### BOOK COMMITTEE.

The annual meeting of the Eastern section of the Book Committee will be held, D.V. at the Book Room, Halifax, on Thursday, May 4th, at 9. 30 a.m.

The Executive Committee will meet on the previous evening at 7.30.

John McMurray. Chairman.

#### WESLEYAN THE

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1882.

THE LESSONS OF THE CENSUS.

Last week our readers had an outline of the denominational statistics of the Dominion, as made known by the recent census. A single correction, and some -additional figures, will be found in mother column.

From these statistics one may form an

imperfect idea of the importance of the work with which the Methodist Church of Canada is entrusted. Of the 743.000 Methodists in the Dominion, about 583,-000-we use round numbers-profess to be under the pastoral care of our General Conference. But beyond the boundries of the Dominion a large population ranges itself under our ecclesiastical banner. Between one and two thousand Methodists are to be found in Bermuda, and many thousands in Newfoundland; among whom none of those appellations only entering upon it. How may her which distinguish the smaller Methodist bodies in the Dominion are in use. Rapid as has been the increase of Methodists in the Dominion-an increase Gospel. That the Lord has a right to much in advance of the growth of the the best music, and the most elequent population—it has been surpassed, we tongues, and to the church best adapted believe, in Newfoundland. No census for his service, none will deny, but all has been taken in that island since 1874. these things are secondary in importance The adherents of our Church then num- to the earnest, distinct utterance of the bered 35,700-a gain of nearly 7000 grand fact that "Christ Jesus came into since the previous census of 1869. Since the world to save sinners." Little time that period there has been a steady if need be devoted to the defence of our not rapid growth. It has even been faith against infidelity. There is not alleged that an unwillingness in certain half as much infidelity among those ecclesiastical quarters to have the extent reached by breacher's voice as he of this growth made known has prevent- may suppose the pulpit set forth ed any steps from being taken towards. Christ crucified and let the pew illustrate a later enumeration. We certainly shall the power of that tremendous truth by not leave solid ground if we estimate hallowed lives, and too many moral about to take place in the management the present Methodist population of miracles will follow to permit the claims of our Provincial day-schools. Trustees Newfoundland at 44,000—a gain of near- of the Gospel to be denied by reasonable who are really interested in the welfare missions. Bishop Keener related the by 25 per cent during the last eight men. No combination of arguments of the communities for which they act following incident: Not long ago,

743,000 of similar belief spread over the Scriptures, the triumphs of the future most impressible period of their lives; quiry he was informed that the Church Dominion. Yet any mere exhiliration will eclipse those of the past. This wide only a suggestive and inspiring teacher had only one member living, all the rest of feeling will not long occupy a place field, in which more than 630,000 look should be permitted to attempt the of a once large membership had died and in a true Christian's heart. As he looks to the ministry of Canadian Methodism teacher's work. A patron of a school upon men, not from the stand-point of for direction and guidance, ought to was once heard to say: "I wish we It was an anti-missionary Baptist Church. -soldier, politician or philosopher, but stimulate to prayer and faith and action | could get such a teacher as we had last Beyond the mere statement the Bishop from the higher elevation of the believe every one in our ministry and laity in year; he taught the children a hundred er in Christ, any feeling of simple ex- whose heart Christ dwells by faith. citement will give place to the sterner consciousness of personal and relative responsibility. How serious the responsibility attaching to the members of the General Conference of the coming au- ent ministers of the two great branches tumn, by whose decisions the interests -of nearly 630,000 persons may be effected, to say nothing of the future of those thousands who are treading on each other's heels on their way to make new homes on our Western prairies! Nor will the limit of influence end there, or in work, is to be desired is a question even in Japan whither our agents have concerning which conflicting opinions not, however, been discovered that they gone. No figures can compute it. Sure- may well be entertained. The opinion are paid more liberally than are the dul-Ty any Church gathering, whether of the representatives of a District, an Anmual Conference, or a General Conference, be wisely followed by the division of should never be regarded as an ordinary | the whole into three General Conferengathering. Paul's request, "Brethren, ces, one in the North, another in the pray for us," should be an understood South, and a third in the West, will request for all the ages.

God in the past should stimulate the Church to greater activity in planning and prosecution in the future. As our readers know, some questions relative to our polity have been agitated in private circles and have found public mention. Our growth does not place these quite out of the range of necessity. The growth of any body of people readers care as to their guilance a subject of increased importance. Whatever views on certain points of polity may prevail among our ministry and laity, it seems evident that our proper work in the Great North West can only be maintained through the appointment of a superintendent in that direction, or faintly commenced at Cape May, deep-By such an addition to the force of our ened in one or two General Conferences Missionary Secretariat as shall render on both sides of the divided line, greata thorough survey and superintendence | ly emphasized at the Emmenical Conof our work in that quarter a matter of ference in London, needs further space easy possibility. Already the Presby- to grow before we rush into each other's terian Church in Canada has sent a su- arms, and without embittered explanaperintendent of missions inothat region, and some of her generous-hearted sons have formed a large fund to enable him

exist at the cost of a heavy drain upon Irresponsible invitations, the published our missionary fund.

Happily there is no clamor for change in forms of worship, or for the use of any elaborate ritual. Our fathers and brethren across the ocean are struggling with this difficulty. The long established use of a liturgy in nearly all the London Methodist churches is still leading some of the children of Methodists into the Episcopal communion and repelling others, who find a home with the Congregationalists. The census returns laid before our readers give the verdict of Canadians upon this subject. Among leading Protestant bodies the Church which fails most to keep pace with the growth of population is that which is completely committed to the use of liturgical forms in worship. Some of our American brethren have of late pointed out the tendency of their Sunday-school publications to foster a disposition towards the use of ritual in worship. We trust that our friends in charge of our Canadian Sunday-school publications will not move in a similar alin that city, intimating that many of the

In the face of Census returns who will dare say that Methodism in Canada has done her work? It may, on the con trary, with truth be declared that she is ministry and laity best do the work the Master has given them to do? By adhering strictly to the preaching of the

# AMERICAN METHODISM.

Episcopal Methodism in the United States, there seems little probability of the consumnation of union at a very early date. Whether the union of two religious bodies, each of which is already pils' lives to the end of them. These so large in membership and so effective teachers may be found, and they are alof one distinguished minister—Dr. Hay- lards of their profession." good, we think—that such a union might gradually commend itself to the judgment of those who are acquainted with Successes achieved by the blessing of | the immense, extent of the territories | day evening an Educational meeting over which each of the present General | will be held at the former church, and Conferences has jurisdiction.

in view of union, Zion's Herald says: - the above-named gentlemen and others, "The providential hour certainly has and collections will be taken up in aid not come for this formal union. The of the work of the Educational Society. need of such a result has not become In St. John, on Sunday last and on sufficiently a conviction in the hearts of subsequent evenings, Rev. Prof. Burthe members of the divided churches. wash, of Sackville, and the ministers There are too many, and too irritating, stationed in the city, advocated the claims preliminaries to be settled. Just now of the same society. we are quite confident that the great evangelical work would not be carried on so efficiently as at present by any such organic changes. The good work of Christian fraternity and courtesy, tions work in absolute harmony in the work He hath appointed you to do."

sions, and to develop into self-support- competent authority in the premises be- resting moments to look heavenward, essentialt o happiness hereafter.

opinions and wishes of a few gushing brethren here and there, amount to nothing. We must respect ourselves and bide our time. In the meanwhile. I think I speak advisedly when I say the common sentiment of our people is that organic union is neither practicable nor desirable.

Some years ago a Christian lady asked the writer a question which has never beer forgotten. "Do you think it possible," it was asked, "that a large proportion of the members of the Christian Church may be self-deceived and going on to find at death and in eternity their terrible mistake"? Had the question been asked from a self-righteous standpoint or in a flippant style it might have been dismissed, but the tone of the speaker rendered her words strangely impressive. A late number of Zion's Herald makes a good point on a kindred topic, when it says: "A writer in the Congregationalist, from Cincinnati, somewhat disparages the breadth of the great revivconverts were members of Churches. It must be a powerful work indeed that reaches these formal and dead professors. If the conversion of any sinners on earth should awaken gratitude, it is that of those who have but a name to live, but have erred from the truth, and offer one of the most serious obstacles to the Master's work. A special benediction is pronounced upon one who shall convert such a "sinner from the error of his ways." We know one, now a deacon of the Congregational Church, who, while a member of it for years, as he bimself testifies, knew nothing of religion, but was happily converted at a very humble Methodist altar, and became in every sense a new man. His own Church soon readily recognized the genuineness of the work, and won his presence from his spiritual brethren, among whom he was converted, by appointment to this responsible Church office."

We presume that many changes are can make any permanent headway in will not be satisfied with anybody, be- while passing through a certain section To most men numbers prove an in- the face of righteousness and holiness. cause he can be obtained at a very low in a private conveyance, his attention ation. That solitary Methodist If the Gospel be preached, as the power salary. No man exerts a more lasting was drawn to a neat-looking church ted at Sable Island will feel less of God and the wisdom of God, just as influence upon children than he with situated in a pleasant grove, when he learns that he is one of it is set forth by the Holy Spirit in the whom they spend so many days at the burying ground contiguous. On inthings they never thought of before, and my boy has pestered me with ques- about as startling and comprehensive a tions ever since; he will scarcely give missionary address as we heard in many me any rest; he tells me everything he Despite the efforts of several promin- has heard there, and relates to me all the stories in his reading book, and makes comments upon everything." Such a teacher, it has been well said, "has a value beyond expression; he remains an inspiring influence in his puwavs appreciated-abstractly; it has

> On Sunday next sermons having reference to the Educational work of our Church will be preached in Brunswick and Grafton Street churches, by the Revs. C. H. Paisley, A. M., of Sackville, and S. B. Dunn, of Truro. On Monon the following evening in Grafton St. In reference to any immediate action church. Addresses will be given by

after the enjoyment of some precious religious service sometimes involves a struggie. Yet we serve the Lord Christ equally in the one as in the other. Sunday lessons are for week-day performance. Angels gently chided disciples who continued gazing up into the rifted cloud, beyond which their Master had passed. They seemed to say: "Ye better serve him in going forth to do the His will may lead us alike into pulpit On the other side Bishop Pierce writes or pew, into service or silence, into the

ing circuits many of those which now fore the Northern General Conference, because thither the ascending Saviour has gone. By the presence or absence of this disposition may the reality of our religious life be tested, "Where your treasure is there will your heart be also.' Do you care to look up? Do you dare

> A reference in the Christian Messenger to the mission to the Micmacs has called forth a letter from Rev. S. Rand. Mr. Rand, contrary to the opinion of most persons, thinks that this mission has had a "very encouraging" history. In addition to social changes for the better, he remarks that they have parts of the word of God translated into their language and that many of them can and do read the Holy Scriptures. Mr. Rand also gives an account of at least fifteen Micmacs who, to his personal knowledge, have "been brought out of the darkness and superstition of Romanism, and who have witnessed a good profession of saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, who lived to adorn the profession they had made by consistent Christian walk and life, and whose days ended in brightness, whose sun went down without a cloud, as they peacefully rested on the great atonement. Of as many more, yet living, he entertains a "good hope." "And," says Mr. Rand, in concluding his letter, "I might mention the great comfort I have had from time to time up to the present in proclaiming the unsearchable riches of Christ to the Indians, for 'know all men by these presents' that the Micmac mission is neither dead nor dying, but going on still with increasing encouragement and suc-

section of Baptists in the Southern States who are distinguished by their opposition to missions to the heathen. These find imitators among the careless adherents of many Churches which energetically prosecute this branch of the Master's work. On this the New Orleans Advocate says: "At the recent session of the Mississippi Conference, after a brother had represented the peo ple of his charge as opposed to foreign were buried in the adjoining grave-yard. made no comment, leaving the application to the Conference. To us it was

Strange as it may seem, there is

The U.S. Secretary of War reports that the total cost of the service of the United States army west of the Mississippi.for fighting and police duty on Indian account during the last ten years, with additional items of appropriations for supplies, incidental expenses, transpor tation, purchase of horses, etc., reaches the aggregate of \$223,891,264. total cost of the active campaigns against the Indians since 1872 was only 5,058, 821, showing that the bulk of the enor mous expenditure was for simple police duty. On this an American exchange remarks: "Last year it cost the Canadian government only \$780,030 to take care of its Indian population of 99,650 while General Sherman estimates that our Indian expenses during the last ten years have amounted to \$223,891,264. The last census gives us 246,417 Indians. There has never been an Indian war in Canada and the expense of its department of Indian affairs is trifling. It is very plain that our neighbors understand thể red men better than we do."

The New York Tribune has this to say of the Christianity of to-day: "The Church has lived and grown great because of its high and noble aim. Agnos-To return to life's ordinary duties 'ticism has languished and will never thrive while the fruit of its motive is nothing more than mere carping at sacred things. If creeds are not insisted on now as they once were, it is no evidence of decay in the Church, but is rather a proof that increased intelligence has absurd to say that the Church holds less strongly to the cardinal principles of the Christian religion—the inspiration of the Bible, the immortality of the soul, and a belief in future rewards and punto engage in aggressive movements. It to the Nashville Advocate: -- "The quescare of the home, the brain-labor of the for sins after death may not hold sway ishments. The idea of physical suffering seems equally evident that some means | tion of the re-union of Methodism, North office, the physical labor of the workshop, | as it once did, but Christian men and

"Tub" pulpits and "criminal box pews are rarely now seen in Methodist churches on this side of the ocean, but other improvements yet await the attention of the thorough architect. In too many churches the "seeing of the eye" has too much, and the hearing of the ear too little, to do with internal arrangements. A correspondent of New York paper describes a \$70,000 church in which the session of the N. Y. East Conference has just been held "Beautiful to the eye is it in comely site, massive Italian tower, St. Sophialike interior, chaste freecoing, stained glass, model Sunday-school room, but plaguing to the ear are its acoustics, flinging back impertinent echoes out of time." Since influences, trifling in themselves, affect salvation, no church

should be so constructed as to tear out

the preacher's lungs and plague the

hearer's ear. One of the highest aims

of the architect should be to aid both

speaker and listener.

The death of Charles Robert Darwin. one of the greatest naturalists, took place on the 19th inst., near Orpington, England. He was supposed to be recovering from an illness of several days, but a relapse took place which was soon fol lowed by death. Of his many scientific works the most celebrated is his "Origof Species," which has passed through many editions in English and has been translated into several of the other European languages. In this work he gave the world a vast amount of information on Natural History. Many and fierce battles have been fought over the evolution theory which he did so much to develop. The majority of the leading scientists of the day our thoughts can only take one direction are at variance with the conclusions he drew from certain facts; yet the world at large is under obligation to him for his persistent investigations and valuable contributions to science.

The specimen number of the General Conference Duily Advocate, to be issued from the Methodist Publishing House, Nashville, Tenn., where the Southern General Conference is to meet next week. is one of the neatest and best publications of the kind we have ever seen. The very successful editor of the Nash ville Christian Advocate, Dr. O. P. Fitzgerald, has it in charge. The price sion was paved and perfected how per copy for the session is \$1.00, but other men labored, and we have enterfor future reference can obtain a bound volume, a few days after the close of the Conference, at \$1.50.

# PERSONAL.

Sackville papers say that Rev. Dr. Pickard, whichas been ill since his reurn from Ottawa, is now better.

Rev. F. S. Rogers, formerly of the N. B. and P. E. I. Conference, has our thanks for a file of the "New England Conference Daily Journal.'

A. T. Randolph, Esq., of Fredericton has subscribed \$4,000 towards the erection of the new Baptist church in that

The Christian Guardian announces the death of the Revs. Henry Reid, of Perth, and Henry Bautemheimer, of Cape Grocher.

The many friends of the Rev. Dr. Pope, of St. John, N. B., will be glad to learn that he has so far recovered from the serious illness which has confined him to his house since February last, as to anticipate being out again in a few days.

The Rev. Howard Sprague, A. M. of St. Stephen, was to leave on Monday for Nashville, Tenn., to attend the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, as a delegate from the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada.

Zim's Herald, of last week, reports Bishop Bowman still in a very critical condition, and Bishop Foss unable to leave his home, with his general health ess encouraging than we could wish. He is obliged to give up all hope of holding any of his Spring Conferences.

The Rev. W. Crooks, D.D., and Rev. O. M Cutcheon, the Irish Methodist de putation to America, purpose spending the first three weeks of May in Canada presenting the claims of Irish Method-They will spend Sunday, May 7, in Montreal, May 14 in Toronto, and May 21 in Hamilton or London. They expect to sail for Ireland May 27.

Rev. W. G. Lane, of this city, was obliged to submit to the removal of a tumor from the back last week. operation was skillfully performed by Drs. R. F. and J. F. Black. Mr. Lane thinks of taking an appointment on Sunday evening. Owing to ill health. he has found it absolutely necessary to brought increased tolerance. But it is resign his position as honorary Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Good evil, they put their curse upon those

Several letters, announcing the illness do, we would give them all the of the wife of the Rev. J. Herbert credit they deserve. Starr, of Whitby, Ontario, were followed by a despaten on Monday from Mr. It is certainly heartsickening in this Starr to his uncle, Geo. H. Starr, Esq., nineteenth century, to see crowds of of this city: "She siept in Jesus at six people representing all classes, from 'clock this morning." Mrs. Starr was should be devised at once to check the and South, is not up. It will not be or to toil on the sea. All toil is blessed women have not sacrificed in the least D. D., formerly of this city. Deep sym- these "Fathers" as they exhort them tendency to multiply small Home misbefore us officially, nor is there any when accompanied with a desposition at their belief that good conduct here is pathy with the bereaved is felt by their to accept no other whom numerous friends.

CONFERENCE CENTENNIAL. 1782-1882

TO MINISTERS AND MEMBERS OF THE METHODIST CHURCH:

Dear Brethren, -At a meeting of the Special Committee in November last, it was unanimously decided to commeno. rate the centenary, of Methodism in Nova Scotia.

One hundred years ago, in 1782, year before the landing of the loyalists, when the country was sparsely settled and the population of the Province nor estimated to exceed twelve thousand William Black, of blessed and imperial able memory, commenced his noble career as an itinerant. The very first ut. terance, "I determined to know nothing among men, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified, -also the opening American text of Francis Asbury, embodied and indicated the central and controlling idea and aim of the preacher's message and ministry. -

Through the vast territory now com prised in the Dominion of Canada, from the surf-beat of the Atlantic shore to the majestic waters of the St. Lawrence

"Where wild Oswega spread her swamp

to the distant Pacific Ocean, except Mr. Black, there was not then a solitary Methodist evangelist, and not a single church. The Census returns, published in 1882, report the number of 742.981 as the aggregate of Canadian Methodism

In the United States a still more ex. traordinary success has been conquered One hundred years ago, notwithstandin the shock and storm of Revolutionary conflicts, a decade of Methodism had been nobly signalized. But for the thousands of 1782, an aggregate of as many millions are reported for 1882 The record of a century, marvellous and truly magnificent in its character, must excite emotions of gratitude and joy "According to this time it shall be said of Jacob and Israel, whot hath God wrought! In centennial service and memorial

We shall look back over the track along which we have been providentially led. We shall remember how this movemen originated in a scene of converting grace and power—how a youthful messenger of salvation, in response to the Macedonian cry, from many a woodman's dwelling. with the great commission burning in his soul, committed himself to herois enterprise-how the reflection of revival flame caught the eye of eager watchers in distant settlements how the sphere of effort was speedily enlargedhow requisite ministerial supply was sought in the United States and in Eng. land-how Wesley and Coke cared for these British Provinces-how co-adjutors and successors were raised up how the pathway for organization and extenof trial and toil culminated in blessed and refreshing results-how facts and incidents, as gathered and grouped by our accomplished historian, have fur nished constant evidence of God's goodness and guidance. It will be an advan tage, also, to trace again the established landmarks: "Stand in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths.

The review of mercies, which have marvellously crowned a century of denominational life and history, is fraught with hope and comfort for the future. But in view of solemn and weighty responsibilities, commensurate with the magnitude of the work, and the grandeur of possibilities, we have need to look to God for help. The occasion demands renewed and deepened consecration. Then, along the whole line, may we anticipate an advance movement of the sacramental host.

It has been desired that the next Conference official sermon should take the character of centennial review. Arrangement will be made for a public memorial service, at which the President of our General Conference, Dr. Geo. Douglas, has consented to deliver an address. An opportunity will doubt less be afforded for testimony and reminiscences of early ministry. But ought not the Conference Centenary celebration to be followed by at least one memorial service in each circuit Might not contributions from such services, and spontaneous offerings, be sppropriated for some connexional monu ment: inscribed to the memory of the venerable WILLIAM BLACK, the apostle of Methodism in these Lower Provinces.

JOHN LATHERN, President of the N. S. Conference Yarmouth, April 20th, 1882.

#### A THOUGHT OR TWO. Dear Mr. Editor : Protestant workers

in the cause of religion may learn valuable lessons in the matter of devotion and earnestness-from the Redemptorist Fathers, who have lately been holding services in the several Romsh churches of our city and vicinity. For weeks together they have engaged in the work of preaching and teaching three times each day enforcing earnestly the dogmas of their Church. They are very faithful and plain in presenting the moral obligations devolving upon their Church members. Honesty, charity, paren al obligation and temperance are given a prominent place in their system of practical Christianity. Recognizing intemperance as a great and terrible who are engaged in the life destroying traffic. For this and all other good they

But there is another side to be shown. the poor ragged Indian to the most of the priest. These people, from whom in many ca things in refinement pictures an the priest listen to th testants. We sing

" The but surely dense now and hearts wcrship the one so gospel. thse Fathe and incule the popis heart was nothing b lead them is " able who come be left to not too ea among the man is kno do we not

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