

MR. PUNSHON.

At the close of a year's incessant travel and toil Mr. Punshon a month or two ago left Canada on a holiday visit to his native land. On his arrival in England, he was welcomed by his old friends and, indeed, by the British public generally, with undisguised affection and enthusiasm.

British Methodism doubtless has more learned than Mr. Punshon can possibly be. It has deeper thinkers; more powerful logicians; more successful evangelists; and many equally hard workers.

The Imperial Parliament was prorogued a few weeks ago. The Queen was absent and the ceremony was exceedingly tame and commonplace.

In addition, as we indicated, Mr. Punshon is exhibiting rare powers as an administrator—perfect in his mastery of principles and patient in his study of details, with a clear perception of what is best to be done on the occurrence of an unforeseen emergency.

As might have been expected, British Methodists lay and clerical, were deeply anxious on his arrival among them to retain Mr. Punshon among them for the rest of his life; and though they were again compelled to give him up for a time to Canadian Methodism, they are determined on getting him back again at the earliest available moment.

Mr. Punshon has laid Canadian Methodism under deep and strong obligation by his splendid labours in its behalf. He has increased the force of those obligations by cheerfully consenting to prolong his period of service in the upper portion of this Dominion. Our co-religionists in the upper Provinces no doubt highly value the work done for them by their distinguished President.

We greatly regret we have seen so little of Mr. Punshon in the Maritime Provinces. We would fain hope that we shall see more of him ere long. We rejoice to

learn of his safe return from England. We trust he will have a highly successful year personally and officially. He will need another period of recreation early next summer. It would afford him much refreshment of spirit in the heats of the early summer tide to breathe for a few weeks the cool sea air that fans our shores at that pleasant season.

English tourists are pouring into France and are curiously tramping over the fields, which at this time last year were red with the best blood of Germany and France.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—The vast machinery of Circuit Methodism is again in full operation. Preachers have returned to their homes invigorated by their holiday, and the newly-appointed Pastors have taken possession of their assigned fields of labor, and in nearly all the Circuits, anniversary or special sermons of some kind are preached, followed by the inevitable collection, on the first Sabbath of the appearance of the "new preacher."

The Imperial Parliament was prorogued a few weeks ago. The Queen was absent and the ceremony was exceedingly tame and commonplace.

Another demand upon the public purse has been made upon Prince Arthur attaining his majority, and £15,000 a year was voted for the purpose of providing for his future maintenance.

In the meanwhile Her Majesty is at Balmoral, and is quite an invalid. Much sympathy is being left for the Royal sufferer, and all other feelings give way to those of deep solicitude for her full and speedy recovery.

The sad catastrophe at Stowmarket in Suffolk which nearly thirty lives were lost through the explosion of a Gun Cotton Manufactory, has been followed by an awful explosion in a Coal Mine near Wigan, and sixty-nine men or boys have perished.

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thought to be a little under the average, and in consequence prices have not declined, although the weather has been so fine, and so much corn has been secured in excellent condition.

France is quiet, and rests after its late terrific storm. There are no apparent difficulties in the immediate future of France, but not for the present they are resting. There is a "President of the Republic" such as it is, and is master of the situation.

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THE NEW COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

CHILDREN'S FUND, CONTINUED. We have learned that in dealing with matters of finance, figures of speech seldom pass current for their true value as figures of arithmetic.

Our proposal is to divide our Circuits by some such rule as the following, the division of course to be effected by a competent committee, and the circuits to hold always the privilege of appealing to said committee in the event of any supposed injustice.

Table with 3 columns: Circuits, Class, To Raise for C. F. Each. Total.

The proportion of the highest Circuit in comparison with those of a lower classification is not as much as one-third as according to the method followed at present.

We have based these figures on the numerical proportion of a single District, but any one can see it could be done as readily for the entire Conference.

When this Conference was organized the support previously extended to the Methodist cause in these Maritime Provinces was continued under the form of an annual grant. During recent years urgent representation have been made by the Home Secretaries of Foreign Missions in regard to the necessity of withdrawing a portion of this grant each advancing year.

THE DIVISION OF GRANT; CONTINGENT FUND. When this Conference was organized the support previously extended to the Methodist cause in these Maritime Provinces was continued under the form of an annual grant. During recent years urgent representation have been made by the Home Secretaries of Foreign Missions in regard to the necessity of withdrawing a portion of this grant each advancing year.

ance and comparatively weak in Methodist resources, altogether on our hands.

Perhaps to this apprehension of reduced financial resources is owing in part the origin and present efficiency of our Home Mission operations. The grant from Home Missions this year are \$5500. Should we advance in this latter enterprise with any degree of enthusiasm the day may not be far distant when the Conference proper will be able to face the sternest exigencies of its own work.

The mode of distributing the grant is being the year with equal advantage and promise. In Financial District Meetings, the Circuits are estimated as likely to raise each so much for the coming year; then a proportion of Grant is set down for each Circuit on a scale which leaves them all with an equal deficiency.

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Home Mission Intelligence.

ALBION MINES CIRCUIT. The Minutes of the British Conference for 1845, inform us that, during that year the Rev. R. Weddall labored upon this circuit.

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Foot's corner of your last P. W. appropriately expresses my present feelings:—"The way is dark, my Father! cloud on cloud is gathering thickly over my head, and lo! The shadow of death above me. See I stand. Like one bewildered I Father take my hand And through the gloom Lead safely home Thy child."

I am endeavoring with all my heart to believe that "all things shall work together for my good." Through the assistance of the Chairman and other Brethren arrangements have been made to have all the appointments filled for three months.

W. H. CLARK.

PETITE RIVIERE.

We have just held our Home Missionary Meetings here, and though only one day's meeting, it was given owing to the late publication of the plan in the Wesleyan, we have done much better than last year.

S. W. S.

CATALINA—I was surprised in looking over the Missionary Report not to find Petites and Channel. I see the money is all right, that is the sum total for Newfoundland, so only the list of names is, through some oversight, left out.

J. REAY.

Home Mission Intelligence.

ALBION MINES CIRCUIT.

The Minutes of the British Conference for 1845, inform us that, during that year the Rev. R. Weddall labored upon this circuit. There are those still here who remember him and speak of his usefulness.

A. W. F.

Circuit Intelligence.

FALMOUTH CIRCUIT.

We have just held our Home Missionary meeting here. Our highly esteemed brother, Rev. J. G. Hennings, exchanged pulpits with us on Sabbath; and he and brother R. Weddall, Jun., rendered good service at our meetings.

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over the rocks and through the bogs a distance of 12 miles. One striking feature in the programme was a Bachelor's Table, which did great credit to the young men who provided, and the young ladies who prepared the provisions. It might be justly said of the people, that they did what they could. Even the Catholics attended the tea and the lecture in the evening, and seemed to take a great interest in the whole proceedings.

When I came to this Circuit and saw the piece of land which had been purchased for the erection of the new parsonage, I felt sad at heart, and at once told the people that I could not make an effort to get a cent towards the erection of a parsonage on such a site, as it was an Island. I know that Methodist preachers are not infallible, but I hope we have not done anything to deserve banishment.

W. H. CLARK.

MOUNT ALLISON EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—You are doubtless made acquainted, by those who are best able to inform you of the condition, and operations of our Educational Institution in Sackville, in all its departments, Academic, and Collegiate; but I sometimes think it would be well if the attention of our own people, and the friends of education generally in these Provinces, was more frequently called to the subject.

On Friday last Mrs. Morrow took us and her sister, Mrs. Knight, to the Prince's Lodge. This beautiful spot was selected by His Royal Highness, the illustrious Duke of Kent, the father of our beloved Queen, as his country seat when he had command of His Majesty's forces in these Provinces.

Another thing noteworthy is the physical convenience and comfort for which provision is made; neither trouble nor expense has been spared to make the buildings externally attractive, and internally comfortable. It is well known to many that at a very large expense the Ladies' Academy has been furnished with a new heating apparatus, which has greatly added to the interior appearance of the building, and works admirably, and other necessary and important improvements have been made.

Home Mission Intelligence.

Miscellaneous.

THE "PROVINCIAL BUILDING SOCIETY" AS A LOAN FUND ASSOCIATION.

In reference to our remarks in last week's *Vindicator*, we pointed to the admirable arrangements made and the interests of all so happily combined in the organization of this Society to meet the requirements of all classes in the community; we urged the young folks of both sexes to look the important question involved full in the face; i. e., to make a beginning, to lay up for future years, by investing their monthly savings, and converting all their cash spare from present wants into productive capital. Our young friends would do well to bear in mind that these suggestions once commenced and vigorously carried forward, would, in a few years, enable them to begin business or housekeeping (as the case may be) on a much more advantageous footing than is generally the case; the acceptance of this system of utilizing savings is open to all. Housekeepers and families of every degree will benefit themselves and find it profitable to own stock in "The Provincial Building Society." We esteem this Society as the best ideal of a thoroughly safe, prudently managed institution.

Sackville, N. B., Sept. 26, 1871.

Extracts from Rev. Dr. Green's Letters in the *Christian Guardian*.

A TRIP TO THE SEASIDE.

In letter No. VII, Dated Halifax, Aug. 21, 1871, Dr. Green says—"The kindness of friends, the strengthening influence of the sea air, and the charming scenery around here, induced us to protract our delightful visit here for a few weeks longer than we had designed to do when we left home; but to-morrow morning we set our faces towards Ontario. Our visit here has, in all respects, been agreeable and pleasant beyond anything we had anticipated; and to ourselves at least, highly satisfactory. Mr. and Mrs. Morrow and their interesting and pious family could not have been kinder to us than they have been their parents, while their very extensive and respectable circle of relatives and friends has contributed, not a little, to our happiness. I have heard their four city ministers preach very good sermons, which would be no disgrace to any pulpit in the Dominion; but a little more naturalness with some and a little more energy with others, would do them no harm.

GABARUS CIRCUIT. I am glad to say that our Tea Meeting was quite a success. We realized one hundred and five dollars towards the new parsonage. It was indeed to me a novel Tea Meeting. We had a delightful day. Many people walked