## WESLEYAN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1877.

Special offer of the Wesleyan! The WESLEYAN will be sent from the 1st of October, till the 31st Dec., 1878 for one subscription-Two Dollars. This takes in the General Conference Year, during which much connexional interest is sure to be awakened. We ask our Ministers to give us their cheerful oo-operation toward bringing the subscription list, within the next three months, up to 4000. They will be surprised by counting up the number of families in their charges, who do not take the Church paper. What can these know of Methodism, in its modern spirit or operations-excepting as they may hear from the pulpit or see in their neighborhood? What can their children learn of the genius and history of the Church of their fathers? The Church organ may be presumed to preach loyalty and impart connexional intelligence to every member of the household every day in the week, thus taking the minister's place, and doing his work during his absence Think of it, brethren, and act!

## CHRISTIAN MIRRORS.

Does it ever occur to Christians that their spirit, their dispositions, are reflected in many ways and at sundry times, from week to week? They may not behold themselves as in a glass; but their features are seen by others. nevertheless. We could traverse much ground in memory as we write, giving the impressions produced on our mind, as we looked in the mirrors of the various churches. Others are not less observing. Christians may profess as they please; they will be judged-of men and angels-by the testimony of their acts-their enterprize, their fruits. "A scandalous maintenance," says

Matthew Henry, "makes a scandalous ministry." That is one mirror. When we find a people content to hear the gospel, to receive baptism, to sit down at the Lord's Supper, to ask respectable burial for their dead, and yet allow their minister to toil on a contracted salary, perhaps paid only in part, we say at once-Here are pinched, mean features reflected-" like people, like priest." A wan countenance, a thread. bare coat in the pulpit ; -- a ragged harness and rickety carriage on the road, may betray, once in a hundred times, the treacher's own penuriousness, but the other ninety-nine times they proclaim aloud the people's poverty of soul. A young minister looked in upon us some time ago, whose heart and mind are among the most gentle and cultivated of our acquaintance—a man suited to be the companion of philosophers and gentlemen anywhere; yet his earnest, scholarly ministry is rewarded with such fare as compels him to study the commonest supplies for his table and his person. Alas! is not this the history of worth—at least in the clerical profession, in all the ages? He loves his people. And they profess

Here, on the other hand, is a Presby. terian Church in Halifax, issuing its annual report, and modestly stating that its collections are at the rate of \$81.43 per Sabbath. Yet they "have no pew rents or subscription papers in this church "-all is done by spontaneous, loving liberality-a people educated to give. You would pass by that church any day without giving it a moments attention, so unattractive are its walls. Once inside on the Lord's day, vou would be impressed only with the devoutness of a congregation by no means wealthy, and exceeded in numbers by several churches in the city. Yet here are the results. Other congregations that we could name have a hard task to make up deficiencies at the end of the year; while this church | ism. carries forward to next year a balance of \$411.96. We wonder whether there are not congregations that would be quite willing to accept this balance rather than sustain their own credit by paying all their running expenses. If Methodist Churches would publish their annual reports-and every church ought to do so-we could find a few Methodist congregations to place beside this Presbyterian one, no doubt.

"The poverty of the parsonage will develop itself in the pulpit," says another commentator. How these great men discern character? Who would imagine that commentators could read anything but the Bible? Yet so it is. | feet this object.

This man probably worshipped over the Sabbath occasionally in retired districts, for great thinkers love solitude. He saw with pain the country curate rising in his place to engage in holy work, while the wandering eye, the unsteady thread of thought, betrayed that something was astray. There was no bouyancy of spirit, no pluming of oratorical wings for joyous flight. speaker was chained, depressed, disheartened. Ordinary observers would have condemned the man; this philosophic commentator traced all the failure erty, which made a poor larder, also this subject :produced a miserable sermon. Associations do blend their lights and shadows with men's thoughts and ambitions. How many sombre, gloomy views of life, interwoven with the sermon, owe their origin to the narrow window, the shady prospect, the naked walls of the study in which that sermon was created! And how many crabbed conclusions, how much narrow bigotry, have sprung from a digestion impaired by unwholesome fare and slim diet! The horse whose sleek appearance betokens a luxurious stable can endure hardship; if he be unwilling, an exchange is always possible—in the itinerancy at any rate. But feed him before he is condemned.

It is proverbial that church edifices reflect their owner's religious disposition. In no object or enterprise will a people's real character so rapidly show itself as in the house they rear for worship. Commercial agents turn away ed instinctively from a community whose churches are falling into decay. Forlorn graveyards, hemming in unsightly places of worship, are the sure marks of a low state of morals and religion.

Thus we might proceed; but further remark is needless. Our object is but to show that in maintaining well the agencies of religion, men do but certify to their own good character and intentions; and in neglecting these they give the world to understand that they neither deserve nor desire approval.

NEW BRUNSWICK FREE BAPTIST Convention.—Several good practical conclusions were reached at this gathering recently held in Sussex. The Free Baptists of New Brunswick seem to be making rapid strides in favour of an educated ministry. With their energy and zeal, education will secure for them an extended influence and greater success. We quote from the Intelli-

It is impossible to do them justice in a brief report. They did not urge necessity of education, that is granted by every body, but they urged that the denomination do something without delay to provide for the thorough training of the young men who are to enter the ministry. In this matter there is a real advance throughout the denomination. There is an earnest demand coming from all sections of the denomination that provision be made for fitting our young men for the duties of their calling. We hope people are disposed to do liberal things when call-

There has been no little honest prejudice among the senior members of the body on this subject; we hail equally with the "Intelligencer" this dawning of a better day.

One minister resigned. His reasons are thus stated :—

By request Bro. Harris made a statement concerning his change of views. It appears that he has come to believe in the absolute "final perseverance of the saints," and in "particular election," &c. After hearing him he was voted a letter of dismissal according to his request.

It is generally supposed that the Free Baptists differ from Baptists proper only on the subject of close communion. They also differ in doctrine, as will be observed, by the fact that Mr. Harris has gone from Armenianism to Calvan-

The Convention was very firm and positive as it always is on the temperance question. Its resolutions are worth repeating:-

Pro. Foster, from the Committee on Temperance submitted the following re-

Your Committee on Temperance beg leave to present the following report :-1. We re-affirm all the previous strong resolutions passed by this Conference deprecating the use of and traffic in intoxicating liquors, and sympathizing with the the evil's resulting therefrom.

2. We affirm the necessary and natural connection between moral suasion and legal enactment in the suppression of the liquor traffic, and pledge our moral support to all societies whose design is to ef-

3. We recommend that our Sabbath chools be interested as much as possible in the matter of temperance; that Temperance Pledges and Rolls of Honour be kept in stock by the Secretary of Conference for the use of Sabbath schools, and that S. S. Superintendents be requested to introduce

these into their schools. 4. That the churches be requested to. as far as possible use their collective influence in favour of the Temperance Reformation, and by sermons, prayermeetings and public Gospel temperance exercises throw open and pronounced influence on the side of right.

A resolution to secure affiliation with the N. Brunswick University failed by a narrow majority; but the signs are to the pantry and the store-room. Pov- hopeful. The "Intelligencer" says on

> The following resolution was moved :-Resolved,-1st. That this Conference do pprove of the plan, as proposed last year or the endowment of a Free Baptist Theological chair, in connection with the University of New Brunswick.

2nd And does hereby hand this plan over to the Free Baptist Education Society, recommending it to endeavour to work up the proposed endowment.

The resolution gave rise to such a disenssion as we never before listened to in Conference,-a discussion highly creditable to all who had part in it. We wish we could report the speeches made during the nearly seven hours occupied in the consideration of the resolution. The vote being taken there were, yeas, 28; nays 32. It was not thought by the friends of the proposed scheme that it would carry, so the result was not by any means disappointing. Indeed, the vote was considerably better than they had dared to hope at first. The leaven is working. By and by the whole lump will be leavened. difference now is not as it used to be, one of principle, but simply a difference of opinion as to plans of operation. Very soon the brethren will see eye to eye, either concerning the proposed plan or possibly a better one if it can be discover-

SECOND FIRE-SCOURGE 1N ST. JOHN.

Public sympathy for the 20,000 persons who were rendered homeless by fire in the chief city of New Brunswick had scarcely subsided, when intelligence is flashed over the wires that Portland -distinct as a corporation, but essentially a part of St. John city—has been swept by the same fierce element. On Friday morning of last week, before the population had risen to collect their thoughts in presence of a new surprise, the fire was upon them, leaping over every obstruction, and devastating as it went. The results are briefly told. We quote from the "Telegraph."

A careful estimate places the number of houses burned, including about an equal number of stores, at 175; and in the spring, when the assessors books were made up, the burnt district contained 220 families. The great fire of June last, however, doubled the population of that par-ticular district of Portland, and persons gencer in regard to speeches on this not given to exaggerate put the number of families burnt out at 450. This estimate, giving 5 as the average number of each family, would make the number of persons turned out of doors by last night's fire at 2,250, all of whom whom will have to be provided with shelter in this already over-crowded city. In several houses, however, the number was far above the average, and we estimate the homeless at over 3,000 in number. The case of some of them requires immediate attention. How they are all to be sheltered is a problem which must immediately engage the attention of the authorities of the town of Portland. The cold season is already upon us, and no delay is therefore possible. No doubt private and neighborly benevolence will do what it can to provide for the houseless, but after this resource is exhausted there will still remain many to be relieved and sheltered.

Hard indeed is the lot of those who, having been burnt out in the great fire in the city, and losing all their household goods by that untoward event, have again been turned into the street by the fiames in Portland. where they had their little remnant of property destroyed. Other residents of Portland have had all swept away, and could not be in a worse posi-

Our church and parsonage are among the ruins. The energetic pastor, who had lent all his enthusiasm to the work of collecting for his brethren in St. John, is now himself homeless and his people smitten by the blast. This says all that it is needful to say.

prominent means now in use for lessening should now be put forth to ascertain whether, as many suspect, a really communistic fraternity exists amongst us. and form some conjecture as to the probable consequences which are to follow, should life and property be sub. cheques.

jected to so much wicked design. Who are the parties, and what are their motives, thus aiming at the destruction of our homes and happiness?

As to the misfortune itself, there can be but one response on the part of those who have the means. Portland must have help-must have it generously and right speedily—for winter in North America hears no pleadings, does not relent at the uplifted hands. nor delay at the voice of entreaty. And in the front rank in the army of benevolence must march the churches. Goa, who has entrusted us with money, now calls for a portion of it. We cannot refuse. Stored food would mould and decay-hoarded gold would corrupt and crumble if refused in the face of such a

We quote from Thursday's "Tele-

The congregation of the Portland Methodist hurch met for worship in Zion Church at three o'clock p. m. yesterday. The number present was very large under the circumstances. Rev. Mr. Teed conducted the service. He said that for twenty-one years last July he had been preach. ing, but had never stood before an audience with such feelings as he did then, and that he had never experienced such feelings in his life before. We could sympathize with one another. The preacher could sympathize with the congregation, and he was sure the congregation sympathized with him. He said they would not have been together but for the kindness and activity of Robert Reed, Esq., who came to them after the church succumbed to the flames and offered them the use of Zion's Church, and then endeavoured to make it known that the cong egation would meet there for worship. He could not be expected to say much then, as he had been deprived of sleep for two nights, and had worked very hard to save his goods. He had thought of gathering some facts concerning the history of the church and giving them to the congrega tion, but owing to the confusion and sho tness of time in which to prepare he had not been able. He would, however, endeavor to speak a few appropriate words on the words contained in the 28th verse of the 8th chapter of Romans: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them that are the called according to his purpose.' On this he made some remarks, applying the text to the members of the congregation, who, he said, might not be able to see how this and other calamities work for their good, but, nevertheless, according to the Bible, they would, sooner or later, if they put their trust and confidence in Christ. Next Sunday he will preach and then give the congregation what he can gather in regard to the history of the

lecturer would not feel wonderfully complimented by an incident which occurred a few days ago in a Halifax printing office. An editor down stairs had been reading proof of an article headed-"Who is Joseph Cook." Puting his mouth to the speaking tube, he called up stairs-"Send down the copy." A boy heard the sound and called in reply-" What do you want?" 'Who is Joseph Cook' shouts the editor. The boy goes off on an enquiry expedition among the printers-Editor wants to know who is Joseph Cook." Presently the boy shouts back -"He is an old nigger up in Albemarle Street, he stutters." The Editor's ear dropped from that tube with amazing quickness, and he was found sitting in his chair in convulsions-of aughter.

THE NOVA SCOTIA EDUCATIONAL Office is now vacant. It is rumoured that there are already several applicants for the position. We submit that this is an office which ought to seek an occupant—a thorough competant man, wherever he may be obtained. And such a man is not likely to be found standing at an office door, hat in hand, waiting for admission and salary before the previous occupant is well buried. Let the situation be adorned by such gifts, and sustained by such qualifications as will make Provincial education an honour and a blessing to the land.

## THE WEEK.

The following letter appeared in all the English Methodist papers which reached us by last mail. It explains itself. The subscriptions across the ocean make steady if but slow progress. Portland will now add to the necessity for help :-

TO THE EDITORS OF THE METHODIST. My dear Sirs,-As I am leaving for nome during this week, I beg to equest that all cheques, &c., sent to the Mission House for the St. John Fund be made payable to Dr. Punsoon, who has kindly gagements left considerable advantage consented to receive them, and also that with the troops of the Czar, who have for the convenience of the Mission House, I thus taken courage to attempt heavier these remittances be not included with operations. There will be stirring scenes sums for other purposes in the same before the war is over.

Our fund has now reached the sum of £1,526 18s. 9d., about one-fourth of the amount we hoped to obtain in England If however, all the circuits, acting on the kind suggestion of the President, and following the example so nobly set by some already, will do for us the best they can by collections or otherwise, and if gentle men who have the means to help us, and who sympathise with fellow-Christians in suffering, will send contributions, our fund will yet reach fair proportions.

On the part of those whom I represent beg to tender sincere thanks for the help already given, while on my own part cannot forbear to mention the names Dr. Punshon, Rev. J. W. Greeves, and Rev. T. M. Albrighton, to whom I am under Chligation for acts of personal courte. sy and kinduces. as well as for much assistance in my work. Yours sincerely. HOWARD SPRAGUE.

Private information has reached London, England, (says a telegram to the Liverpool Courier) from a person of the highest rank in Rome, that a new Pope has definitely been elected. The new Pope is said to be Cardinal Panebianco. and he was elected in pectore at a secret conclave of cardinals, summoned last week in consequece of the dangerous con. dition of the aged Pontiff's health. The conclave was attended by Cardinal Man. ning and Cardinal Cullen. According to precedent the Pontiff has informed him of the appointment, and officially request. ed him to resign the office of Gande Pen. itenziare before his accession to the chair of St. Peter, and he relinquished the office under similar circumstances. Cardinal Panebianco is a very old man, being with in a year or two of seventy, but he is described as being likely to continue the policy which Pope Pius has practised so long in opposition to the so called encroachments of the civil power. Pins IX. is in his 86th year.

We regret to see by P E. Island papers that a son of Rev. F. W. Moore, of Charlottetown has met with severe injuries by falling from a tree.

PRAYER FOR SUNDAY SCHOOLS .- Oct. 28th and 29th-Sabbath and Mondayare set apart by the Honorary Secretaries of the Sunday School Union, for prayer in behalf of Sabbath schools. We regret that their circular is crowded out this week.

OBITUARY.-We regret to learn that Rev. A. S. Hunt, Superintendant of Education for Nova Scotia, died last Tuesday evening. He had been ill a short time. We sympathize with his family and friends in their severe loss.

The death of Mr. Edward Jost, Senr. reported in our obituary column this week, will be missed in Halifax. He was an active temperance man, a generous contributor to the funds of the Methodist Church, as well as to various benevolent objects. He built the Mission Church on Brunswick Street, now used by the Y. M. C A. for Sabbath afternoon services. He suffered greatly during his last hours. An immense company of mourners folowed Mr. Jost's body to the grave last Sabbath afternoon. He was respected by a large number of Halifax citizens. Rev. J. V. Jost, brother, and Rev. J. G. Hennigar, brother in law of the deceased,

By an explosion in a colliery, near Glasgow, Scotland, 400 men were overtaken, and those cut off from escape who were not immediately killed. Exploring parties worked, amid intense excitement, till it was found that no living human being remained in the mines. 20 bodies only had been recovered up to latest news, Dreadful burial this!

The designs for the handsome new Methodist church just opened at Middle. ton, N. S., was prepared by Messrs. Smith and Dunn of St. John, a young firm of very clever architects. The church is one of the most handsome and conveniently arranged in all Nova Scotia.

OUR OUTLOOK is very encouraging for the coming year. New subscribers come in generously from different quarters. We are looking for a very large increase of our subscription list, and will strive to meet all expectations in making the WES-LEYAN what it ought to be. Will our brethren help?

ABROAD .-- London, if not all England, was excited for a day or two over a rumor that Paris was threatened with a coup d' etat-which means barricades, fury and destruction by the mob. This shows that France is considered anything but in a safe condition.

There has been a strike on one of the principal railways interfering for some time with the running of the mails. But they make short work with such disturbances across the water.

Russia has been gaining in the war, by latest accounts. One or two heavy en-