

They serve to corrupt and pervert the moral propensities and views, and by pandering to certain degrees of licentiousness, not only to the members and sentiments through almost every channel of society. Not a few, but many of the gazettes are devoted to the dissemination of obscenity, falsehood, slander; and are made the medium through which to flood the country with licentious engravings; while others are devoted to the harsh asperities of vindictive political attacks on their miserable instruments. The reputation of some of the journals of the Union is a disgrace to our country and to republican government, and regard for the public morals, the public tranquility, and the preservation of our free institutions call aloud for as thorough a reformation as it is possible to make. The moral people of the country cry out for very shame against the evil. Shall we have a reform?—*Golden Age.*

DISESTABLISHMENT.

Mr. Miall obtained from both sides of the House, the credit which he has deserved for moderation and fairness in explaining and defending his resolution on Disestablishment. Upon the abstract question there appears to be less diversity of opinion than might have been expected. It is pretty generally agreed that the disestablishment of England and Scotland, and the Churches is merely a question of time; nor does Mr. Miall himself appear to be prepared for immediate action. He did not attempt to pledge the House of Commons to any particular line of operations; nor did his speech betray impatience for immediate legislation. Having spent a quarter of a century in studying the question, and in familiarizing the public mind with the arguments for disestablishment, he can afford still to wait for the results which he thinks may of all grades now regard as ultimately certain. Even the *Times*, that faithful mirror of English plottocracy, and well-fed respectability, does not allow to the Established Church a lease extending beyond the limits of the present century.

Mr. Gladstone, in announcing the opposition of the Government to Mr. Miall's resolution, intimated that their opposition was not based on merely temporary grounds; nor could any one, however ardent supporter of the Liberation Society, have expected that Ministers would give their support to the resolution. The number of members who followed Mr. Miall into the lobby was larger than many had expected. The speeches of those who opposed him, which were altogether deficient in conviction, had that significant and not easily defined tone which seems natural to orators who have an internal persuasion that the cause they are advocating is not destined to succeed.

In one important particular Mr. Miall evidently missed his way. The wording of his resolution, "that it is expedient at the earliest possible period, to apply the policy initiated by the disestablishment of the Irish Church to the other Churches established by law in the United Kingdom," gave a gratuitous advantage to its opponents. It was admitted on all hands, and it was forcibly argued by many, that the disestablishment of Ireland, and the case of the Irish Church was exceptional. In removing that Church from under the control and patronage of the State, it can scarcely be said that a policy was initiated; for Ireland was confessedly dealt with, in regard to ecclesiastical matters, as a case *per se*. Yet, although no law was voted for disestablishment in Ireland, and the case of the Irish Church was exceptional. In removing that Church from under the control and patronage of the State, it can scarcely be said that a policy was initiated; for Ireland was confessedly dealt with, in regard to ecclesiastical matters, as a case *per se*. Yet, although no law was voted for disestablishment in Ireland, and the case of the Irish Church was exceptional.

The financial condition of Conference is improving. Nearly all the Church funds are advancing. The Supernumerary and Widows' Fund has been better sustained during the year closing than previously. In some Districts the deficiencies in Circuit revenue have become smaller than heretofore. The Home Mission movement is commending itself to the judgment, the conscience, and the affections of our people, and most justly so. At the same time, the claims of the Foreign Missionary Society have, upon the whole, been well sustained. These facts are extremely gratifying.

We should hope that the Stationing Committee of Conference is not finding it more difficult than usual to arrange the ministerial appointments for the ensuing year. We trust that in all cases the best practicable conclusions will be arrived at. One of the most important questions that will occupy the attention of Conference before the session closes, is that of a Union between itself and the Canadian Wesleyan Conference. The readers of the *Wesleyan* doubtless all understand that the Canadian Wesleyan Conference, like our own, is affiliated to the British Wesleyan Methodist Conference. The union spoken of is something analogous to that which was consummated in the formation of our Conference. In the formation of our Conference what used to be known as the Nova Scotia District, the New Brunswick District, and the Newfoundland District, having each direct connection with British Wesleyan Methodism, coalesced to form a Conference affiliated to the British Conference. In the projected union, two Conferences, sustaining filial relations to the parent Conference in England, would come together to form one General Conference, still maintaining a filial attitude toward the British Conference.

The Canadian Conference is specially anxious to effect a union with ours. At its recent session in Belleville it passed unanimously the following resolution in reference to it:—"That the Eastern British American Conference be invited to appoint a deputation, to meet with the Committee to be appointed by this Conference, with a view to the union or confederation of the Wesleyan Methodist of British North America." A deputation was also appointed by the Canadian Conference to visit ours. At the moment of writing, it has not arrived. Soon after it reaches St. John, no doubt the union question will be properly discussed, and we trust judiciously disposed of.

institution they would destroy. Nor is it necessary to argue that State Establishments of religion are in themselves anti-scriptural or anti-Christian. It is conceivable, to say the least, that they may have served a useful service in past ages and in other states of society, and yet may be, in the present condition of society, an anachronism and mischief. Further, it is of the utmost consequence to distinguish between the Church itself, which is a religious association, and the accident of state establishment. It is against the latter only that Mr. Miall wages war; but there is a numerous party only too eager to co-operate, who, under cover of the State Establishment, are desirous of undermining Christianity itself. The question, so far as Parliamentary action is concerned, has been settled for the present session; and we may now, for a season at least, "rest and be thankful."—*Methodist Recorder.*

Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 1871.

THE CONFERENCE.

At the moment of writing, Conference affairs are progressing favourably and harmoniously. The new President is efficiently conducting the deliberations of Conference, and with the urbanity expected from him. He has long been affectionately regarded by his brethren for his amiable disposition and gentlemanly demeanour. His conduct in the chair will not, we feel sure by any means weaken his hold upon the esteem of his co-workers. Conference finds its ranks have been somewhat thinned by death during the year. The men who have fallen on the field, however, have not been taken in this instance from the silvery haired band of veterans. One was almost at the commencement of his course, and gave promise of a career of great usefulness. Two others were in the midst of their days, and were men of proved talents and marked aptitudes for successful Christian work. These have all died in the faith.

The Conference sympathizes with two of its members who have during the year been severely stricken by Providence, in that they have been compelled to surrender to the demand of death the choice of their early manhood, the loving companions of their itinerant toils. We regret to say that a number of the members of Conference, young or in middle age, are far from being in vigorous health. The labours and exposures of the year have told heavily upon their constitutions. Some of them will be necessitated to rest and recuperate; and all of them will find it needful to husband their strength for a time, pressing as are the demands of the great work in which it is their delight to engage.

The Conference is grateful to the Great Head of the Church that this year nearly twenty young men have presented themselves to its notice as candidates for entrance into its pastorate. The Lord hath taken away to the church above some who were dear to Him; the Lord is also giving to His church below, many who are precious in His sight. Blessed be the name of the Lord!

It is cause of joy to the Conference that the increase of membership resulting from the evangelic labours of the year is found to be considerable. In this fact as well as some others of a cheering nature the Conference finds occasion to thank God and take courage.

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CONFERENCE OF EASTERN BRITISH AMERICA.

CONFERENCE ROOM, Tuesday, 20th June, 1871.

The readers of the *PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN* are doubtless aware that the seventh Annual gathering of the Ministers and Lay Gentlemen, upon whom devolves the business connected with our Conference and its Preparatory Committees, took place this year in St. John. An extended description of this well-known and progressive city, in which the Conference is soon to assemble, will not be considered necessary. The facilities for visiting it furnished by the several steamboats plying in the Bay of Fundy, the Straits of Northumberland, and the noble River bearing its name, and at the mouth of which it stands; its comparative proximity to Prince Edward Island, secured by means of steam and railway; and the ease with which by Western Extension and congregations, "City of St. John," or other modes of transit, the commercial metropolis of New Brunswick is reached, and of which many of the readers of this paper have not been slow to avail themselves—render any lengthy notice of this superfluous.

By a change in the order of Conference business, adopted at the last Conference, the first of the Preparatory Committees meets this year only two days before the Conference instead of a week as formerly. The Sessions of Conference will be one each day, instead of two as heretofore—the afternoon being devoted exclusively to meetings of the Committees of the several Districts. Two objects have been sought by this change: First, the saving of time by the Conference. Second, to secure, during the sittings of the Conference, the presence of a larger number of the laymen from the different Circuits of the Conference. Whether these objects, in whole or in part, will be secured remains to be seen.

PREPARATORY COMMITTEES.

The Committee for the Examination of Candidates in the school-room, on Tuesday, 9 a. m. The names of nineteen young men were reported as candidates for the work of the ministry. Seventeen of these answered to their names, the other two being in Newfoundland, and having been examined by the local Committee, were excused from attending at the Conference. A brief statement of their conversion and call to the Christian ministry was made by each; their views upon the leading doctrines of the Bible elicited by an extended series of questions; papers for the purpose of eliciting their knowledge of general literature were furnished, after which the Committee adjourned, to meet the next afternoon.

The Committee on the Book Room and "Provincial Wesleyan" affairs met in the basement of the Centenary Church, at 7 p. m. The review of the year was one of a very pleasing character. The report of the Stationing Committee was clear and animating in its statements of the results of the operations of the year, and encouraging in regard to the prospects for the future.

The Stationing Committee occupied the forenoon of Wednesday, as it had that of the day preceding. The duties of the Stationing Committee were clear and animating in its statements of the results of the operations of the year, and encouraging in regard to the prospects for the future.

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been the guide and the guardian of my life, and of whose goodness toward me I have never had a more realizing and humbling sense, than I experience to-day. I thank Him for the Methodist associations of my early life. For Methodist parents I am thankful—but more especially for early conversion to God, and for His mercy, "in that He counted me faithful, putting me into this ministry." It is now upwards of a quarter of a century since my unworthy name was first entered upon the ministerial roll of Wesleyan Methodism, and while cherishing a growing admiration and respect for all other forms of Evangelical operating for the glory of God, outside of our own denomination and community—I am bound to say, I was never so fully satisfied that Wesleyan Methodism in its doctrines teaches—the organic shape she exhibits and the discipline she administers is in perfect accord with the Divine will, as indicated in the sacred Scriptures, and the records of the early Church—and as an agency, is peculiarly adapted to carry out to the largest extent the world-embracing and saving purposes of the Gospel.

You also, my reverend Fathers and beloved Brethren, I tender my most cordial and respectful thanks—and though I cannot hope to overtake the wisdom and administrative ability of my honored predecessors in the occupancy of this Chair it shall be my ambition to justify the confidence you have been pleased to repose in me by the willingness to be fully and faithfully discharged of my part, I feel assured I shall be sustained and aided by your counsels and your prayers, and by that becoming respect for the office to which you have elevated me—which has uniformly marked our Confessional history.

I trust we shall be eminently honored with the presence and direction of the Divine Master, and that the Confessional year we are privileged this day to inaugurate, may be throughout distinguished, in every department of our work, with unprecedented prosperity.

The Co-Delegate, Rev. S. W. Sprague, was welcomed by the retiring Co-Delegate, Rev. J. G. Hennigar. On taking his position, the Co-Delegate said it would be highly improper for him to occupy the time of Conference at any great length. He supposed a few words would be expected. His brethren had he felt satisfied, too highly estimated his abilities. He felt called to the responsible position in which he had placed him especially when he called to mind the honored man by whom he had been preceded.

He could not, like the President of the Conference, thank the Lord for His mercies. Yet there were many things of which he could thank Him. He was grateful that he had been brought into contact with Methodism. For 33 years he had been in this church and by the grace of God he had been kept from anything calumniating the Christian religion. He was convinced that Methodism is of God. He had confidence in her doctrines, discipline and usages and regarded them as calculated to bring glory to God and welfare to man. He hoped the year upon which he had entered would be one of prosperity. He needed the outpouring of the Holy Ghost upon all our congregations and churches.

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The consideration of the financial state of our work was entrusted to a Committee consisting of Rev. D. D. Currie, James Taylor, and S. F. Huestis.

The consideration of the spiritual state of our work was assigned to Rev. J. S. Addy, H. Daniel, J. Lathern and H. McKewen. Revs. P. Priestwood and H. McKewen were appointed to receive and disburse the Conference collections.

On motion, ordered that the hours of Session be from 9 a. m., until 1 p. m.

In answer to the question, "Are there any objections to any of our ministers," "None," was distinctly uttered after each. Whereupon the President suggested that thanks be given to the Great Head of the Church in the singing of the *Doxology*.

At noon the Conference Prayer Meeting was commenced. It was well attended and proved a season of profit to many. The hymns were the 199th, 672d, 596th, and 327th pages were sung, and the brethren Snowball, J. A. Clark, J. G. Hennigar, R. Smith, J. F. Bent, L. Gaez, Thomas Harris, and I. Sutcliffe followed each other at intervals in earnest prayer.

At the close of the Prayer Meeting the Conference resumed, and a letter from Robert Reed, Esq., offering on behalf of the Trustees of

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necessary material for the work. He believed that many would be found in the Old Country who would willingly come. We wanted 24 men and must have them at once. The Conference, he said, is responsible for the souls of the people within its jurisdiction, and he felt the necessity for prompt action. Some of the members of that body were afraid if too much effort were made to procure the means to carry out this object it would "swamp the grant." He was not afraid of it. The men who would come, would earn their bread. At all events they would earn all they would get out of the Conference. He referred to the work in Ontario and ascribed the rapid growth of the Society there to the fact that the Methodist body were large owners of the soil. He urged that we should imitate the example set by the Upper Province brethren, and "Go in and possess the soil" here.

The Rev. L. Gaez, in seconding this resolution, hoped that in consequence of the lateness of the evening he would be excused from making any remarks upon it. He supposed the serious part in the motion referred to the lamentable fact that so few men had been procured for this missionary effort. He very eloquently portrayed the anxiety of those situated beyond the sound of the Gospel, who had under their care those near and dear to them, and who from their isolated positions were being allowed to grow up in ignorance of those blessed truths, while our efforts were being exhausted on behalf of those far away from our shores. He could only commend them to Him who cared for the sparrow. He would, if he could, concentrate the efforts of this Conference upon our Home Mission and then when the work was being well done here, he would send the laborers abroad to look for a field.

The third resolution was moved by the Rev. John Reid. Resolved—That the pressing claims of this Society for both work and men, should lead to fervent prayer, that the Lord of the harvest would send forth more laborers into the vineyard, and to the adoption of every method by which the annual income of the Society may be augmented.

In making this motion, Mr. Reid would press the claims of this mission upon the sympathy and intelligence of this meeting. We should not rest content with the evangelization of the great centre of this Conference. We are accountable for the spiritual condition of every hamlet in every far off district within its jurisdiction. He referred to the effort that was being made to import, he regretted the necessity for such a course. Are there not in our own land Christian homes from which abundant material could be procured? While he welcomed the stranger, he would appeal to Christian fathers and mothers; were they content with dedicating their sons to commerce, while the cause of Christ was suffering for the want of laborers in His vineyard? He would push this work with the same earnestness as is evinced in the markets of commerce. He would take care of those we love at home first. Charity, he said, begins at home, and travels on.

W. E. Dawson, Esq., in seconding this resolution, said that he loved the cause of missions; but as it was late he would not add anything to what had already been said in his behalf. He would, however, suggest sending the men where they were needed, and leave the procuring of the means for their support to the laity; and would respectfully invite contributions from those present for that object.

A collection was now taken up, during which the choir again sang an anthem. After which it was moved by the Rev. Mr. Botwell, and seconded by the Rev. Mr. Huestis, that the cordial thanks of this meeting be tendered to the choir, who had so largely contributed to the pleasures of the evening.

The following announcements were then made by the Secretary: The Conference Educational Meeting will be held in Centenary Church this evening; chair to be taken at eight o'clock; a collection will be made in behalf of educational interests. Mr. Maggs, one of the ministerial candidates, will preach in German street Church in the morning at 6 o'clock. After which the Benediction was pronounced, and the very large gathering dismissed.

The collection amounted to the handsome sum of \$65.50.—*St. John Morning News.*

The Chairman then introduced the Rev. R. W. Watson, who moved the following Resolution: Resolved—That the report now read be adopted, and printed in the minutes of Conference, and that this meeting be grateful and encouraged by the manner in which our people have received and supported this institution of our Church.

In moving this resolution Mr. W. referred to the Origin of this Home Mission Movement, and said that it came into existence because of the absence of the means of meeting the increasing spiritual wants of the people within the jurisdiction of this Conference. For a while fears were entertained that it might interfere with the interest in foreign missions, but this was found to be a mistake. He reviewed the progress of the work here, giving much valuable information in reference to the benefits already enjoyed at the different Missionary Stations, and stating that points which a few years ago could only be reached at long intervals, were now being constantly cared for.

Rev. Thos. Harris in seconding this motion referred to the success attending reviving the work of the parent conference in Ireland, France, Italy, Rome. Also the success of similar efforts in Ontario and the United States, and hoped we would not be behind them in the effort to meet the spiritual wants of the various Stations in our home mission. If we need for the Pagan, he would not earnestly labor for those in our midst. He spoke of the rapid increase of Methodism in Prince Edward Island, to which he belonged, and would assure his hearers that if the souls of those within the reach of this mission were neglected by us, Satan would provide for them by the employment of ruffians, vendors of pernicious literature, &c., and that we must take the responsibility.

The choir sang an anthem. The second Resolution proposed by the Rev. D. D. Currie was as follows: Resolved—That the numerous openings within the bounds of the Conference calling for Home Mission effort, demands the most serious and prayerful consideration of this meeting. In moving this resolution Mr. Currie said that he would not be expected to make any extended remarks upon it, as the doctrine laid down that day in Conference was to the effect that when a "heavy" man was provided as a successor of a resolution the mover of the motion was not expected to make much exertion in its favor. He would however say a few words. He referred to some new circuits—situated in the upper parts of the Province in the Miramichi, also above Fredericton on both sides of the St. John River, all of which were suffering from men, ready to take our ministers, and willing to pay them. His idea was to import men from England, Ireland and Scotland, and mix them up with the bluenoses, and thus produce the

and of presenting you with this purse which, we trust you will receive with the kindest regards of the donors. And it by the disposition of Providence, you should be sent to labor among us, you would gladly welcome your return, but should be glad to another field of labor, you would be glad to see you have earnestly prayed for you during the first year, so shall we continue to pray in the future, that the "Great God of truth and holiness whose minister you more immediately are, and whom you would delight to serve, may crown your labors with success, so that you may have many souls for your life, and seek to your ministry, and at last when you shall have here, that you may have an abundant entrance into that happier and brighter world, where the weary cease from labor, and the troubled are at rest.

JOSEPH MURPHY, Secretary to Committee. Mrs. THOMAS ROBINSON, Treasurer. L. H. SMITH, President of the Society. THOMAS BAKER, Chairman of the Board. JAS. L. MONTGOMERY, Com. THOS. E. WHEELER, Secretary of the Board. Fredericton, June 19, 1871.

On Monday evening 19th inst. the friends of the Rev. S. C. Fulton, Wesleyan Minister at the Fredericton Junction, met him in the superior school room, for that place, for the purpose of presenting to him a donation. At 7-1/2 o'clock about twenty or three persons among whom to be seen members of all religious denominations, sat down to a very sumptuous repast provided by the ladies of that beautiful village, which was always taken in the most abundant and satisfactory manner, and every good thing was provided in the most abundant and richest and choicest viands, that were calculated to attract the eye and sharpen the appetite, to all of which, I need scarcely add, ample justice was done by the happy guests whose faces were radiant with delight. After the repast was over, the Rev. Minister, abundantly satisfied with good things, and the tables had been cleared away, H. Smith, Esq., was called to the chair and Josiah Murphy chosen Secretary. The chairman in a few well chosen remarks explained the object of the meeting, after which the people presented their donations, which in all amounted to sixty-eight dollars and fifty cents, which in amount exceeded the expectations of the most sanguine. The secretary then read an address, composed by a committee of ladies, to the Rev. gentleman, to which he replied. The meeting was very much enlivened with rapturous music by a select choir, headed by Mrs. William Alexander, to whom the meeting was largely indebted for the evening's entertainment. Appropriate addresses were also delivered by James L. Montgomery, Esq., M. D. and Timothy Coleman, Esq., which were appreciated. A vote of thanks was presented to the Rev. Minister, for his courtesy and disinterested zeal which they manifested on the occasion. The meeting was then adjourned by singing the "Doxology" and pronouncing the "Benediction."

ONE PRESENT. My Dear Christian Friends, Men were here two or three days ago, to express the varied feelings of my heart this evening. This, noble, generous, and unexpressed manifestation of your kindness and appreciation of my imperfect "I" with you, during the past year has quite surprised and overcome me. Among the dark, shadowy days of my past life, I have experienced many bright and happy hours, permit me to say that this is one of the brightest and happiest.

I esteem highly your very valuable gift, not only because of its intrinsic worth, but because of the feeling which it manifests on the part of the giver. It is this generosity, which speaking to me in kindly tones, and makes me feel that there are hearts around me, hearts noble, loving, and generous. And should He who "sweetly orders all that is" see fit to bring about my return to you for another year, be assured that the recollection of this noble and valuable memento of your kindness and good will, as well as of this happy hour, will support my hands and strengthen my heart as I go about endeavoring to perform this pleasant task His wisdom hath assigned. But should my next sphere of labor be in different or distant parts, then shall the bright remembrance of this gift, and of this hour, shed joy and gladness on my lonely moments still, and awaken and cause to flow forth the full tide of gratitude which now struggles to pour itself at your feet.

As I have in the past, so shall I ever pray that you and yours may be the constant recipients of God's richest and choicest gifts, both temporal and spiritual, while you live, and when you shall have passed away from this world of toil and change, that yours may be bright moments in heaven, here all is sweet rest and blessed certainty forever.

Begetting you when I am gone, to throw the veil of charity over all my failures and imperfections, I bid you adieu. S. C. FULTON.

General Intelligence. SHOCKING ACCIDENT.—Yesterday morning about half past 8 o'clock, the workmen in the floating steam saw mill, moored in the Passaic river at the "Rose House," a short distance above this city, observed that the speed of the sawing machine, and on going to the engine room to ascertain the cause, a glancing view met their eyes. Alex. McNeil (Heitor's son), the engine man, lay dead beside the engine, the top of his head and neck ground and crushed into sickening and bloody mass, and the clothes saturated with gore. Upon raising him it was found that it was cold, and had probably been dead some little time. The appearance and situation had been caught in some part of the machinery, drawing him in so that his head was crushed between two large cog wheels, causing instant death. McNeil was 26 years old, unmarried and came from the Province of New Jersey.

YARMOUTH MARINE RAILWAY.—The "Ye' mouth" "Herald" of Thursday says—"On Friday last the ship 'Beano Crosby' of 800 tons, was safely taken up on the Marine Railway, where she is undergoing repairs. The largest vessel that has yet been on the Railway which has capacity for ships of 800 tons. The railway has already proved a great benefit and a large amount of labor to our mechanics and in every way a successful enterprise." The Fredericton, N.B. "Head Quarters" has suspended publication.

M. CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—An interesting meeting was held on Thursday evening last in the basement of St. Andrew's Church for the purpose of hearing the report of the delegates to the late International Convention at Washington. J. B. Morrow, the President occupied the chair. Addresses of a most interesting nature were given by Messrs. McIntosh, Montgomery and McLean, showing the character of the meetings held, the reception they received and the entertainment accorded by the people at Washington. Rev. Mr. Grant by request gave an animated speech at the close, inquiring the comparative cost to copy the example of the Washington