

# The Wesleyan.

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1840.

THE conductors of this Periodical, encouraged by the lists of subscribers which have been sent in, and by the urgent request of friends to proceed in its publication, with promises of support; have ventured to enter upon the work assigned them, and thus to present to them and the public, the first number of the WESLEYAN. It is, however, with unaffected diffidence they have done this, conscious, as they are, of the important and responsible character of their undertaking, and fearing lest they should not fully meet the just expectations of their friends. It has been their endeavour, in selecting and preparing the articles for the present number, to keep in view their original design, as stated in the prospectus, i. e. "the diffusion of religious knowledge and useful information, and to contribute to the moral and religious improvement of the community in general," and it is their earnest hope, that the publication, in this and all its successive numbers, will be found conducive to these important ends. The fact, that there is but one Protestant religious periodical published in Lower Canada, i. e. the *Baptist Magazine*, a highly respectable work, which, however, it is feared, has too limited a circulation, especially among the rural population of the province—the paucity of other religious and useful books among that portion of the inhabitants of the country—the well-established fact, that in proportion as the Bible is circulated, scriptural knowledge diffused, and religious education promoted, the general and best interests of society are secured—and the desire, long expressed by the members and friends of the Wesleyan churches in this province, and elsewhere, to have a journal as a vehicle of information relative to the history, constitution and proceedings of the religious denomination to which they and their families have united themselves, and of the operations and prospects of other Christian churches:—these considerations have induced the promoters of this publication to embark in this moral enterprise, and thus to offer themselves to their friends, and the religious public in general, as labourers and co-operators in the vocation of Christian instruction and benevolence.

Having with much sincerity stated this, it is hoped that they will not be charged with sectarianism. They beg to assure their readers that they are only doing themselves, what they would rejoice if every other Protestant religious denomination would do also: as by such means "many would run to and fro, and knowledge would be increased," that would tend to promote the general welfare and salvation of man.

Influenced by these motives and hopes, they cast themselves and their undertaking on the candour and support of their friends and the public, hoping, by a diligent and careful attention to the duties assigned to them, to render the work increasingly interesting and instructive, and through the divine blessing, conducive to the great ends of its establishment.

We thank most sincerely our esteemed friend, "A British Canadian Wesleyan," for his seasonable and valuable communication, and beg to assure him, that "Christian loyalty and universal good will," are "Wesleyan principles," which we most cordially recognize, and on which our journal will ever be conducted. We commend his truly British, patriotic and Christian letter to

the attentive perusal of our readers, and shall be most happy, at all times, to be favoured with its communications.

THE unprecedented low price of this journal, (FIVE SHILLINGS per annum, including postage to the country, payable in advance half-yearly,) will render it necessary, in order to its continued publication, that its issues should be increased to, at least, 1,500 copies—as, at its present price, with the present number of subscribers, it can be published only at considerable loss. It is hoped, therefore, that our friends will exert themselves to increase the number of subscribers, and to secure to the publication that degree of support which will give hope of its becoming a permanent means of public instruction and usefulness.

THE ninety-seventh Annual Conference of the Wesleyan Ministers in Great Britain, was to commence its sittings in Newcastle-upon-Tyne on Monday the 29th ult. This is the first time the Conference has been held in that town, which being added to London, Bristol, Leeds, Manchester, Sheffield, Liverpool and Birmingham, will bring that annual assembly to each of these places once in eight years. During the life time of the Rev. John Wesley, the Conference was held only in the first four mentioned places. The last which that great man attended was held in Bristol. Information of the proceedings of the Conference now in session may be expected early in the next month.

THE Rev. Robert Newton, who, as the Representative of the British Conference to the Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, lately visited the city of Baltimore and other places in that country; embarked at New York in the *George Washington* for Liverpool, June 14, and safely arrived July 1, having had a fine passage of sixteen days.

It may be safely affirmed that this eminent minister has, during the last thirty years, travelled more miles, preached more sermons, and collected more money for religious and benevolent institutions and purposes, than any other minister now living, in the same period of time. He is still vigorous, and as much as ever admired as a preacher, and devoted to his work.

We feel great pleasure in publishing the following extract from the proceedings of the anniversary meeting of the LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY, lately held in London—exhibiting, as it does, a noble spirit of liberality in the cause of Christian missions to the heathen:—

"The Rev. W. Gathwaite presented the Treasurer with a deed of trust, executed by a member of his church, for £10,000. (Immense cheers.) They sometimes heard complaints respecting the agricultural districts,—let the manufacturing interest imitate the example which has just been furnished. (Renewed cheers.) The donor had long done more for the Society than any other living man. He had also made over two farms in trust for the Society; and he (Mr. G.) had now the pleasure of presenting £215, the annual rent for the past year—Dr. Raffles having presented, at the last anniversary, the preceding year's rents."

We are pleased, also, to learn, from a source on which we can rely, that lately, some unknown individual in London sent FIVE £1000 notes to the Society for the *Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts*. When we remember that the Lord of Hosts hath said, "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine—behold, all souls are mine;"—what may we not expect from the liberality of his people when constrained by the love of Christ?

THE present state and prospects of the Jews throughout Europe, and in some parts of Asia, are deeply interesting to the Christian observer.—Their affairs and sufferings at Damascus &c. exciting considerable attention and sympathy. The eyes and hearts of this ancient and once highly favoured nation, in every part of the world, are directed towards their ancient inheritance—the land of their fathers; and at no period since the destruction of their holy city and temple, has that devoted people been so cheered, with the hope of restoration, and of re-occupying Judea, as at present. Emigration to Palestine is allowed by the Turkish government, and promoted by the most wealthy and influential men in the Jewish nation. A grand movement *homeward* seems to be contemplated—the divine predictions hasten to their accomplishment:—"The children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim; afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the Lord their God and David their king, and shall fear the Lord and his goodness in the latter days."—Hosea, iii. 4, 5.

THE London Watchman of June 3 remarks, in reference to the great anti-slavery meeting lately held in London, and at which Prince Albert presided:—"The meeting of Monday has had no parallel in modern times. It may be said to have had the stamp of a truly NATIONAL character on all its proceedings. Every order in society, and every interest in the community, were fairly represented; and the proceedings of that day will go forth to Europe and the world as the matured expression of the public sentiment of Great Britain, rising in its congregated strength, to give a death-blow to the slave trade, and bid Africa rise from the dust to an equality with the sister continents of Europe and America."

SUNDAY SCHOOLS IN MONTREAL.—The last Report of the Canada Sunday School Union contains the following statistical statement:—

	Scholars.	Teachers.
Montreal Wes. Methodist, G S. S.	670	60
" Congregational, . . .	130	22
" United S. Church S. S.	91	15
" Baptist Church S. S.	90	14
" Amer. Pres. S. S. No. 1,	300	37
" " " No. 2,	30	5
" " Tannery, No. 3,	30	4
" " Afternoon, . . .	100	11
" Meth. New Connexion,	60	11
Total, . . .	1501	179

## CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WESLEYAN.

ST. ANNE'S, LOWER CANADA, }  
July 21, 1840. }

MR. EDITOR.—Having for some years resided on this side the Atlantic Ocean, and become a Canadian in many of my views and habits, I have, nevertheless, an ardent attachment to the land of my fathers—to its venerable Constitution and Protestant Monarchy—and to the religious community in the Parent Country, among whom, as a Christian, I was born, nursed, and reared up to my present church standing. I am, on this account, truly rejoiced to find it is your design to commence a *Religious Journal*, in MONTREAL, founded on Wesleyan principles of Christian loyalty and universal good-will, and which will furnish us with regular information of the proceedings of the British Wesleyan Methodists, both at home and abroad.

In relation to our beloved CONNEXION, in Great Britain and Ireland, I have often regretted the scantiness of intelligence in this country; especially as its various departments of operation pre-