Ecclesiastical.

Canadian Wesleyan Methodist New Connexion

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The Session of this Assembly was brought to a close on the 11th inst-about one o'clock, A. M .- a period which, in view of the amount of business transacted, and the time usually occupied by similar meetings must be considered exceedingly brief. The introduction of District meetings has doubtless been one of the principal causes of this brevity; next to which the lengthened hours of Session each day at the late conference might be assigned as a reason why it was brought to a close within so short a period. In this connection we should not forget the efficient labors of the President, Secretary and other officers of the Connection, all of whom did what in them lay to facilitate the transaction of business.

Our original intention to furnish in last week? paper a pretty full report of the proceedings of Conference, at least down to the adjournment on Friday evening-being frustrated, we have found it impracticable to accomplish what we intended. We shall therefore, as briefly as possible, endeavor to present a synopsis of the general proceedings, accompanied by some remarks.

A large portion of the business of a Methodis Conference, is purely routine. We may commence with the Organization of Conference, whereby it is ascertained who compose the Assembly or have a right to speak and vote in its various deliberations. Then a President and Secretary are selected by hallot; after which the Conference thus organized approach the throne of grace for divine assistance on behalf of the President, &c. This is followed by the President's Address from the Chair; and then the following and various other items are taken up in regular succession :- Applications for division and increase of Circuits, the examination of Preachers' characters, the appointment of Committees and the receiving of their reports, the examination of candidates for the ministry, &c., &c., &c. These and many other subjects occupied the attention of the Conference, and in their discussion or settlement various facts were elicited, indicating a steady progress in every department of the body.

Our itinerant ranks have undergone considerable change; three-who were at the disposal of the Conference twelve months ago, for the several departments of our work, have by affliction and other providential arrangements, been set aside: (but besides several whose cases are referred to the Annual-Conference) 7 others have been received as itineratry; two of these left their native shore (England) in order to increase our staff of standard-bearers in this country. Amid these tokens for good, it is lamentable to think that several of our stations are but partially supplied with laborers. Resides the great enlargement of our missionary field which has rendered the division of several circuits necessary, the Lord has added to our number'some hundreds of souls, who, we trust shall be

Among the general subjects which occupied the attention of the Conference, was the increase of the Salary of preachers in the body:—a subject which from its influence on the community, will, we doubt not, when brought before the quarterly meetings of the circuits receive due consideration. - The Clergy Reserves and rectories and some other onestions involving the rights of the body and the community at large, were referred to committees, which in the recess between the sittings of the late and cusping conferences will take action on the se al subjects referred to them.

Throughout the sittings of Conference a spirit of forbeatance and consequent unity of feeling and action pervaded the representatives of the circuits; and it was manifest that each resolved, in future to put forth greater effort and hope for greater success.

The religious services were spiritual and profitabled On Sabbath A. M., the services were held in a pleasantly situated grove; but the lowering aspect of the heavens in the morning prevented many who expected an high day, from venturing to "the leafy bower." The audience nevertheless was large and respectable. Appropriate sermons were delivered by the Revs. W. McClure and H. O. Crofts: but ere Mr. C. had concluded his discourse the audience were disturbed by the falling rain.-In the evening the Rev. W. McClure delivered the ordination sermon in the chapel; after which 5 were ordained to the office of Elders.-We deem it unnecessary to attempt even a synopsis of the discourses, as it is expected they will be given to the public in full.

On Monday evening the Annual Missionary Meeting was held, R. H Brett, Esq. in the chair when several addresses were delivered and the affairs of the Society laid before the Meeting. ..

The number at present in full membership is 3704, on trial 469: total increase 418.

STATIONS OF PREACHERS. . .

LONDON DISTRICT.

H. O. Crofts, J. Kershaw J. Coates, J. Baskerville, J. Caswell, J. C. Watts, London. London & Blanchard, St. Thomas, Moward, .. E. Williams, ...

Western Mission, Malahide, Waterford

Hamilton,

J. Breakenridge, W. Bothwoll,
J. Wilkinson,
B. Haigh, J. Oates,
II. O. Crofts, Chairman

HAMILTON DISTRICT. J. Goldsmith, II. Wilkinson, 1 to be sent W. Preston, T. O. Adkins,

Ancaster, Owen Sound. Nassagaweya, Welland Canal,

F. G. Weaver. T. Brown, T. Rump, 1 to be sent, T. Runip, Chairman TORONTO DISTRICT.

Totonto, W. McClure, Whitehurch, J. W. G. Rogers, C. Curry, J. Hales, D. D. Rolston, Brock,

I. C. Warren, W. McClure, Chairman CAVAN LISTRICT. J. Bell, J. Shelton, Cavan. J. Gundy,

lewcastlo, Prince Edward,

Oxford.

JOHNSTOWN DISTRICT. F. E. Powers, W. Robinson Landsdowne, Elizabethtown, T. M. Jefferis, J. Simpson, J. Smith, Gouldburn & Drummond, N. C. Gowan, W. Peck and I to be sent,

F. Blake,

Reid,

W. Gundy, B. P. Brown, J. Bell, Chvirman.

Gen'l. or Assis't Superintendant. Chairman EASTERN DISTRICT. I. Hont, W. Bursell,

Stukoly, Boulton, Henrysburgh.

T. Ogden, J. Histon L. J. Adams, Chairman

Letters, Remittances, &c., deferred.

The Watchman.

Monday Evening, June 17, 1850.

AFFLICTION. .

It is not the intention of the Divine Being that nau should enjoy perpetual sunshine in this world. Indeed such a state would be to the last degree incompatible both with the object of his existence here, and the nobler destiny which, if faithful, nwaits him beyond the grave. Had man retained his primitive character, his course of preparation for the future stages of his existence, would not neces sarily involve those scenes of gloom and uncertainty which are the lot of fallen men. But man has fallen; the fine gold has become dim, and in order to restore the lustre it has lost, the action of the furnace is indispensable. Such is the order of Provi dence and such the economy of grace; mysterious though the case may appear to the unonlightened mind. That the order of heaven should be repugnant to the views of vain, short-sighted man, can by no means awaken astonishment in the mind of the intelligent christian. "The natural man recorrectly not the things of the spirit of God, for they are foolishness unto him, neither can he know them for they are spiritually discerned." "But God hath revealed them unto us by his spirit, for the spirit searcheth all things; yea the deep things of God."

Revelation declares the fact that it is "through much tribulation we shall enter the kingdom of God;" and none but an infidel can question its correctness or doubt the propriety of the arrangement. Were eternal glory associated with moral qualities of which fallen creatures are incapable, then we might impugn the character of Deity for demanding that which man is incapable of rendering. But how amazing! how merciful! that the very suffering of which nothing but sin could render man capaple, should through the operation of the divine spirit be rendered subservient to his happiness in a brighter state of existence. Nay even in this world what multitudes have exclaimed "It was good for me that I was afflicted!" Instances are recorded, wherein individuals chose "rather to snffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season." But to such distinguished luminaries none need suppose that affliction was disrobed of its terrors. It was viewed and felt in its natural and proper character, without mitigation, save that which the grace of God and the light of revelation afforded. "No chastisement is for the present joyous, but rather grievous;" and its great recommendation is, "afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness to them that are exercised thereby."

However extensively then the christian may be benefited in this life by affliction, it is principally when viewed in its influence on the future life that it appears advantageous to endure. The word of truth sheds volumes of light on the gloomy path- ing, Lord Palmerston threatens Napies and Tuscany way of Zion's pilgrims; and experience added to that uncrring guide, enables the ohristian to endure ferences may be, no human foresight can deter-"as seeing him who is invisible;" meanwhile re- mine. Happily however, we live in an age when joicing with joy unspeakable and full of glory. But the shadows of this world must flee apace, and differences. the light of eternity burst forth upon our vision ere

we shall fully discover the influence, the desira- the crops were looking well. May it not be hoped "see through a glass darkly," and to "know in part" -when we "shall see face to face," and "know even as also we are known"-then, but not till then, shall we fully discover the boundless grace of God exhibited in leading by the way of affliction to the enjoyment of a crown of unfading glory. What multitudes, who, were it not for the afflictions of this life would never remember their Creator nor resort to the path of duty; but who have been humbled by affliction and brought nigh to God! Many of this class are now pillars in the temple of God below, and many more serve Him in the sanctuary

Turning to the page of inspiration, examples the most illustrious abound, of the blessed end attained by suffering affliction, while the soul of man "rolls on through endless years." The names and history of Abraham, Joseph, Job, Moses, Daniel, and many similar characters, will never be forgotten; nor will a single laurel fade from their brow in the estimation of intelligent, of pious men. They burst the vale of obscurity; and despite every obstacle attained an eminence on which unrivalled they stand after the lapse of thousands of years. Their's was not that short-lived reputation which expires with its possessor; and yet to this enviable immortality they rose through circumtances of extreme trial and

Then afflicted christian "give to the winds thy fears;" thy God reigneth still; and so sure as he reigns the promise "he that endureth to the end shall be saved,"—shall be fulfilled. And what if thy few short days below be a scene of darkness and difficulty? What if affliction be extreme, friends scated, and comforts few? Let us adopt the calculations of the Great Apostle of the Gentiles, and we shall be neither hopeless nor impatient amil our trials. "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." "For our light affliction which is but for a moment workoth for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal."

Equality.

By reference to our Parliametary Summmary, our readers will perceive that a Bill, having for its object, the exemption of Wesleyan Methodist ministers from certain inconvenience and expense in obtaining registers for Baptisms, Marriages and Burials in Canada East, had passed through several stages, when it was ascertained that other religious denominations were in a similar position; and in order to embrace every case of the like kind, after the second reading the Bill was referred to a select committee to make the requisite alterations. This is as it should be: legislation for an individual or for a particular community, can only be justifiable when no others are similarly situated. That the present registry law of Lower Canada should remain unscathed so long, is a matter truly surprising; for a greater outrage against dissenters could scarcely find a place on a statute Book. When this subject is under consideration, it would be well if our legislators would so amend the laws respecting the obtaining of license to solemnize marriage &c. in both sections of the Province, as to place every denomination on equal footing. Why the ministers of a so-called-established church should enjoy immunities, while other religious denominaons are placed under restrictions, is exceedingly difficult to determine. Even in Canada West, Methodist ministers have in some instances been subjected to very great inconvenience by the Registrars: but in Canada East, it is not at all strange for a minister to be detained four or five days on expense in Montreal or Quebec, when but a few minutes were necessary to complete a register. This, of course is an revil in the operation of the law, and not wholly to be attributed to the law itself; but so clumsy and indefinite is the statute that it seems admirably calculated to lead to abuse.

Review of News.

During the past fortnight, Steamers from the old world have arrived in such quick succession that it seems almost impossible in a weekly Journal to give an adequate idea of their varied intelligence. A new era in ocean steam travelling has dawned: the rapidity with which the Atlantic is traversed, exceeds the anticipations of any previous age. .

'Nor is the progress of art more striking, than the changes which the Kingdoms of this world are undergoing. England viewed in her foreign relations is at present in a position by no means enviable.-France and Russia have taken umbrage at England's policy toward Greece; and instead of relaxwith similar attentions. What the end of these difwas is a last resort for the settlement of diplomatic

In Iteland, emigration was on the decrease; and

bleness of affliction. And when we shall cease to that a day of prosperity yet awaits this unhappy

The internal affairs of the French Republic are tolerably quiet; but for real stability and prosperity she has little reason to hope while the thousands of her sons are so deplorably ignorant.

The King of Prussia, whose assassination was recently attempted, according to latest news, was in a precareous situation. The man who attempted the fearful deed remained incorrigible.

Smyrna was recently thrown into great consternation by the repeated shocks of the earthquake .---Several public buildings were materially damaged.

Our Republican neighbours are still in trouble respecting the slavery question. Either, they must ease to deal in human beings, or their sin will secure the curse of God.

In our own country the Legislature is furnishing abundant material for thought and discussion. The Post Office and the Assessment Bills, and several others now in progress are of vital importance,

General Intelligence.



Arrival of the Atlantic.

New York. June 10th.

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The magnificient Steamship Atlantic, Captain West, arrived yesterday afternoon from Liverpool, after a passage from port to port, one of the quicket on record.

She left Liverpool on Wednesday noon, the 29th ult .--- four days after the Steamship America, that arrived at this port on Thursday morning last,

The Atlantic brought seventy-three passengers. The Steamship Canada arrived at Liverpool on the

The political intelligence is very interesting.

We learn from Berlin that the reports of the King of Prussia's health is unfavourable; some degree of fever has set in, and the wound itself is swollen and much inflamed. The target at which the criminal Sefeloge practised pistol shooting has been found, and evidence that he was a good and steady

In Paris everything remained perfectly quiet, and very little, if any, apprehensions prevailed with respect to an outbreak. The debate on the electorial aw proceeds steadily.

It appears that another interview had taken place between the President of the French Republic and the British Ambassador, but it was believed that no amicable arrangement had been come to with respect to the existing differences between the two governments, in fact, it was said that both the President and the French government were as de termined on demanding the due execution of the London convention as they were the day M. Brouy: do L'huys was recalled.

There has been a heavy gale on the Spanish and Portuguese coast. It proved very destructive to the shipping---twenty sail of ships having been lost.--Amongst them were a Spanish war steamer and a schooner, all hands on board of which were suppose to have perished.

Arrival of the Hermann.

New York, June 10th.

The steamship Hermann, Capt. Crabtree, has arrived. She left Southampton on the 20th ult.r.x. On the 24th at noon, an accident to the larboard engine rendered it useless for the remainder the passage.

The Hermann brings out 123 passengers and: pretty large freight for the season.

She has on freight 150 tons of German merchadise, shipped at Bremen, and only about 200 pactages or 60 tons of French manufactured goods, from Havre, transhipped at Southampton.

Arrival of the Viceroy.

Halifax, June 11, P. M.

The Steamer Viceroy, Capt. Effing, from Galway June 1, with twelve passengers, arrived about eight o'clock this evening. She brings Dublin po pers of the day before. She had head winds nearly the whole passage

her coal was nearly exhausted.

She will require to remain here till late in the day to-morrow.

Dublin, May 31. Flour and Wheat-Extremely dull, and price since Tuesday unchanged, as there was only a re tail demand. Corn-A shade lower.

Boston, June 12 The Asia left this morning with 134 passenger and no specie.

Arrival of the Canada.

New York, June 12th. The Canada strived at Halifax, on Wednesday

from Liverpool, which she left on the 1st. Flour was better; a better feeling exists; no vance.

Wheat ditto. Corn dull, 6d. to 1s. lower. Beef, sales at full prices. Pork, no 'improvement.

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