the Summer vacation. Further information may be obtained on application to the Undersigned.

CHARLES STEWART.

N.B.—It is requested that application be made as soon as practicable. Sackville, N.B., Ap. 25—3

NEWS FROM BERMUDA.—The steamer Camina sailed yesterday (April 26), for New York with a full cargo of 18,150 boxes Tomatoes, 12 to 14 lbs. each; 4,186 boxes Onions, 50 lbs. each; 2679 barrels Potatoes; 49 boxes Beets. This is only the commencement of the shipping season. The Bermuda a larger vessel will be filled next week. Prices are below the average for the season.

Our English Letter.

THE MISSIONARY INCOME

For 1875-6 will reach the amount of £184,000, and will about equal the sums raised last year. Your readers will remember that this was exceptionally high, and was increased by several large legacies, so that if the income for the present year reaches the high figure already named, it must be accepted as proof of steady growth and development. This is matter for sincere thankfulness and hope, as the claims for help and the widening fields of labour were never more numerous than at present. The approaching anniversary on May 1st will be a joyous occasion, heightened, it is hoped, by the appearance of the Rev. J. T. Perks, after his important and arduous labours in Africa. A full programme of preachers and speakers for the forthcoming meetings has been published, and it is evident that this department of the work of our church is being very vigorously carried on.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

has already secured a successful anniversary, and eclipsed all its former rather dull and unattractive meetings. Exeter Hall was engaged, and a fine choir of several hundreds of young people led the singing. Mr. Jackson Wray spoke in his best style on behalf of Wesleyan day schools, Mr. Garrett pleaded with his usual pathos and power for the outcast and orphaned children, and then Mr. W. C. Simpson took up the claims of our great Sabbath-school work. Dr. Punshon then took up the speaking, and in his own masterly and inimitable manner presented the pressing demands of all the topics, urged by the others, and brought the meeting to a noble finish, after securing a liberal collection.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

has received another memorial to grace its walls and recall the memories of departed worth and greatness. The tablet which was unveiled a few days ago is intended to do honor to John and Charles Wesley, and through them to the worthy men who were identified with them, and the great work which under God they were the agents in originating.

It is fitting that the Wesleys should be remembered in our grand old Abbey, and take their place among the sculptured memorials which in such great numbers adorn its walls. The event has given great satisfaction to the Wesleyans throughout England, and is another proof of the fine liberal spirit and large heartedness of Dean Stanley. He has taken very deep interest in the work and done very much to further the matter from its first moving. Dr. Johnson has also been closely identified with the movement, his fine artistic tastes and business ability having largely contributed to the success which has attended the whole business. The Memorial is a fine work of art, chaste and original in design, and full of mementoes of Methodist writers, living and dead. It is well known that the lamented Lady Augusta, the distinguished wife of the Dean, took a great interest in the proposed movement, and if her life had been prolonged, the unveiling would have been done by her hand. Her recent death, and interment in the Abbey, gave a tone of profound sadness to the ceremonial, in which she was to have taken an important part, and led the Dean, to quote the touching and appro-

priate lines from C. Wesley,—

"My company before is gone,
And I am left alone with thee."

DEATH OF MR. W. T. WHELPTON.

It has pleased God to remove one of His honored and useful servants, in the prime of life, and in the midst of all his work. The death of Mr. Whelpton is felt to be a great calamity, not only to the circuit to which he belonged, but to the whole Methodism of the metropolis. He was closely identified with all our leading institutions, giving much time and judgment to their management, and contributing liberally to their maintenance. Pursuing his work in quietness, and with unflinching perseverance, all who were associated with him were led to praise him highly. His loss will be widely felt. The fatal fever was taken in Rome, to which city he had gone for a short visit with some relatives, and three of the party were stricken down. It is hoped that the death which has taken place will be the only one, but yet one very precious life is taken, and one that the Church of God will long hold in grateful, loving remembrance.

THE TROUBLE IN TURKEY

is not yet settled. In spite of all the negotiations of the Great Powers, the disaffected and oppressed people, bravely fight on, as they appear to have no faith in any of the promises made to them by their treacherous rulers, and to know the utter worthlessness of any pledges of reforms that the Turks may make. They believe they can win better terms, than any that have yet been proposed. We cannot but feel deep sympathy, possessed as we are of Christianity and freedom, with the struggles of this people against the Mohammedan tyranny of their rulers. It is high time for steps to be taken to establish a strong Christian power in European Turkey. Surely help will soon be raised up for the oppressed and persecuted confessors of Christ in those Provinces.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 14th

has been spent by us, in the midst of snow, and exceedingly cold and high winds. Such an amount of snow, and bleak weather in the midst of spring has not been known for half a century.

April 17. B.

New England Letter.

MR. EDITOR,—Permit me to drop you a few items that may be of interest to your readers. You are not so far away but that we exert a good influence on each other. Our New England Conference is over. Relentlessly the iron wheel has again revolved, and the members have quietly gone to their appointed places. Well may Bishop Haven say that the itinerancy is the safeguard of Methodism. The Conference was in all respects a most pleasing one, though some sharp and pungent speeches were made. We met there Bro. Huestis and wife from Windsor. With characteristic modesty he would not allow himself to be introduced to the Conference. Strolling into the famous Boston Preachers' Meeting, however, on the following Monday, we found that the Dawn East brother had the floor, and if he will just skip these lines I'll go on to say that the Nova Scotia Conference may be proud of her representative. For over a half hour in a clear, telling and cogent speech, he placed before the meeting the usages and polity of the Methodist Church of Canada. The speech abounded in sharp hits on some of the weak points of the American system. For instance, he called attention to the fact that the Canadian Methodists allow no minister to be superannuated, to go into business and yet hold his Conference connections intact. It was a worthy speech from a worthy man.

To-day I have had the pleasure of hearing Henry Ward Beecher address the Theological School. No words of mine could do justice to the fiery and eloquent expressions of the speaker. Full ofunction, and with pent up emotion occasionally breaking forth, he seemed to us the embodiment of all that is noble and manly in Christian character. "The measure of man's usefulness is the measure of his inward power." "The fundamental characteristic of a true minister is all compassionateness." The ability to pour himself out as Christ emptied Himself, and if need be, to death, must be possessed by the minister of Jesus Christ. These and other burning thoughts fell from his lips in words that went straight to the hearts of his hearers and led them to long for that power that would make them such helpers to humanity, as he portrayed the true gospel minister to be. Clouds may gather about this good man's path, but I trust not long hence God will vindicate the uprightness of his servant, and we, who listened to the simple, childlike, holyunction that accompanied his prayer at the conclusion of his address could not help feeling that there stood before us a true minister of Jesus Christ. But I'm afraid my pen has wandered too far and here I stop. Yours, J. D. P.

Boston, April 25th, 1876.

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