

RECEPTION OF YOUNG MEN.
FRIDAY EVENING.—Public Reception of Young Men into full connection with the Conference. Addresses by the President, Rev. E. B. Harper, A. M., and Dr. Ryerson. Admission by ticket. Friends from the country may obtain tickets from Rev. G. Cochran, 142 Bay Street.

Our Home Work.

REVIEW OF THE DISTRICTS.

WHITBY DISTRICT.
As you have expressed a desire to receive some statement concerning the condition of Whity District, I venture the following remarks for insertion in your new "Daily."
We had a very agreeable session at Newcastle, where the usual kindness of our Methodist people was manifested in our entertainment. After the election of Brother McDonagh as District Secretary, Brother Stobbs was chosen as representative to the Stationing Committee, Brother J. C. Wilson, was appointed to the Sabbath School Committee, and Brother MacCann for the Church Relief. With slight exceptions, the District is financially and spiritually in a prosperous condition. There is an increase in the aggregate of all the Connexion Funds, though there are certainly some circuits that might raise more for these purposes than they do. On this matter the usual enquiries and conversation took place, with a view to future improvement.
The entire deficiency due to ministers on the District amounted to \$553, 80, which, though heavy enough for the few brethren who have to bear it, is yet small indeed when compared with the large deficiencies of former years.
Stouffville, under the care of Brother Gee, disowns any further claims on the Missionary Fund, and takes rank among the self-sustaining circuits. Manvers, too, though not independent of the Missionary grant, has for the last two years reported no net deficiency—an encouraging fact in the history of that Mission. A good church and shed, worth \$1,000, have been erected there by Brother MacCann.
With a view to the improvement of the work, Whity and Bowmanville have during the year sustained each a third preacher, and now Bowmanville becomes a station for one man, leaving the Darlington Circuit to be supplied by a married and single man. A good Church has been erected at Tyron on this circuit. Oshawa, with its almost unrivalled Church (for such a place) becomes a very desirable station, leaving the Whity Circuit with its five appointments, an incres of members, and freedom from Church debt embarrassments, to make one of the best country circuits in our work.
The Beaverton Mission is making rapid progress. Of course, in laying the foundation of our work, and making a begin ning to everything ecclesiastical, difficulties must be encountered. But let us help the Missionary there in the erection of his new churches, and with the attention now being turned by railway men in that direction and consequent influx of population, we shall soon reap an abundant harvest.
We have on the whole District a net increase of 168 members.
Five young men who had been employed during the winter under the Chairman, are recommended, after due examination, as candidates for trial in our ministry, and it is said two others are coming forward, for next year, in the same way.
For the Missionary Committee, our well-remembered friend, W. H. Gibbs, Esq., who has rendered such valuable aid to our Mission work in this District, has been elected representative. Major Stephen Washington and R. Campbell attend the Contingent Fund Committee, and Messrs. Bradley and Ross that of the Church Relief Fund.
The brethren have reason to be thankful for the preservation of their health during the year, my beloved colleague, Saunders, especially, having much improved in that respect. An aged veteran, in the ranks of the supernumerated ministers, Rev. John Law, has fallen, but died well. The other, Rev. C. Vandusen, is again ready for the active work.
I have no time for making any general remarks, but if these facts are of service you are welcome to them, from
Yours truly,
J. C. SLATER.

NIAGARA DISTRICT MEETING.
The meeting of the Niagara District was held the present year in the rising town of Welland, commencing on Wednesday, the 19th instant, at ten a.m., and closing the following day. All the ministers were present except Brother M. Baxter, who through illness was detained at home; and on Thursday there was a large attendance of lay brethren, who by many wise and judicious observations, added not a little to the interest of the meeting.
Brother Biggs was elected Secretary, and Brother Laird appointed to the Stationing Committee. Brother Berry represents the District in the Committee of the Church Relief Fund, and Brother Blanchard in the Sabbath School Committee.
In the Church Relief Fund and Contingent Fund collections there is a slight decrease, and also in the receipts of the Supernumerated Fund; but an advance in the Victoria College collection (formerly the Educational Fund) of more than fifty per cent, makes the total of District finances more than last year.
The increase of membership is sixty-six. Doubtless the operation of the Children's Fund has the effect of making circuit membership returns "honest" in the most strict and rigid sense of that expressive word.

Some circuits presented very encouraging reports of church building and enlargement, Grimby alone having expended the present year \$6,100, making for the past few years a total for Parsonage and Church improvement of more than \$10,000.

But notwithstanding the rapid growth of the District in church building, there was not a single application to the Church Relief Fund. The inference is that Church debts in this District are rapidly taking a place among the things of the past.
Brother Field was compelled to ask a recommendation to Conference for a supernumerated relation for one year. There was much sympathy for our dear brother that so early in his ministerial work he should be laid aside, if only, as is hoped, for a time.
Brother B. D. Krufor, who, under the Chairman, has labored with great acceptance on the Thorold Circuit the present year, was unanimously recommended to the Conference to be received on trial.
The Sabbath School Anniversary for the District was held on Thursday evening. There was among the brethren a feeling that the details of the new scheme are too cumbersome for thorough and effective operation. But time may oil the wheels and make the different parts of the machinery work harmoniously.
An interesting College meeting was held on Thursday evening, in which the indefatigable Chairman of the District and Brother Casey from Napanee, each took a prominent part. We never listened to better college speeches. It would be a wise movement if the services of Brother Casey could be secured to canvass the country in behalf of the College. He has studied the whole question throughout, and has a way of putting it so as to carry conviction to the minds of his hearers.—The subscriptions were good.
A resolution was carried to divide the Grimby Circuit; and the official meetings of St Catherine's and Port Dalhousie brought in resolutions for a union of the two Circuits, which was referred to the Stationing Committee and Conference.
The meeting was very harmonious.
It would have been strange had there been no diversity of opinion, but a thorough ventilation of each subject under discussion resulted in most of the resolutions passing unanimously.
The Welland people were prodigal in their hospitality and kindness, and richly deserved the thanks of the District at the close.
J. H. S.

DIVISION OF DISTRICTS.

The Chatham District with several circuits taken from the London District, was divided into two parts. The one to be called the Chatham, the other the Sarnia District.
The Barrie District also was divided into two parts. The one to be called the Barrie, the other the Bradford District.

PORT HOPE CIRCUIT.

Port Hope is pleasantly situated on the shore of Lake Ontario, has a fine harbour, and is the outlet for the trade of the fine section of country lying to the North of it. It is the terminus of the Port Hope and Peterboro, and Lindsay and Beaverton Railway; and contains a population of some five thousand inhabitants. It is not easy to tell when Methodism was introduced into this place, for it is beyond the recollection of the oldest inhabitant, when a few people began to assemble in the old school house on Protestant hill, to hear the word from the lips of a Methodist minister. Smith's Creek was formerly the name of this place, and in the Minutes of Conference for 1808, we find the following entry: "Smith's Creek, Elias Patie;" and for 1812, "Smith's Creek, Thomas Whitehead." From the year 1808, with more or less frequency, the gospel has been preached in this vicinity. In a grove, not three minutes walk from where I now write, and which is now standing, a friend informs me that he had heard Elder Ryan preach a number of times to the teamsters and their escort, during the war of 1812, as this was one of the stopping places between Kingston and York. In the Minutes of 1824 it is still the head of the circuit, embracing the large tract of country lying between Murray on the East and Whity on the West, numbering 425 members. In 1825 the name of the circuit was changed for the euphonious Cobourg, with which the interests of Smith's Creek were identified till the year 1840, when Port Hope appears as a circuit, under the superintendency of the Rev. Wm. Haw, who returned at the end of the year 178 members, and \$13 connexional collections.
In 1833 a site was secured for a church and parsonage house, mainly through the exertions of the late Alex. Davidson and Wm. Barret; and a right of way, now Brown street, from Walton was bought, "principally for the benefit of those attending upon the preaching of the word in the Methodist Chapel," so runs the deed. This old building has been enlarged and altered, lengthened and widened, is longer in the middle than either at roof or basement, has passed through so many changes that it would puzzle any one to tell to what order of architecture it belongs, and no doubt would make Mr. Ruskin nervous; yet it is a very comfortable Mr. Ruskin church, capable of holding some nine or ten hundred people. But in order to provide for the growing wants of the congregation, and the

town, and to keep pace with other religious bodies, a new church is very much needed, and we are pleased to know the trustees and other friends are talking of the ways and means for building.

During the twenty years of the existence of Port Hope as a circuit, it increased in membership from 178 to 525. In 1861 it was separated from the country and formed into a station, under the superintendency of the Rev. John Hunt, with a membership of 216. During the incumbency of the Rev. G. R. Sanderson, the parsonage was greatly enlarged, and otherwise improved, so that at the present time it is a comfortable, well furnished residence.
In the eighth year of its existence as a station, the increase in its membership has not been very large, being only the difference between 217 and 260, but in other respects there has been a commendable advancement. At the Conference in 1862, the collection for the Connexional Funds were \$50 45; Missionary, \$188; in 1869, Connexional Funds, \$95 25; Missionary, \$294.
Our Sabbath School interest is one of the best in the Province. We have 395 scholars on the roll, with a corresponding staff of excellent officers and teachers, who are regular, attentive and enterprising. A Band of Hope, of 250 members, under the direction of the Superintendent of the Sabbath School, meets twice a month; to which may be added a library of nine hundred volumes of very choice works. Not less than 25 of the scholars meet in class.
The past year has been a comfortable year in every respect. We were favored with the services of Rev. Dr. Butler at our Missionary Meeting, and with a Lecture from the President of the Conference, under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association. Our congregations are large, respectable, and intelligent; the Society in peace, and enjoying prosperity, rejoicing in the conversion of sinners, and the accession of members to the fellowship of saints.
W.

LATEST NEWS.

EUROPE.

LIVERPOOL, May 31.—Mr. Motley the new Minister of the United States, received the addresses of the Chambers of Commerce, at his hotel this morning. In reply, to that of the American Board of Commerce, he returned thanks for the welcome he had received as the representative of the United States. He said it was the earnest hope, and chief wish of President Grant's Administration, and of America, to cultivate friendly and equitable relations with the Government and people of Great Britain. The happiness of the world, the advancement of civilization, and the best hopes and humanity depended on the concord of all branches of the human family, more especially on that of the leading nations connected by public and personal interest, allied by blood, addicted to commerce, and the condition of the arts of peace. Mr. Motley concluded as follows:—"My most strenuous efforts shall be devoted to further a good understanding on the basis of enduring friendship and kindly relations in accordance with the principles of justice and honour, which are the immutable and only safe unerring guides in the conduct of nations."

IRISH CHURCH BILL.

LONDON, May 31.—In the House of Commons, to night, Mr. Gladstone moved the third reading of the Bill for the disestablishment of the Irish Church. A large number of petitions against the passage of the Bill were then presented, after which Mr. James Madden Holt, member for North-East Lancashire, made, and Lord Elcho, member for Haddingtonshire, seconded a motion that the Bill be rejected.
A long but interesting debate followed, terminating in the refusal of the House to accept Mr. Holt's proposition and the passage of the Bill by a vote of 361 against 247.
The result was received with uproarious cheers from the Ministerial benches. The House then adjourned.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

VIENNA, May 31.—It is said that Ismael Pasha's tour, which will extend throughout Europe, is for the purpose of determining the question whether the Suez Canal is to be considered a subject for the neutrality of all nations and for all time.

GERMANY.

WORMS, May 31.—The Protestant Congress, which assembled here to day, was attended by 20,000 people, including representatives from all the States of Germany. The Congress, by unanimous vote, resolved against the Papal exhortations to return to the Roman Church and in condemnation of the Encyclical letter and in syllabus. The idea of the formation of a United German Church is mooted.

MARRIED.

By the Rev. John Philp, B.A., on Tuesday, the 1st inst., at the residence of the bride's father, in the township of Nelson, Wm. Philp, Esq., M.D., of Waterdown, to ALICE GERTRUDE, fourth daughter of David R. Springer, Esq.

LITERARY NOTICES.

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This is a neat 12mo volume of 466 pp. published at the Wesleyan Book Room, Toronto. Price 75 cents. Ministers will find this a good book to circulate among their hearers. It will at once arrest the attention, warm the heart, and stimulate the piety of its readers. Its circulation will do much good. It has had a wonderful run in England; and the first Canadian Edition is already almost exhausted, though only a few weeks since it was issued. A large discount is given to ministers and agents. A specimen story—and they are all true—will be found on our first page.
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