

N. B. AND P. E. I. CONFERENCE.

(Continued from our last.)

AFTERNOON.

Conference opened with the usual devotional exercises.

After the arrangement of certain matters, the order of the day was proceeded to, and the Missionary Fund was introduced for consideration. A resolution was moved by Rev. H. Sprague, seconded by Rev. S. F. Huestis, and spoken to by several of the brethren: and, being put to the Conference, was unanimously carried.

A resolution calling the attention of the proper authorities to an error in the numbering of the large Missionary Report passed the Conference.

The Publishing Interests were next introduced, and Mr. Nicolson presented a report of the Wesleyan and Book Room. The cash and credit sales had been, respectively, in advance of any previous year; but, for certain reasons stated, the profits were not so large.

The circulation of the Wesleyan stands at about 3,000. The Printing department had cleared last year about \$810. Mr. N. made a comparison between the last and previous years since he took charge, showing that the sales had gone up in the last five years 250 per cent. He referred to his election by the Conference of E. B. America, and to his work since then. He stated that the General Book Committee had unanimously decided to ask for the appointment of both a Book Steward and an Editor—a decision which he could not see to be wise. He showed why he viewed it as he did, and said that by this request of the Committee he felt himself absolved, and saw his way opened up to the regular work of the ministry. He closed by enjoining the brethren to think of the matter, and to look about them for those two men. Great surprise was expressed by many of the brethren at the idea of any such change as is contemplated by the Book Committee. After much ventilation of this matter a resolution expressive of our approval of the recommendation of the General Book Committee passed.

Before passing to the next item in the order of the day, the attention of the meeting was recalled to a certain matter relating to the Supernumerary Fund; and a vote of the United conferences, expressive of their satisfaction with the past administration and present condition of the Supernumerary Fund, as reported upon to-day, relative to Dr. Pickard's services to that Fund, was passed.

Relating to the matter of Transfers, Rev. Mr. Currie moved, and Rev. Mr. Daniel seconded the following resolution:—"That it is the judgment of this united meeting that the General Conference should be requested to give its earnest attention to the subject of Transfers, and provide a more practicable plan for the Transfers of ministers between the Conferences." After a number of interesting speeches this resolution passed the Conference.

EVENING SESSION.

With the usual devotional exercises Conference opened at 7.30 o'clock. Rev. Mr. Currie was heard on matters touching the state of the Children's Fund; and his statements created great surprise and evoked numerous questions. After much discussion a motion to refer the whole matter of the Children's Fund to the proper Committee, carried. This Committee to report at the opening of Conference to-morrow, p.m.

The election of the ninth representative to the General Conference was then entered upon, and Dr. Pope was chosen.

The following brethren were next chosen by ballot to represent the Conference in the Central Committees:—
Educational Board.....Prof. Burwash,
Missionary do.....Robt. Duncan,
Transfer Committee.....H. McKeown.

It was decided and announced that the collection for General Conference traveling expenses be made in all our congregations on the first Sunday in August, and that the President of this Conference be the Treasurer of moneys so collected.

The Conference Temperance Meeting was held this evening in the vestry beginning at 8 o'clock. H. Humphrey, Esq., occupied the chair, and Miss Dixon presided at the organ.

Able and interesting addresses were delivered by Revs. S. R. Ackman, George M. Campbell, and J. R. Narraway, A. M. The attendance was not so large as the importance of the object contemplated by the meeting merits.

SIXTH DAY. FORENOON.

With the usual devotional exercises Conference opened at 11 o'clock. Rev. Mr. Barratt asked permission to visit England any time he sees fit, and to stay as long as he desires; and his request was acceded to.

It was moved and carried that letters of condolence be prepared and forwarded to the widows of Revs. Wm. McCarty and John Ellis.

The usual votes of thanks to the Conference officers of the last year, and to others, passed the Conference.

On motion of Prof. Burwash, seconded by Mr. Barratt, the following resolution, after considerable discussion was adopted:—"That the appropriations to the Mission Fund to the different circuits be published in the printed Minutes.

On the applications of Bros. Lawson and Tippett for two months leave of absence for certain desirable and praiseworthy purposes, it was, on motion, resolved to grant their respective requests.

The Missionary Committee's Report was then submitted; but inasmuch as it contained an objectionable section it did not pass at once; and its consideration was appointed as the order of the day for the afternoon. Just before adjourning a pleasing scene took place. Rev. Mr. Percival in behalf of the Conference, referred to the gentlemanly bearing and the kindly attentions towards all the members of the Conference of the venerable sexton of this church—Mr. Pringle; and said that in consideration of his services thus performed since the opening of this Conference, a purse of \$10.50 had been collected from the brethren, and that now he had pleasure in presenting it to him. Mr. Pringle accepted very gratefully and gracefully; and being loudly called to take the platform and make a speech, he came forward and said:—"I thank you for this present; and I hope and pray that every time you blow the Gospel Trumpet it may be filled with the breath of the Holy Spirit; and that every time you draw the Gospel bow the dart may be tinged with the blood of Jesus and sent to every unconverted heart."

Adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock, p.m.

AFTERNOON.

Conference opened with the usual devotion. By permission Bro. Wilson made a request that, in consideration of certain peculiarities connected with his entering our work, some time be added to his standing in connection with the Methodist Church. After some discussion one year was added.

Rev. Mr. Paisley then presented a resolution, notice of which he had previously given, relating to the term of probation in the case of graduates in Arts, who seek admission to our ministry,—but its discussion was postponed to a later period. The order of the day being next taken up. The objectionable section in the Missionary Committee's Report provoked a lengthy and spirited discussion, but with slight alterations not affecting the object aimed at in the section, the Report was adopted.

EVENING SESSION.

With the usual devotional exercises Conference opened at 7.30 o'clock; and the consideration of the Children's Fund Committee's Report was at once entered upon. The chief work of this Committee was to suggest the best method of disposing of the \$2,600 surplus now in this Fund, and to devise the best way to regulate this Fund for the next year; and upon these points they reported. As might be expected the report on the former point created great interest. It being carried that the Report be taken up clause by clause and discussed, it was resolved that the first clause be adopted, viz.:—"That \$400 of the surplus be a reserve fund to aid Mission Circuits in meeting the claims of the Children's Fund upon them in the future." After a very lengthy debate a clause was here added to the Report and passed, viz.:—"That an amount sufficient to reduce the claims upon the Centenary and Germain St. Churches to 2½ children for the past year be refunded; and that a sufficient amount to reduce the claims upon Portland church to 1½ for the past year be also refunded."

Then, as the third clause, the following was passed:—"That the balance of the surplus be distributed among those brethren who have suffered deficiencies during the last two years, provided that the salaries have not exceeded \$750.

The part of the report referring to the apportioning of the children to the several circuits for the ensuing year, was referred to the Committee with instructions to tax the independent circuits with at least as many as they had previously been taxed with, and to report forthwith.

Bro. Marshall moved the following resolution which was unanimously passed:—"That the Committee of the Children's Fund be instructed to prepare during the year, a Constitution and Rules for the Government of the Fund, and submit the same to the next Conference for approval."

In the meantime the Educational Committee's Report was read and adopted; when, seeing it impossible to complete the business of Conference that night, Conference adjourned to meet in the morning at 9 o'clock.

SEVENTH DAY.

Pursuant to adjournment Conference opened with the usual devotions. The Report of the Children's Fund was laid before the Conference, taken up clause by clause and adopted. The election of Dis-

trict Chairmen and appointment of Fin. Secretaries were then entered upon with the following results:—

ST. JOHN DISTRICT.
President of Conf., Chairman.
S. S. Teed, Fin. Sec'y.

FREDRICKTON DISTRICT.
R. Duncan, Chairman.
C. H. Paisley, Fin. Sec'y.

MIRAMICHI DISTRICT.
H. Mc. Keown, Chairman.
I. N. Parker, Fin. Sec'y.

SACKVILLE DISTRICT.
D. Chapman, Chairman.
C. W. Dutcher, Fin. Sec'y.

ST. STEPHEN DISTRICT.
E. Evans, Chairman.
F. W. Harrison, Fin. Sec'y.

P. E. ISLAND DISTRICT.
J. Lathern, Chairman.
H. P. Cowperthwaite, Fin. Sec'y.

R. Wilson was elected corresponding member of the S. S. Committee; and D. Currie Fin. Agent of the Conference. After some discussion it was resolved—"That this Conference recommend the re-commendation of the General Book Committee to the Executive Book Committee relative to the establishment of a Branch Book Room in St. John, N. B."

The consideration of the state of the work of God was next taken up. It was entered upon by singing Hymn 641. The recommendations of the several Districts upon this matter were read and followed up with very interesting and suggestive addresses.

Bro. McKeown gave a very pleasing account of the gracious results following the Convention of the Y. M. C. A. held in Chatham last fall.

Bro. Daniel made some very forcible remarks upon the urgent necessity of sustaining the Class-meeting. In order to this the ministers must be faithful in reminding our people of this, and in pastoral—not social—visitation. We ought to attend to these things in order to secure spiritual prosperity, and this will certainly be followed by temporal success. The renewal of the Quarterly ticket ought not to be neglected, and our literature ought to be circulated. Ours is a great Church, but it is to be feared that there is greater expansion than stability.

Bro. Barratt endorsed what had just been said, and intimated that his only objection to the excellent Pastoral Address of this year was that it contained no reference to the Class-meeting.

Bro. Smallwood followed explaining why the Class was not referred to, and making some very timely and impressive remarks.

Bro. Duncan thought this question the most important that could engage the attention of the Conference. If we fail in reaching spiritual success, we fail in attaining the real object of the ministry.

Bro. Colpitts felt that the hour devoted to this matter is always the most enjoyable to him of any in the Session of Conference. God had very signally blessed him during the year, so that his circuit had enjoyed a gracious revival.

Bro. Lathern expressed his appreciation of the aid he had in the pastoral duties of his charge. Father Smallwood had been in his attention to this work "instant in season, out of season." He (Mr. L.) endorsed all that had been said about the importance of Classes; but was not wholly satisfied with the system upon which they are worked. He gave a cursory description of the work of God in the Island District, and noted many very cheering features. About 1,000 young people of the 12,000 inhabitants of Charlottetown are connected with our S. Schools in that city.

Dr. Stewart was pleased and profited with this conversation, and would go to his work a better man. We must ever reckon the need of piety as chief. He had great sympathy with his brethren on the lonely circuits. He wanted all to see and feel that if we would secure spiritual prosperity in our circuits there must be had more closet piety on the part of our ministers. He rejoiced in the fact that other denominations were becoming one with us in their views of evangelical truth. He saw that if Quarterly Tickets were properly used—used not only as a token of Church membership but as a means of entrance to our Love-feasts and the Lord's Supper—they were of great use. He would be reminded of the importance of caring for the young in order to secure them, not merely as S. S. scholars or members of moral institutions, but as Methodists—as members of that Church in which the very best helps to their present and eternal salvation are found.

The President here said that though these exercises were very profitable, they must now close. The ex-President led in prayer, and the Conference was called to hear the Report of the Fire-Relief Committee, which on motion was received and adopted. Then the Report of the "Mutual Annuitant Society" Committee was read, and received and laid on the table. The Committee on Memorials presented its Report which was adopted. The propriety

of resuscitating the "Parsonage Aid Fund" was brought up by Dr. Pickard. After a little discussion it was resolved:—(1) "That we shall have such a Fund," (2) "That there be placed in it the sum of \$2,000 now available to constitute a nucleus; and (3) "That for this year the Committee be governed by the regulations of the old Society, and to report to next Conference."

On motion the President of Conference was authorized to act in conjunction with the Treasurer of the "Supernumerary, &c. Fund" in taking any legal steps to conserve the interests of the Fund. The work of the Letter-writers was reported and passed. The Journal Secretary was instructed by vote of Conference on motion of H. Sprague to furnish the General Conference with a copy of all matters of this Conference that are to come before the General Conference or any of its Committees. The Journal of to-day's session was then read and adopted; after which the Minutes were read and signed. Part of a hymn was sung, Bro. Lathern led in prayer, and the Benediction was pronounced.

Thus closed a long, interesting, and profitable session of the N. B. and P. E. I. Conference. And while the brethren now betake themselves to their several circuits and address themselves to their loved work, the wish is cherished and the prayer breathed that the blessing Divine may rest upon them, and that such success may crown their labors that glorious reports will be presented at the next Conference to meet in Charlottetown, P. E. I., on the last Thursday in June, 1879.

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CANADIAN METHODIST MAGAZINE FOR JULY.

Toronto: S. ROSE. \$2 a year: Single numbers, 20cts.

The eighth volume of this popular monthly, whose circulation we learn has increased 1,000 since the beginning of the year, opens with a splendidly illustrated number. The first article, on the Chautauqua Sunday Assembly, has fourteen engravings. "Sea Bathing" has ten handsome pictures of life at Cape May. Lumbering in Canada is illustrated by three fine engravings. The heroic story of the Martyrs of Canada should be read by every Canadian. A grand discourse is contributed by W. Morley Punshon, LL. D., and an important article on French Acadia, by W. Kirby, author of the *Chien d'Or*. "Buckle-to" is a sketch of quaint humor.

All subscribers beginning with the July number will receive gratis an illustrated supplement, of one hundred and thirty pages, and containing the chapters of the popular Canadian story, "The King's Messenger," up to that date. Copiously illustrated articles on Stanley's Adventures in Africa, the Northern Lakes of Canada, the Canyons of Colorado, Mauch Chunk and Lehigh Gap, the Susquehanna, and other interesting subjects, are announced.

HEALTH AND ECONOMY.

If one could calculate beforehand all the cost of yielding to temptation every time that an evil indulgence might present itself, and would save and lay up that cost in money, it would be a better investment than a life insurance. A paper mentions the successful result of an experiment in this line by Mr. Hubbard, a Connecticut gentleman.

He was about eighteen years old when he determined to lay aside, day by day, the money which he would have spent for cigars had he been a smoker. At the end of each month he deposited at interest the sum thus accumulated in a savings bank.

As the price of good cigars advanced, he correspondingly increased the amount of money to be laid away each day. From time to time, when his savings in the bank reached a few hundred dollars, he would draw them out to make a better investment.

By wise and shrewd management the fund amounted to from \$15,000 to \$18,000 a few years since. Mr. Hubbard then took this money, and with it purchased a charming site on the Greenwich Hill, and built a comfortable and commodious home for himself and family. The place overlooks Long Island Sound, and commands one of the widest and finest views that can be found along the Connecticut shore.—*Churchman*.

Almost sweet is unsavory; almost hot is lukewarm. Almost a Christian is like the Ephraimites who could not pronounce Shibboleth, but Sibboleth. Almost a Christian is like Ananias, who brought a part but left part behind. Almost a Christian is like the virgins, who carried lamps without oil; like the willing-unwilling son, who said he would come, and would not.—*Henry Smith*.

LIFE'S BETTER WINE.

So sick at heart for Thy dear love
My soul has been,
So weary of its cries and tears,
And all its sin.
So poor, in all the wealth I had,
So cold, in earthly garments clad,
So filled with joys, and yet so sad!

O Jesus Christ, to thee I yield
Life's sparkling bowl,
For Thou hast crossed the Better hills,
And won my soul!
No human love shall now beguile,
No cherished sin shall now defile,
The heart so blest in Thy dear smile!

What was it Lord, which set me loose
From anchoring ties,
What word was that which turned to praise
My moans and sighs?
Oh, 'twas that love for which I pined,
For which at last, I all resigned,
In which life's better wine I find.

No message new, hath caught my ear
Dear Lord, from Thee—
'Tis only, I believe the love
Thou hast for me!
Such love begets a life divine
Such love can all earth's joys outshine—
Nay, not thy gifts—*Thyself* be mine!

BIBLE ARITHMETIC.

Addition.—Add to your faith virtue; and to virtue, knowledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, charity. 2 Peter i. 5-7.

Subtraction.—Laying aside all malice, and all guile, and all hypocrisies and envies, and all evil speaking—desire the sincere milk of the Word, that ye may grow thereby.—2 Peter i. 2.

Multiplication.—Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.—2 Peter i. 2.

He that ministereth seed to the sower doth minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness.—2 Cor. ix. 10.

Division.—Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.—2 Cor. vi. 17, 18.

VALUE OF RICE AS A FOOD.

Rice is almost the only diet of the people in China, Asia, and all eastern countries. In those countries it is used as a substitute for potatoes. At the present low price of domestic rice, it is the cheapest food obtainable. Potatoes contain about 80 per cent. of water, and do not gain much in the process of cooking. Rice has no waste whatever, contains only 22 per cent. of water, and in boiling gains three times its original bulk. Hence one pound of rice at 6½ cents per pound makes three times as much when cooked; equal to 3 pounds of potatoes at 2½ cents per pound, or 7½ cents. Rice properly prepared should come upon the table dry, each grain unbroken, and served with the condiments used on potatoes; and be partaken of as a vegetable, with meats and not as a dessert.—*Sanitarian*.

THE COMING ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

The total eclipse of the sun on the 29th inst., visible over a great portion of North America, will be an event of great scientific interest. Preparations on an extensive scale have already been made for its observation in the United States, and Congress has devoted the sum of \$8,000 to the purpose. The preparations have been given in charge to Admiral John Rodgers, Superintendent of the United States Naval Observatory, who has set to work to make them as complete as possible. Observing parties will soon take the field, thoroughly equipped and instructed as to their duties. The polariscope and spectroscopes will be employed to examine the corona during totality, which will last three minutes in the North, and two minutes and a half in Texas. The observers will necessarily have to work with great rapidity.

The London *Leisure Hour* vouches for this incident of Mr. Gladstone, not especially remarkable; pleasant reading nevertheless: Dr. Guthrie was once paying a visit to the Duke of Argyll, at Inverary Castle, by special invitation. A large and brilliant assemblage of guests, including Mr. Gladstone, were staying at the Castle, and before they retired for the night Dr. Guthrie was asked by the Duke to conduct "family worship," and a psalm was to be sung after the good old Scottish Presbyterian fashion. After a number of ladies and gentlemen present had been asked to act as "precentor," and nobody responding to the appeal, Mr. Gladstone stepped forward and said, "Dr. Guthrie, I'll raise the tune," and the ex-Premier did it right well. It is well known that with other great natural gifts Mr. Gladstone is the fortunate possessor of a fine voice, and is furthermore a very fine singer.