

Provincial Wesleyan

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1859.

In consequence of the official relation which this paper maintains to the Conference of Eastern Districts...

Halifax District.

The announcement of the meeting of the Halifax District was inadvertently omitted in our last week's issue.

A. McNUTT, Chairman.

Wesleyan Book Committee.

The fourth quarterly meeting of the Executive Book Committee will be held at the Conference Office on Wednesday, May 25th, at 11 A.M.

Chairmen of Districts.

The Chairmen of Districts are requested to forward the names of the Ministers appointed to attend the approaching Conference as early as possible to the Rev. Ingham Sutcliffe, Char. lottover, P. E. I., May 9, 1859.

Wesleyan Methodism not Effete.

Methodism was cradled in the storm. Its early adherents were accustomed to the fury of the oppressor. Apostolic in their zeal, they were apostolic also in their sufferings.

In this we rejoice, yea and will rejoice. But it must, nevertheless, be acknowledged that this class of contributions, Christian by name, but not by spirit, are not the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

Some assert that in accomplishing this much Methodism has fulfilled her mission. They affirm that the conditions of society which called it forth have changed there is no longer any purpose for it to effect, and that following the law of all special agencies, it must decline and disappear.

Let us glance at that financial system by which our English brethren have accomplished their wonderful results, comparing ourselves at present to their missionary financial system.

These facts relate the unfounded assertion that the career of Methodism approaches its close. It appears to be just entering upon its race. Never before did it exhibit signs of that energy which has made it so useful in the work of the Lord more indicative of glorious activities yet to be wrought than now start forth to view.

God has marvelously taught us as a church how to bear the change. We say not in boasting but in thankfulness; not that we would exult ourselves but that we would not acquiesce in the misrepresentations of those who deem that our destruction is nigh.

Bedouk Circuit, P. E. I.

Mr. Edrour.—Allow me to inform the many readers of your most excellent paper, that the Lord is graciously reviving true and heartfelt religion in several parts of this Circuit.

Many of our members have been greatly revived in their religious experience, and are now much devoted to God and the spread of true piety in the land.

But while we desire to be thankful to God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, for the good that has been done, we are still praying, O Lord open the heavens wider and yet wider still, and pour forth showers, teeming showers of refreshing grace upon us and upon all other parts and sections of thy holy Church, that they may be made a praise and a glory in all the earth.

G. M. BARRATT.

Financial System of the Wesleyan Missionary Society.

It is claimed by many persons that other Churches in the United States possess, in proportion to the number of their members, much greater wealth than the Methodist Episcopal Church. And we are quite willing to concede the claim.

The English Correspondent of Zion's Herald has the following remarks suggested by the recent edict on religious worship in France.

The present state of Protestantism in France is unusually critical. Great activity prevails in that country with a view legally to persecute the adherents of "the faith once delivered unto the saints."

Let us not be alarmed at the prospect, but let us be prepared to meet the emergency. Let us be ready to stand by the principles of the Church of England.

Mr. Punshon's Lecture on the Huguenots. The following interesting notice we copy from the English correspondence of the Southern Christian Advocate.

Mr. Punshon has just delivered a lecture in St. James's Hall, at the west end—the aristocratic portion of London, by which he has outstripped all his previous wonderful efforts. This was a benevolent act on Mr. Punshon's part, as well as an achievement of genius and oratory.

After a round of the most rapturous applause greeted the eloquent periods of the speaker. For about two hours, the orator kept the assembly in a hushed and joyful broken by cheers, notwithstanding that some hundreds of the lower end of the edifice were crammed together in a way that must have produced constant discomfort.

In a two hours' discourse upon such a theme as that of the history of France through the whole period of the Huguenot persecution, ordinary and even superior lecturers would have considered a man- script indispensable. But not so Mr. Punshon. A few notes on some small cards held in the hand were all the prompting he required to go through his magnificent address, which is a delivered all the great centres of population throughout the United Kingdom, and then published for the benefit of the Spitalfields Chapel.

This illustrious lecture of Mr. Punshon's may be likened to a beautiful panorama of the most striking period of the history of France, with her great leaders of the struggles and tragedies of the time prominently displayed. The elaborate delineation given of that unutterable and unparalleled atrocity, the massacre of St. Bartholomew, was fearfully grand, and the subsequent revelation of the righteous retribution which fell upon the persecutors, was a grand and sublime work of art.

The moral which Mr. Punshon drew from his subject was, that if as a nation Britain would remain free and happy, the spirit of Popery must be kept down, and utterly rejected, and the Word of God be kept pure and undefiled in the hearts of the people.

The Diocese of Oxford. The Diocese of Oxford is the head-quarters of the movement which has been said to have commenced at the University, but it has since been fostered and encouraged by Bishop Wilberforce, that a large body of his clergy have imbibed its principles; hence the sad pre-eminence the diocese has brought to light in this and other pamphlets, and those facts which are known in their several neighbourhoods.

When that time shall in God's Providence arrive, the Church will mourn for the loss of a pious and consistent member—the poor for the absence of a generous benefactor—the Profession of his brightest ornaments—and all for the decease of a good and upright man.

My Dear Sir, I have the pleasure to inform you that the Queen has been graciously pleased to command that Letters Patent be issued for raising you to the dignity of Knight, in recognition of your services to the Colony.

Believe me, My dear Sir, to be, Sir, your most obedient servant, Sir BRENTON HALLIBURTON, Knight, &c., &c., &c.

Before the Reformation we had 'altars,' as we believed in a sacrifice which was offered thereon by the priest. The Reformers, who considered the Holy Communion not as a sacrifice but a feast, replaced the altar by the Lord's Table.

When, then, the Archdeacons join in asserting that 'nothing whatever introduced or attempted to be introduced among us justifies the assertion that the diocese is in an alarming state,' they give the world a right measure of the value of the Reformation to the doctrines of the sacrifice of the altar against which the Church has once for all protested, as any great calamity. We do not dwell on the references which the reformers made to Gudestedon Chapel, its Danish appointments, and usages, and its service for altars to the processions, with professional crosses and banners, which took place both there and at Addington.

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My Lord: Allow me to return you my best thanks for the kind and flattering manner in which you have conveyed to me her Majesty's gracious intention of raising me to the dignity of Knight-hood.

Although, in my eighty fifth year, my mind ought to be directed to other world than this, yet I cannot but feel grateful to my Sovereign, for this mark of her approbation of my services.

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General Intelligence.

Colonial. The St. John Courier of the 26th ult. says:—Yesterday, the run of gas-pipes in the harbor was plentiful and the fishermen made good fares.

Canada. THE PROTESTANT ASCENDENCY JURY BILL THROWN OUT.—We have already written so much concerning this injudicious measure, that it scarcely needs to point now to the effect it would have on the liberties of the Catholic people.

PERSONAL.—A very large number of the friends of the Hon. F. Hincks called upon him to day at the St. Lawrence Hall. He is able and courteous as ever, and seems in excellent spirits.

THE VICTORIA TUBULAR BRIDGE.—It is expected that the great Victoria Bridge, at Montreal, will be completed by next October. The great central tube was lately raised to its place on the massive stone piers. The *Papier Argus* writes:

There are many facts of curious interest connected with the erection of the tube, which are probably unknown to most of our readers. It was erected in December, 1857, and the several above. It was not till January that the ice became thick and firm enough to bear the enormous weight which it was to sustain.

THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.—Toronto, May 4.—The Parliament was prorogued this afternoon. The Governor-General's speech was a mere repetition of the important business of the session, with the statement that the account of the first quarter of the current year shows signs of the revival of trade and the increase of our resources.

NEWFOUNDLAND. We are happy to have to announce the return here of the Colonial Secretary, the Hon. John Kent, from London, by the Galway Steamer "Adelaide," bearing Her Majesty's Commission as one of the joint commanders to enquire into and report upon the present position of the fisheries of this Colony in relation to English and French subjects, and to determine as far as possible the joint command of the waters, and the various points of the coast affected by existing treaties, what have been the infringements, and their extent, of these treaties, by the subjects of the other nation.

FATHER CHINQUEY IN THE LAW COURTS.—It is well known that, besides the ecclesiastical quarrel of Father Chinquey with his episcopal superiors, he has been subjected, since these differences, to grave accusations against his moral character, and these having reference only to a recent period, but to his life while residing in Lower Canada, where, in public at any rate, he had every sort of praise bestowed on him by the clergy of all ranks.