

and Regulations for the formation and maintenance of a "Youth's Branch Wesleyan Missionary Society."

Moved by Mr. W. Weeks, seconded Mr. George Milner: That the following be the Officers and Committee of this Society, Rev. Messrs. Batters and H. Pope, jr., R. Bucken, Esq., Messrs. Jas. Moore, I. Smith, jr., Geo. Beer, R. Watt, B. Moore, F. W. Moore, John Boyyer, James Morris, and G. Beer, Sec. Treasurer and Secretary, Mr. M. A. Strong. Charlotte town, April 2.

STANDING REGULATIONS.

Correspondents must send their communications in a legible hand, and unless they contain the names of subscribers, or testimonials, free of postage, and direct to us in confidence, with their proper names and addresses. Editors hold not themselves responsible for the opinions of correspondents—claims the privilege of modifying or rejecting articles offered for publication—and cannot pledge himself to return those not inserted. Communications on business, and those intended for publication, when contained in the same letter, should, if practicable, be written on different parts of the sheet, so that they may be separated when they reach the Editor, Halifax, N. S. used weekly, on Saturday Morning—Terms Ten Dollars per annum, exclusive of postage—half yearly in advance—Single Copies three pence each. At Wesleyan Ministers of the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Districts are our Agents; who will receive orders and make remittances.

THE WESLEYAN.

Halifax, Saturday Morning, April 13, 1860.

THE PROGRESS OF THE AGE.

We hear much of the progress of the present age. Times and circumstances, doubtless, undergo great changes, owing to a variety of causes. In practical arts and sciences there has been much improvement. Scarcely a month passes round without witnessing some discovery, which promises to be of utility to the interests of the race. Some theories rise to the surface, like bubbles but evanescent bubbles, only to burst and mingle with the kindred mass. But still the mind of man is active. Intellect is prying and powerful. It cannot rest, whilst the physical world has any thing yet to invite a new application of the principles of science. They who, by enlightened and unflagging industry, promote in any degree the well-being of their fellow-men, deserve to be called and esteemed benefactors. Their present success merits appropriate compensation, and their names a niche on the monument of the world's history. From their well-earned fame we would not detract an iota, but would lend our aid to its just increase. Thus also are all, except the envious, disposed to act, and to award due honour to the truly deserving.

The advance of the present times is in the direction of the useful. *Cui bono?* Of what benefit? is the standard of judgment. Profitless projects, though dazzling to the imagination, can scarcely obtain a transitory notice—the beneficial, though environed with difficulties, secure a ready and long-sustained attention. On many accounts this course is judicious. Whilst so many find their real interests alone in that which is serviceable, they feel that any thing else beyond, or outside of, this line is only a mockery and a delusion. Hence the age is eminently practical. So far as its progress is in this direction we sympathize with it. Nor do we think the ultimate point of utility has been reached. The march of profitable discovery is onward. Other resources remain to be revealed. Other and more numerous benefactors will yet arise, and advance the welfare of our species. From these anticipated results, so it is known, we exclude not the influence or superintendence of a watchful and benignant Providence. In every fresh discovery of practical science, operating for the good of man, we connect the beneficence of God. He giveth unto man wisdom and knowledge. The great is, that his gifts

are not more clearly perceived—not more distinctly and gratefully acknowledged.—When men of science become more deeply imbued with the spirit of the christian religion, and the masses of men more thoroughly and generally pervaded with christian principle, God will more fully receive that revenue of praise due unto his Sacred Name for the intellectual capacity, and the spirit of patient enquiry with which he endues the minds, of those by whom the secrets of Nature are disclosed for their own and others' benefit. In the sanctification of intellect, the unvarying recognition of unerring truth, the constant subordination of mind to the acknowledged and ruling principles of divine law, we would there were progress, not only among the less favoured, but among the mightiest of earth's intellectual sons, corresponding to the progress of the age in inferior, though in themselves valuable, improvements. Then might we contemplate the advancement of the human race, in all its diversified capabilities, with a joy, partaking of the nature of that, which thrills and swells the bosoms of angels, whilst witnessing the repentance of sinners, and the increase of our Messiah's kingdom.

So far from weakening mental power, or rendering it less capable of pursuing knowledge in the higher departments—so far from rendering the mental eye less clear to perceive, and the judgment less active to decide, we hold, that religious principle gives an intensity of force to intellectual character, and that *ceteris paribus*, other things being equal, the man of sanctified mind has, in the field of intellectual discovery, a decided advantage over the one destitute of it. Angels excel in strength—strength of mind—for they are eminently holy. They who most resemble God are most under his guidance, and may more confidently than others expect his blessing to direct and assist them in their researches. "The works of the Lord are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein." God will honour in the kingdom of Nature those who honour him in the kingdom of Grace. "Behold, God exalteth by his power: who teacheth like him?"—"Who"—but He—"hath put wisdom in the inward parts?" or hath given understanding to the heart?"

We speak here, as a matter of course, comparatively; not denying that there have been men of gigantic minds without religion, and that some of these have signalized themselves in the paths of science. But we cannot exclude the belief, that the "renewal of their minds" in righteousness would have super-added mental as well as moral power, and rendered them a greater blessing to the world. In ways, perhaps, unknown to us, the Deity, might have given a bias or a direction to their investigations, had they, under the influence of gracious principle, acknowledged Him in all their ways, which would have led to scientific discoveries, calculated to augment the sum of human happiness in a ratio greater than has yet been realized.

Let us then remember, that progress in religious truth and principle is, in this practical age, so requisite, as that without it, all other improvements will be of comparatively transient benefit, and however they may conduce to ameliorate the external circumstances of our fellow-men, will leave the immortal spirit under the pressure of accumulating dissatisfaction and disquietude—a stranger to internal peace amid outward plenty—its fondest aspirations after an "eternity of bliss" under a doom of blight and disappointment—its future "evil thing"

the more painful by the marked contrast with the "good things" which may have surrounded it in the present state of being.

WORKING METHODISM.

We direct special attention to a sensible and practical paper on this subject from the *Wesleyan Indicator*, which may be found on our second page. It is peculiarly adapted to the present times, when so many legislators have arisen, and, in the exuberance of their wisdom, are proposing project after project for the emendation of the system. The great principle of improvement advocated, has been tried by some who have gone off from the parent-stock, but with decided failure; while the Old Connexion has proceeded with a steady and rapid increase. We look at the practical working of principles, and say, give us those that effect the greatest amount of good. Theories, however well they may appear on paper, whose beneficial operation is questionable, and which, when reduced to practice, have resulted in no extensive good, are not for a moment to be weighed in the balance with a long-tried, faithfully-tested organization, which has withstood the pressure of time, and change, and opposition, but, notwithstanding, has multiplied its benefits on a large scale in almost every land. Such, at least, it appears to us, is the inference the wise and good would draw from the premises. We cordially subscribe to the propositions that "the secret of prosperity" in any Church "does not lie in legislation," and that "he that works Methodism with most heart, is the best friend of Methodism, and the best servant of religion." Weighty truths! May they be practically exemplified by all the members of our Church!

DEPARTURE OF THE REV. SAMPSON BUSBY.

The Rev. Sampson Busby, Wesleyan Minister of Portland, N. B., has gone to his eternal rest. We copy the following brief notice from the *St. John papers* for the present, expecting that we shall soon have the privilege of placing before our readers a fuller and more satisfactory account of this Christian experience, ministerial labours, and last moments, from some one of our New Brunswick brethren.

On Sunday night, the 31st March, at the Mission House in Portland, the Rev. S. Busby, Wesleyan Missionary, in the 61st year of his age. For the long space of thirty-eight years, he had sustained an unblemished reputation, as a christian, and as a Minister of Christ. The early part of his Missionary life was spent in Newfoundland—from which mission he was removed in 1816, to Prince Edward Island, forming part of the Nova Scotia District. After 11 years of devoted labour in that district, he was removed to New-Brunswick, where he spent the last twenty-three years of his pastoral and ministerial life. The fidelity and affection with which he fulfilled the sacred duties of his office, greatly endeared him to the people of his charge. Possessing a soul prompt to sympathy, and feeling a deep interest in the comfort and salvation of the afflicted, he was always ready to obey the calls so frequently made upon him—fearless of disease in whatever form it might appear. His uniform kindness in sustaining his domestic relations greatly endeared him to his bereaved wife and large family. The loss to them is irreparable. He bore his protracted affliction without a murmur, being comforted and supported by the consolations of religion, which he had for so many years recommended to others.—He died in great peace.

YOUTH'S MISS. SOCIETY, CHARLOTTETOWN.

The youth connect with our congregation in Charlottetown, P. E. I., are resolved to take an active part in the hallowed cause

of Christian Missions. The account of the organization of this Society, and of its proceedings, published in another column, will be read with interest. Their conduct in this particular is creditable alike to their good sense, sympathy, and zeal. How much better is it for the young to act in this manner, than to spend their time, energies, and means, in foolish and ignoble pursuits! Were the same encouragement afforded in other Circuits, similar results would follow. Whilst we hope our young friends in Charlottetown may be stimulated to perseverance in the course they have thus happily commenced, we also indulge the expectation, that others will be induced to imitate their praiseworthy example. The sums thus contributed, though comparatively small in each place, would make, were the movement general in our Circuits, quite a respectable amount in the aggregate, and be the means of doing no little good in the world.

PRIZE ESSAYS ON THE SABBATH.

Some friends of the Sabbath in Charlottetown, P. E. I., not long since offered prizes for the best Essays on the Lord's Day, to be written, we believe, by farmers on the Island; and we see by recent papers, that the Adjudicators have "awarded the first prize to Robert Gordon, farmer, of Huntley River, Cascumpeque, and the second to Murdoch McLeod, farmer, Wigmore Road, New London." These essays are to be published.—Each of four unsuccessful Essayists received, as a mark of "the intellectual ability and religious spirit" they displayed in their productions, a copy of "the History of the Reformation, by M. D'Aubigne, handsomely bound in cloth." This is a movement in the right direction. By such means the attention of the masses will be turned to the consideration of the sanctity, obligation, and benefits of the holy Sabbath, and the consequence will be, that the parties themselves and the community generally will be the gainers thereby.

PETITION AGAINST THE TRANSMISSION OF MAILS ON THE SABBATH.

The Clergy, Magistrates, and other inhabitants of Charlottetown, and its vicinity, have petitioned His Excellency, the Lieut. Governor of P. E. Island, to adopt measures to prevent the employment of the Steamer "Rose," for the transmission of the Mails from Pictou to Charlottetown, on the holy Sabbath, and the consequent opening of the Post Office for the delivery of Letters on that day. The Petition is respectfully but strongly expressed. Public Bodies are under obligation to obey the law of God as well as individuals; and the success of the Petitioners has our most ardent wish. The transmission of the Mails, and delivery of letters at Post Offices on the Lord's Day should be stopped at once in this and the neighbouring Provinces.

POSTAGE ON NEWSPAPERS.

We are glad to see that the Press is agitating the necessity of abolishing the postal tax on Newspaper transmission. The measure has our cordial approbation. The sooner it succeeds, the better, say we.

SABBATH DESECRATION.

The last Recorder contains the gratifying information that His Worship, the Mayor, has taken prompt steps to suppress "the scandalous conduct of the hitherto ungovernable youngsters of the city in the streets, on the Lord's Day." A number of youth were apprehended, and a fine of ten shillings was imposed on each transgressor. "All honour to the Mayor," says our contemporary, and so say we, for the conscientious spirit he shows in doing what is right, and manfully despising the danger of incurring popular ill will.

Wesleyan Missionary Meeting at Sydney, C. B. The Sydney Herald, of March 30th, contains a pleasing account of a Wesleyan Missionary Meeting which took place at that Town on Tuesday evening, the 26th. Rev. J. Jost in the Chair. Several animated speeches were delivered on the occasion. "A subscription list" was taken round, "and a collection made, in behalf of the objects of the Society—which amounted to a very handsome sum."

GREAT RAILWAY MEETING.

A meeting was held yesterday afternoon, in the new Temperance Hall, to promote the erection of the long talked of railway from this City to Windsor. We have not been furnished with the particulars, but shall give them to our readers in our next. Of the advantages which would accrue from the completion of such an enterprise, there can be no reasonable doubt; and we hope to live long enough to see this and the other Provinces, not only possessing great trunk railways between the most important places, but intersected in all feasible directions by branch railways, and thus affording the utmost facilities to the public for travelling and transportation.

A NEW METHODIST CHURCH IN NEW YORK.

We have long been aware that several industrial laymen—among whom we understand the brothers Harper to be prominent—connected with the John Street, Methodist Episcopal Church, had in contemplation the purchase of a site up town for a place of worship commensurate with the growing importance of the denomination and the improved style of church architecture. We have now to announce that the trustees of the John Street Methodist Church have effected the purchase for \$18,000, of a plot of ground on the corner of Fourteenth Street and Irving Place, measuring 75 feet by 123, on which they intend to erect a handsome modern structure. From our knowledge of some of the parties to this enterprise, we venture to predict, with the utmost confidence, that the new church will be equal to any of those beautiful temples of the Most High which already adorn that section of the city. We believe that neither the means nor the enterprise to carry out this purpose will be wanting, while the site is perhaps the best which could have been selected. Hundreds, whose earliest religious associations cluster around the "old John Street Church," will be glad to learn that there is no intention of giving up that house, which will be sustained in all its efficiency as heretofore. The new church will be in addition to and not in lieu of that "well remembered spot," where Methodism first took root in this city, and where it has grown and flourished, and the fruit whereof has sprung up in every direction—its latest bud of promise being the proposed structure on the corner of Irving place.—N. Y. Commercial.

CORAL ISLANDS IN THE PACIFIC.

Strange as it may seem, the little coral insect has the honour of being the architect of the most massive and substantial artificial structures that have ever graced our globe. Man prides himself upon the greatness of his power, and the grandeur of his works; but let him rightly contemplate the massive piles erected by these small insects, and the beautiful garment of humility will ever hereafter gracefully adorn his person. The ocean is supposed to be about five miles deep, and the blue hue of the water around these coral islands indicates that they are not built on shoals, but arise from that profundity of its depths which the great leviathan has never yet fathomed. The circumference of many of these islands is not to be computed by feet and rods, but by furlongs and miles. Egypt's kings marshalled their millions of subjects, and possibly, for several reigns, continued to quarry out and heap up huge masses of rock. Finally a pile, a mile at its base, and a mile high, was formed, and it has ever since been considered one of the great wonders of the world, and the most sublime physical work in which man was ever employed. Place one of these coral pyramids of five miles high, and twenty miles in circumference, by its side, and how meagre appears the highest effort of man's physical greatness. For beauty and utility the coral also far surpasses the Egyptian. The one is a plain uniform structure of dark stone, the other a chaste white pile, erected with ten thousand beautiful varieties of form, and containing innumerable curiously constructed cells. The Egyptian pyramid has not for a single age withstood unimpaired the gentle kisses of the winds and rains of heaven, but these coral islands have been built up amid the ragings of the ocean, and although its almost omnipotent power has been sweeping against some of them for possibly two or three thousand years, still they stand firm as the "everlasting mountains." O how infinitely great must be the Being, who thus endows insects so minute with such tremendous power! How important to secure His favour, and how fearful to incur His eternal displeasure! Com. to Ch. Aid. and Jour.