

THE WESLEYAN.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1880.

OUR FINANCIAL MEETINGS.

From reports to our office we presume that all the Financial District Meetings of the Maritime Provinces have now been held. Each minister is, therefore, enabled to judge of the service to be rendered beyond his circuit, and to make such plans for study and labor within his own special field, as can be carried out during the balance of the ecclesiastical year. To the Methodist minister, upon whom the existence of connexional obligations entails duties lying beyond the sphere of the settled pastor, method is, to say the least, indispensable. Many men, not remarkable for talent, by wise use of time crowd important work for God and man into the twelve short months of a year; others, more brilliant, through the absence of system, disappoint their flocks, and sadden their brother-pastors. Such is the verdict of time. That of eternity may too closely resemble it.

Our District gatherings in the autumn are naturally of less interest than those of the spring. The former are devoted to plans; at the latter we mark results, so far as figures applied to spiritual facts will allow us. In their relation of cause to effect, the autumn meetings have no little importance. The arrangements for our missionary and educational anniversaries can be viewed as trifles by no thoughtful Christian. We have stood upon the banks of the Upper St. John, when its shallow waters moved sluggishly on, and the steamers, unable to cross its bars, lay in idleness at the wharves; again, we have watched its waters rushing on, as if in contempt of human barriers, and bearing on their proud bosom the steamer, to which, on the rapid current, her engines seemed scarcely a necessity. It need not be said that the weakness, or the mightiness, of the noble river was in precise proportion to the quantity which spring, and streamlet, and stream, and larger tributary, true to its purpose, bore to the current which rolled seaward. So it will be in reference to the life-giving currents of our missionary and educational funds. We can afford to despise the gifts of no settlement in our Conference, however limited the power of the givers. Not seldom with these smaller gifts are combined the prayers that take the kingdom of heaven by force. Cloudy weather, foretelling storm before home can be regained, and muddy or half-frozen roads, wearisome to man and beast, may tempt some whose names are published in our lists of deputations to absence from their post. Let such temptation be overcome, and let the necessary preparation of gathered fact and prayerful spirit be duly made. We have crossed the path of devoted men and women who, in the holy convocation of missionary or educational anniversaries, have given themselves to the Lord in a perpetual covenant. Similar vows may be registered in heaven during some of the services, of which notice is now being given in our columns. Apart from such glorious possibilities, more jokes, or foolish puns, are not at all in order in the presence of an audience, with whom we plead for the waste places of our own Dominion, and the haunts of millions of heathen scattered over the earth in ignorance of Christ and heaven. Precious facts, attesting the power of the Gospel to-day, may be gathered by any diligent gleaner, and used by him with happy effect in the advocacy of missions or of education.

We observe with pleasure that in one or two districts the advocacy of the important objects just named has not been left wholly to the ministry. At the late English Conference a number of leading laymen were told off to as many of the leading Districts. We, in these Lower Provinces, cannot expect to muster a very large number of men who can devote time as well as talents to such important services. Perhaps no section of the Maritime Conferences is happier in the possession of such advocates than is the extensive Prince Edward Island District, in the deputation-lists of which we

observe with pleasure the names of the Hon. W. G. Strorg, and W. E. Dawson, Esq., whose presence will certainly lend an interest to the meetings for which they are appointed. A single other lay-name, that of our well-known and long-tried friend—Sheriff Freeman, of Liverpool, fills up the list of lay-delegates at our missionary anniversaries.

Not unworthy of note is the suggestion of the Sackville District, the members of which pledge themselves to endeavor to enlist their Sunday-schools more heartily in mission effort. The children of Methodism first entered the field as missionary collectors and contributors, but others have learned the lesson, who are making a practical use of it with, we sometimes think, a more extensive application. We rejoice in their success, and mention it that any of our schools, forgetful of their duty, may in turn use them as models. If the proposed action of the Sackville District be carefully carried out, in its own and in other circuits, an amount of good not now dreamed of must be the happy result.

Other topics, to which reference is made in published reports, are worthy of remark in a future number.

AN EXAMPLE.

A South American journal denounces the conduct of the American and German ministers at the recent celebration of the anniversary of Columbian Independence. Other national representatives made their appearance in full dress, and knelt during the elevation of the host; but these, wearing their overcoats, retained their seats. The incident would not, perhaps, have found its way so far North but for the poverty of the stock of some news-purveyor; but the reflections it suggests may be worth placing on paper for home use.

Some one asks if similar conduct on the part of the Columbian minister at Washington or Berlin would not be regarded as discourteous? The question, like many others inspired by the priesthood, is plausible but weak. Protestant rulers, careful to avoid giving offence to Roman Catholics on similar occasions, limit their religious services to a prayer or a doxology; Roman Catholic rulers, ever under the power of designing and Jesuitical guides, so link the whole of the idolatry of Romanism with national demonstrations, that Protestant representatives must either fall into the trap, and prove recreant to their profession, or be placed by their independence in a position which exposes them, as in this case, to a charge of discourtesy.

This incident reminds us of another which took place nearer home. A prominent military man, holding his appointment from the British Government, died in a colonial capital. Leading Romish dignitaries took a prominent place in the procession which attended the corpse to its grave. On the way thither the body was carried into a Protestant Church. What did these Romish dignitaries do? Regard for their religion proved higher than regard for the deceased officer, or for the Government which had called him into its service. Without hesitation they moved out of the line of procession, and awaited on the street, the conclusion of the ceremonial in the church.

We do not deny that, in setting this example to their flock, these dignitaries were consistent with their professed belief. Nor have we aught but praise for those representatives of Protestant countries who, obliged through the wiles of Romanism to show their regard for national courtesy in a Romish temple, would not at the same time endorse idolatry, by bending the knee at an idolatrous ceremony. But we are inclined to ask if Provincial Protestants have as much backbone. If certain newspaper descriptions are remembered aright, some officials, whose presence could only be required at any Roman Catholic ceremonial by a very great magnifying of official position, have occasionally found their way there, thus giving the sanction of their presence to an idolatrous service, and their countenance to an organization which would place their country at the feet of the Pope.

How vain the effort to separate the responsibility of the office from that of the individual. We seldom hear of such effort with out thinking of that minister who excused his own profanity as that of the man, and not of the clergyman. 'But,' replied the bishop, 'when the man is cast into hell, what becomes of the minister?' More pertinent, a thousand times, because coming from the lips of the Divine One, is the assurance: 'Unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required; and to whom men have committed much, of him will they ask the more.' Backbone comes from the constant recollection of such truth.

REV. WM. TAYLOR.

The visit of the Rev. Wm. Taylor to the Lower Provinces last autumn will be remembered by all who heard him. Those who were repelled by his use of unfamiliar methods, as well those who were carried captive by the down-right earnestness and business-style of the man, will read with interest an item from an Australian exchange, respecting his work in the past:

'No revival work in Australia ever left such permanent results as that of "California" Taylor. Not a few of them are among our pulpits to-day; scores of them are our best and most faithful laymen, and hundreds in every colony who were brought to God under his preaching, and to whose imagination and memory his face is as fresh and vivid as ever, will welcome him as they would few other living men.'

In a characteristic letter in the *Guide to Holiness* for September, Mr. Taylor describes his work at present:

'Para is ninety miles up the Para River, located on the south side of the river, one degree, twenty minutes south, of the equator. It claims a population of 40,000, but few from England or America—two American ladies, wives of the American and German consuls, and perhaps a score of merchants and clerks. Brother Nelson has an appointment to preach to them to-morrow, Sabbath, and will henceforth hold regular Sabbath services for these and the straggling seamen who frequent these waters. My arrangements are nearly complete, by which I put brother and sister Nelson, and brother Gregg, down into self-supporting work, by founding a school of high grade for the natives. The President of the Province concurs in our plan, and will help us with his name and influence. The city is so full that we have great difficulty in getting a suitable house for our school purposes; but we are here on the Lord's business, and he is with us, and we are bound to succeed.'

The *Church Guardian* takes exception to an item from the *Christian Register*, in which a young man appearing before his bishop is said to have produced a certificate of his baptism as a proof of 'regeneration,' and accuses three Methodist ministers, as editors of so many religious newspapers, of misrepresentation in consequence of ignorance.

The *Guardian*, in its notice of the item, presents an extract from a sermon by the late Bishop Whittingham of Maryland, who, after giving his views on baptism in regeneration, asserts:

'The change of heart, then, brethren, we do most explicitly recognize as indispensable to salvation, and we do not consider it as effected in baptism.'

It is pleasing to know that the bishop held that 'regeneration in baptism is not what we understand by 'conversion.' Though somewhat puzzled by the distinctions drawn, we accept the statement as expressive of his own views, and we may add, of thousands of excellent men and women of his denomination. We regret that we cannot regard them as those of the Episcopal body at large. Its creed unfortunately has ceased to be a thoroughly safe index to the faith of its followers. An American secular paper, which cannot be suspected of any desire to make 'smart hits at the Church,' refers to this sad fact in a recent article on the English Burials Bill:

In ritual, how wide an interval separates the rich ceremonial of the Ritualistic priest from the plain and simple service of the evangelical country parson! In faith, what latitude is allowed for Dean Stanley's explanations of the Creed, for Canon Farrar's views respecting endless punishment, for Dr. Pusey's inferences from Patristic teaching, and for Father Mackonochie's belief in the Real Presence?

THE CONVENTION AT NORTHFIELD.

The Rev. H. P. Doane sends us this short message from Northfield.

'I have only the time this Monday morning, writing as I am at 5 o'clock, to give you a few notes on the Prayer meeting. I arrived two days after the opening of the meeting and found that showers of blessing had already begun to descend, and men and women were rejoicing in conscious blessing and power. There are about four hundred Christian workers here from almost all parts of the world, representing various denominations and organizations. From Athens—learned, classic Athens—there is a native Greek. From South Africa, from the extreme points of the Republic, from Scotland, Montreal and Nova Scotia have come those anxious for the special baptism of the Holy Spirit. There seem to be more laymen than ministers present, but there is nothing here by which they can be distinguished, neither can one discover the denomination to which a man belongs except by direct questioning. Differences of opinion are being laid aside now, that in unity and harmony we may be prepared for the blessing. The services have all been interesting. Searching sermons have been preached by Mr. Moody, and men and women are being humbled before God as the light of the spirit shines into their souls and reveals the sin and pollution. The sermon yesterday by Mr. Jacobs of Chicago, the originator of the International series of S. S. Lessons, was earnest and thrilling. Messrs. Sankey and Stebbins are here, and the singing is glorious. John B. Gough is to speak to-morrow.

We are waiting for the blessing. God grant that His Holy Spirit may come and not tarry, that those who work for him in the conscious power of that spirit may go forth to do mighty things.'

According to the Year Book of the Young Men's Christian Association, just issued by the International Committee, there are 825 associations in North America, 255 in Great Britain, 65 in France, 293 in Germany, 403 in Holland, 204 in Switzerland, 2 in India, 4 in Syria, and 2 in Japan.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

We cannot at present open our columns for the publication of sermons.

The Canadian "Illustrated News" of the 4th inst., has a very good portrait of Chief Justice, Sir Wm. Young.

Lists of Deputations will be found on the third page. Those published last week will be repeated in a short time.

The Prize List and General Regulations for the Exhibition to be held at Baddeck, C. B., on Oct. 11, 12, 13 and 14, has been laid on our table.

There is work ahead for the S. P. C. A. Prospectuses for Autumn races have already been published. Of course we shall be told how races between cab-horses and truck-horses tend to improve the breeds.

The missionary meetings on the Nashwaak and Stanley circuit are to be held on the 13th, 14th, 16th and 17th Sept., and not on the 20th to 25th, as stated in our last issue.

Under the heading of 'The Sporting World,' one of our city dailies gives a half-column on the Knock apparatus, and current statements of extraordinary cures said to have taken place in their neighborhood.

Hants Co. has been selected for the prize annually offered by King's College, Windsor, for the best County History. A most interesting essay ought to be written on the history and prominent men of Hants. T. B. Akins, Esq., who really gives the prizes, deserves the thanks of Provincials for his preservation of so much of the history of Nova Scotia and Nova Scotians, which must otherwise have been lost.

An earnest Supernumerary brother has been combining Christian work with a pleasure trip, after this fashion. 'I bargained,' he writes, 'with one woman who has a sick husband to care for, to send the paper to me, for two dollars, which she promised to send me sometime. Please send her the WESLEYAN and charge it to me. I want you to send it to another family. I will pay out of my own pocket.'

An advertisement of the Board of Governors of Dalhousie College, on another page, shows the proud position in which they have been placed by the gift of a friend. We congratulate them, and at the same time, hope that a glance at this notice may 'provoke' the friends of our own and other denominational colleges to similar 'loves and good works.' Few happier methods can be adopted by men who are wise enough to become, as far as possible, their own executors.

The Book Steward desires us to say that the Minutes of the N. B. and P. E. I. Conference have been mailed to all the circuits. The distribution has been made according to instructions received from the Secretary of the Conference. He would also repeat the instruction that the Quarterly Tickets are furnished by order of the Conferences to all the circuits applying for them. Every circuit and mission in the Newfoundland Conference has been supplied. Query! How do many of the circuits in N. S. and N. B. do without these Tickets?

We regret to learn that Sabbath desecration of the most pronounced character is now being carried on among us on both harbor and shore. Two horses, driven in the heat of last Sunday, and for mere pleasure we believe, have died. "Doth God care for cattle?" What if, some Sunday, death take the helm of the steamer, and teach lessons at which men laugh at other times. But then, the hasty, hardening process of sin may have gone too far. "If they hear not Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rose from the dead" or hundreds went to the dead.

We learn with pleasure from the 'Presbyterian Witness,' that 'His Excellency the Marquis of Lorne worshipped in St. James' Church, Charlottetown, on the Sabbath which he spent in that city.' It is just what the son of the Duke of Argyll should have done. But what does our excellent contemporary mean when he says, 'We make this note as an offset to the note contained in our last issue?' Does he mean that our presence in the house of the Lord, on one Lord's day, may be used as an offset to our absence on pleasure on two others? Or is it a symptom of weakness in the knees? It means neither. It was a slip of the pen, made when the printer's lad was waiting for copy.

PERSONAL.

Professor Smith of Mount Allison was in town on Tuesday last.

President Inch, of Mount Allison, and Miss Inch, reached Sackville on the 1st inst., after a pleasant trip to Europe.

Rev. R. Tweedie has been visiting friends at Derby, N. B. He tells us that "Rev. D. H. Ldge is much liked by his people on that circuit."

Our marriage notices contain an item of interest to the many friends of A. P. Bradley, Esq., and family, of Ottawa. Mr. Bradley we observe, is making a tour of the Maritime Provinces.

Rev. James Taylor is "pleasantly situated" in his new home at Aylesford. He suffers less from neuralgia, and preaches frequently. None of his brethren expect Brother Taylor to rust out. In his case nature and grace agree to prevent that unhappy issue.

A dispatch received in this city on Tuesday last announced the death, at Victoria, B. C., of Mr. Robert Crane, son of the late Mr. Robert E. Crane. Mr. Crane, some months ago left Chicago, where he had been residing, to seek a new home in British Columbia, and his wife came to Halifax to visit her relatives. A short time since Mr. Crane sent for his wife, who, with her babe, left at once for her new home, expecting to reach San Francisco on Wednesday last. There she has probably learned the crushing fact. May God sustain her in the bitter trial. Mrs. Crane is a daughter of Mr. James Reeves, of Dartmouth.

A few days since the Rev. R. W. Weddall of Carleton, N. B., left home to spend a short time in the United States. On the eve of his departure, Mrs. J. K. Taylor, on behalf of the ladies of his congregation, presented him with a handsome purse. The Rev. W. W. Lodge, of Farnville, left by the same steamer.

The *Herald* gives an interesting sketch of Professor Simon Newcomb, of the Naval Observatory of Washington, who visited Halifax a few days ago. The Professor is a native of Wallace, N. S., where he was born in 1836. While a school teacher in Maryland he acquired such a reputation in mathematics that he was employed in the preparation of the Nautical Almanac for 1857. As an astronomer, however, he is most widely known.

LITERARY NOTICES.

Landry's Musical Journal for September is of the average value.

The September number of the *Guide to Holiness* is worthy to be carefully read. With the addition of the Rev. G. Hughes to its editorial corps this well-known monthly enters upon a new era.

Send for the Fair No. of the *Rural New-Yorker*, 34 Park Row, N. Y. It is the homeliest and most instructive agricultural and horticultural number ever published anywhere. It will be sent to our subscribers without charge.

The *American Agriculturist* for September, Orange Judd Company, 245 Broadway, N. Y., is accompanied by a supplement containing premium list. To farmers and gardeners this publication is invaluable, while its many notes on household matters render it of general interest.

Messrs. I. K. Funk & Co., 10 and 12 Dey St., New York, have in press a new book by Spurgeon, 'John Ploughman's Pictures; or, More of John Ploughman's Talk.' This book is quaintly illustrated with thirty-nine engravings. It will appear in the cheap Standard Series. This is its first publication in America. Price 15 cents.

The *National Repository* for September shows no signs of decrease in interest. Two articles on 'The Island of St. Helena,' and 'Westminster Abbey,' are illustrated. Rev. W. H. Daniels, M. A., contributes an article on 'Modern British Methodism,' with a cut of Rev. William Arthur. The other principal articles are: 'In the Canoe,' Rev. M. Traiton; 'The King in Hamlet,' 'The Wise men,' Miss M. E. Winslow; 'Scotch Songs'; 'Ancient America'; and 'Rev. Henry Ryan,' by Rev. Thomas Webster—the latter of special interest to Canadian readers.

The *Canadian Methodist Magazine* for September. Wm. Briggs, Toronto. Price \$2.00 a year; \$1.00 for six months. This number contains a series of charming illustrations of Windsor Castle, Eton, and the Thames near London, with an account by the editor of his visit to these places. Rev. George Cochran has an illustrated article on 'Life in Japan. A fine lithograph and a life-sketch of the Rev. Manly Benson are also given. The Diary of Nathaniel Pidgeon and Story of Barbara Heck give a vivid portrayal of early Methodism in the Old World and the New. The latter gives the words and music of some quaint old negro camp-meeting melodies. Dr. Ryerson traces the rise of the Ryan Division in Canadian Methodism. The editor gives an appreciative sketch of John Calvin. Miss Hart has a charming paper on 'Women's Work for Heathen Women.' Dr. Punshon's eloquent Address at the Sunday School Centennial is reproduced. Admirable selections on the Higher Life are also given. The editor discusses Summer Resorts, and the recent tragical deaths, giving a brief life-sketch of the late Robert Wilkes. A noble hymn by Dean Stanley, with music, ends an admirable number. The Magazine may be obtained at our Book Room.

METHODIST ITEMS.

The annual picnic of the Amherst Sunday-school was held in Black's Grove on the 1st inst.

The Methodists of Summerside, P. E. I., intend purchasing a very fine organ for their church. Already over \$300 have been subscribed.

The Sussex Methodists, who held their picnic in the vicinity of the paper mills at Penobscus, on the 30th ult., turned out in large numbers. The day was very fine.

At the tea-meeting held at Kingston Station on Wednesday last, \$175 were collected. This sum is to be expended in improvements on our church at that place.

Rev. Joseph Gaetz writes: "We had a glorious day yesterday. At Aylesford East church four children were dedicated to God by baptism."

The Superintendent of Coburg Road Sabbath school thankfully acknowledges the receipt, from an anonymous friend, of the sum of fifteen dollars towards the funds the school.

The propriety is being discussed by New Zealand Methodists of separating from the Australasian General Conference and organizing annual conferences and a triennial conference of their own.

Three pupils at the Ladies' Academy, and one at the Male Academy, at Mount Allison, go thither from Aylesford. Another will go to the Ladies' Academy, at Christmas, from the same neighborhood.

The Fiji Islands, which are now a district of the Australasian Wesleyan Methodist Church, have 841 chapels and 291 other preaching places, 10 missionaries, 48 native missionaries, and 23,274 members. There are besides 5,431 on trial for membership.

The last of several pleasing 'episodes' at the late English Conference was the reading by the President of a letter from Mr. Mark Firth of Sheffield—a letter full of Christian and fraternal feeling—which conveyed the announcement of his intention to subscribe £1,000 to the Thanksgiving Fund. This gift derives greater value from the fact that Mr. Firth is a member of the New Connexion branch of Methodists.

An exceedingly took place on the yards distant from the East. A ceremony of laying of a new German called the Peter H. The gathering was the German residence. The day \$1,425.

The late tea-meeting was one of the excursion train packed, rolled in paration by the waiters, proccasion. At o thousand persons the grounds. T entertainment re three hundred a similar gathering Minimigash on funds with whi Methodist church

On Sunday Rev. Howard S who is delivering the Decalogue of Church, delivers discourses to seventh command there was no vice about in the pul of its delicacy it to speak about audience, and which the Bible its condemnatio to man's moral home sanctity, ties.—*Courier*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

For the General Co Brunswick and P. Sheffield ... Bedeque ... St. Stephen ... St. Andrews ... St. David's ... St. James ... Boacbec ... Deer Island ... Cornwall ... Little York ... Tryon ... Moncton ... Bayfield ... Salisbury ... Havelsack ... Erratum.—In "Eichibucko," read "Of the 75 Circ only 31 have reports of the others please interest on money by C.

Sackville, Sept. 7th.

ANNAPOLIS SCHOOL.

The SEVENTH above Convention, Baptist Church, St on FRIDAY, Sept The Managing the consideration of which papers will for the purpose:— 1. HOW TO MAN ATTRACT 2. HOW TO TEA 3. A LOVE FOR 4. SUNDAY SCH USE AND 5. IS OUR SUN PAGE WIT At one of the will be taught by Superintendents of the different de bers of the Conve each school in the delegates. Arran delegates and oth Stony Beach—a d charge. A large attenda and those intereste aird.

Granville Ferry, Sept. 1, 1880.

DEATH OF

The Rev. W. president of Uni New York, died the 29th ult. H most popular pa in this century. Andover, a Cong sachusetts, his ca he became pastc Presbyterian Ch which he presid ing this long pa minister, but a voice was often and whose infle directions, by entered upon his

THE AFGH

A few days sid deeply anxious troops in the intories, and abo arms in the East they have been masterly movem His thorough v the British prest istan. His sudde oded the attack near Candahar, nius. The dista hundred miles, a over which an cumbered as it w and with a part ed to carry its w men found its w country with the and on the app guard appeared than forty-eight with the Candah to the large Afgh