

THE WESLEYAN

FRIDAY, JULY 25, 1884.

THE NEW PREACHER.

Each third year there are searchings of heart in certain quarters in reference to the Methodist itinerant system. With not a few persons these experiences date back from childhood's days, when the Conference order robbed them of favorite playmates, and to-day their feelings are scarcely the less keen as they mark the departure of a faithful man of God whose presence has cheered them in varied experiences, and who may be dear to them as no other can, because his lips bore to them a message which has resulted in leading them out of darkness into marvellous light.

But to none are these changes more trying than to the transferred pastor—except it be to his faithful wife, to whose womanly instincts this frequent upsetting of domestic arrangements does such violence. If the pastor be genial, and possessed of ability to sympathize readily with the sufferings of members of his flock and to rejoice in the prosperity of the prosperous, so much the longer may familiar faces seem to intervene between his pulpit and the real faces in the pew; so much the more trying will the rupture seem which tore him away from the intimate friends of recent years.

We urge for your new pastor a warm reception. It is just possible that he may be one of those rare men who lean lightly upon ordinary sympathy, but there are nine-hundred and ninety-nine chances out of a thousand that he is not. We have heard of a minister who was met on his unwelcome arrival at an English circuit by the blunt question from an official, "Why have you come here?" Equally blunt in reply, he answered, "The Conference sent me here, and if I like the circuit I will stay the second year, and if you wish me for a third you can ask for me." But this brother, for whom the circuit did ask for a third year, is a rare specimen of the Methodist itinerant. Even Paul, who never flinched in the presence of the most terrible dangers, thanked God and took courage when brethren from Rome came over as far as the Three Taverns to meet him. Have you given your preacher a hearty welcome to his new charge? Have you tried to make his family feel at home? If you have, you have opened the way for a happy and successful year's labor on his part. If you have not, upon you must rest, in great measure, the responsibility of the little fruit which may appear from his labors.

Occasionally a circuit puts its preacher on, three months' trial, instead of receiving him as a man of God, sent by the proper authorities. All are not Methodists who bear the name. Many are governed by their fancies in their conduct toward their pastors, and, if the preacher is not sent them for whom they express a preference, dissatisfaction is manifested in coldness to him and indifference to the Church. Others have no special preference, but wait to see how the new preacher demands himself, in and out of the pulpit, before they give him a welcome, or commence to help in his work. Parties may have been formed in the church about a preacher. Some have been for Paul and some for Apollus, and, if either is sent, one or the other party is dissatisfied; or, it may be that a stranger is sent, and there is universal disappointment, and the preacher is so chilled at the beginning that recovery is a matter of time—precious time. If there has been any dissatisfaction with any appointment, in the spirit of loyalty let the best be made of things. Let no man's prejudice run away with his religion. Give your new preacher a cordial grasp of the hand. Greet him with a smile, say a kind word to his wife, invite her to your house, and if you hear any complaint, discourage it by expressing a hope that things will be better than the fears of the fearful. Above all pray and work with him, and you will find him with the power of a living zeal, which will count no sacrifice too dear to accomplish his task.

Many of our preachers reach their new circuits with no surplus of this world's goods. A tablet beside a certain pulpit had a new and sad interest for this writer, when he learned that the minister whose name it bore was one who had been called a fool by former friends for the prospects he had renounced—had expended his

last "quarter" before he reached that circuit. The expenses of the year have consumed the income of the year, so that with the expense of a removal, and the added costs of fixing up a new home, much inconvenience will be endured, unless the churches thoughtfully and dutifully concern themselves for the comfort of their pastors and their families at an early day. It mortifies a sensitive preacher, immediately after his arrival at a strange place, to be compelled to ask credit for the necessities of life, and give for his reason, "I am the new preacher."

YOUR SUMMER.

Already requests for a change of address during certain weeks of summer remind us that the holiday season has set in. To our immediate ancestors this season was unknown. Its adoption is one of the changes brought in by our current modes of travel. Already the railway train is turning night into day—a change to be perfected, we fear, under the brilliant gleams of the electric light—and what is perhaps more serious, it is promising to break up our home life for a no small part of the year. Under the regime of the old stage coach many were found who like one in Pollok's "Course of Time," lived literally "where his father lived and died where his father died," but in this age of steam such a description is only true of "rare birds in the earth."

It is hardly fair to term this tendency to rove at the present season an epidemic of "summer foolishness," at least in the case of those who long for some quiet retreat where away from the busy world, in intercourse with chosen friends and absent from those conventionalities of life which too often interfere with comfort and health and even with higher interests, they may strengthen failing energies and fit themselves for the life struggle which demands now, as never before, the utmost human energy.

There is a danger that some may not take a vacation who absolutely need it. Pure air and simple food, with the freedom for rest and exercise which country life affords, would brighten the eye and render more elastic the step; life would seem to lose some of its burden and even moral fibre, which is not unconnected with physical well-being, might be strengthened. Might not, too, a higher end be attained? In former days the writer strongly condemned the remark of an American preacher who replied to some questions respecting his personal spiritual life, "I have no time to think of it," but a short absence from home, spent in part in the isolation of an Atlantic steamer and with quiet Sabbaths in Britain, convinced him that there was better warrant for the remark than he had supposed.

There is danger too that the vacation may be a positive injury. In employment there often is safety; idleness always brings weakness rather than strength. Change, and not absolute indolence, is the general need. The book may be the companion of the man whose hands are generally employed, while the boat or the farm or the bird may most wisely interest the brain worker. Involved in this will be care in the choice of a place of rest—and so much the more if a family rather than an individual be concerned.

The Christian will not object to a word of caution. Many men and women have lost ground spiritually at this season. The question once asked, "Who prays on board steamboats?" is a practical one, and one which will recall to some reader, costly neglect while voyaging or resting. An exchange says: "We are not our own any month of the year. We cannot throw off the rows we have taken upon ourselves. We can never lay aside the Christian office or character, as one young minister, to our knowledge, proposed to do during a European tour, that he might reap more pleasurable excitement from it. One may never recover spiritually from such an abandonment of religious vows. It approaches as near the unpardonable sin as any act we can commit. If our proposed vacation is to cause a hiatus in our religious life and experience, it is better for us not to have even its physical or intellectual rest. What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?"

Are you going away from home? Go where the sanctuary is near. Men who prefer to worship God by the side of some babbling brook are less likely to worship Him than where men hold communion with each other as they

recognize him who has said, "Where two or three are met together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Wisely does some one, in writing on this subject, recall the wisdom and zeal with which Frances Ridley Havergal sought to benefit souls while seeking health for a delicate frame; and ask who of all tourists found keener delight in visits to lake or mountain, at home or abroad, than his devoted saint? The summer garb of the tourist should not be an undress uniform in the case of a Christian. Rather let heaven be nearer and Christ dearer in this holiday pause, and let piety at this season assume its most attractive, because its most intense, aspect.

THE GREELY RESCUE.

Contrary to the general fear, the third expedition sent in search of the United States explorers under Lieut. Greely has succeeded in rescuing that officer and a small remnant of his company, just as in utter hopelessness he was reading the prayers for the dying. It is well that commander Schley pressed on as he did in the face of Arctic dangers. A delay of a day or two would have shown him only corpses under the fallen tent. Life in those far northern latitudes could not for many more hours have been sustained on soup made from boiled sealskin boots, and thickened with reindeer moss, lichens and the tiniest possible shrimps. The terrible tale of suffering and death will place in no enviable position the leader of last year's relief expedition, Lieut. Garlington, to whose early and ill-judged retreat southward may be charged that long, agonizing struggle for life which lasted from September to June.

In view of the history of this party sent out to Lady Franklin Bay in the summer of 1881, and of the equally sad, and in some cases worse, fate of numbers of their predecessors, any mention of additions to scientific or geographical knowledge as a recompense seems almost a sin and shame. It is said that through the advance northward of members of Lieut. Greely's party, England has lost the blue ribbon of Arctic discovery. If it can only be won back at the risk of such lives as those of the gallant Sir John Franklin and his party, let it ever remain with our Republican neighbors. No missing party is now in Arctic regions; there is therefore no further excuse for attempting to pass barriers which Providence has seemed to place at the gateway of those ice-bound regions. Henceforth, men can hardly merit pity who expose themselves to such terrible disaster.

An important paper on diphtheria was read by Dr. J. W. Macdonald before the Nova Scotia Medical Society. Of four hundred clergymen in Nova Scotia, to whom he applied for information respecting deaths by certain zymotic diseases, two hundred and seventy-four were heard from. The reply of one of these reminds us of the somewhat equivocal statement of a city rector at the recent Episcopal Synod—that he had "buried a number of 'Dissenters' and was ready to bury more." "I am happy to say," the note ran, "that I buried quite a number during the past year, but none from the causes you mention." That clergyman must have lived in a favored locality, as the number of deaths from diphtheria in 1883 in this province was four hundred and ninety-six—a too large number, but only one-fourth of the mortality of three years ago. Dr. Macdonald estimates the total number of deaths in Nova Scotia from diphtheria alone during the last twenty-five years at not less than twenty thousand! This important paper is enclosed with earnest counsel:—"1. To avoid the infection of diphtheria exactly as one would that of smallpox. 2. To secure good sanitary conditions, which in a word means cleanliness, clean houses, clean surroundings, clear, pure, and uncontaminated water, and air not loaded with pestiferous smell, but free and life-giving, as bestowed upon us by our Creator."

The waste caused by drinking habits is something terrible. At the recent Temperance Congress in Liverpool, G. B. Mr. Stephen Bourne, F. S. S., London, pointed out that according to the latest Excise returns 65,000,000 bushels of malt and grain, and nearly 1,500,000 cwt. of sugar were last year converted with drink! Besides this, 22,000,000 gallons of beer, wine and spirits were imported.

These represented a total value of £222,000,000, an amount that would suffice to feed three millions of people. Mr. Wm. Hoyle, taking an illustration from the cotton trade, said 2 1/2 per head per day was spent on drink, while only about 1d was expended on cotton. Our cotton trade at home might well stagnate and the foreign markets be glutted. Sir W. Collins, addressing the Economical and Statistical Section, believed the net cost to the country of its drinking habits was £192,000,000.

The House of Lords has entered upon a course of action which must end in its humiliation, if it does not foreshadow its abolition. For a half century that body, an anomaly in government, has been a rallying-point for all that has been selfish and obstructive in the movements of the nation. Refusing to recognize the progress of democracy in England, they seem to have determined to plant themselves squarely between the people and the rights which clearly belong to the people. If the inquiry which they have thus forced into the reason of their existence, and the measure of their usefulness should lead to measures they scarcely dream of, the responsibility will be their own. The popular demonstration on Monday last in London, had no resemblance to a mob. The Telegraph says that it was one of the "most remarkable and imposing that has been witnessed during Queen Victoria's reign, and that over 100,000 men marched in procession with decorum rising to dignity," and adds that "it will not do for the peers to mock or undervalue its simple, peaceful methods, or decry it as a paid show." Even the Standard, while treating lightly the influence of the demonstration, says that "the behaviour of the people was admirable."

While the American Annual Conferences are finding difficulty in securing a welcome in cities sufficiently large for their entertainment upon the old system, our English fathers and brethren yet find their presence desired in the comparatively small list of places in which they have met in the past. The Methodist remarks:

It is not often that we hear of a guarantee fund of a thousand pounds to meet Conference expenses, and it is hardly likely, however handsomely the thing may be done, that the friends in the Macclesfield district will involve themselves in that amount of expense. Yet such is the zest with which they have taken the matter up, that they have actually guaranteed that sum. And in addition to this the trustees of the Burslem chapel have voluntarily incurred an expenditure of over two thousand pounds on their property. Besides cleaning and beautifying the large and commodious chapel, they have erected a suite of rooms on the premises suitable for the Stationing and other committees, so that altogether in accommodation and convenience Burslem will be behind few Conference towns.

At the meeting at Amherst of the Eastern Baptist Association, the following resolution was moved by the Rev. J. E. Goucher, seconded by Rev. D. McKeen and unanimously adopted:

Whereas, A permanent settlement of a vexed question was made by the Legislature in 1865, by which Acadia and other colleges were to receive in perpetuity the sum of \$400,000 annually, in consideration of the provincial loan of \$200,000 being retained by Dalhousie College without interest;

And whereas, Since 1881 the annual grant of \$400 has been withheld, although Dalhousie has been allowed to retain possession of the Provincial loan of \$200,000;

Therefore resolved, That, while expressing our surprise at the breach of the terms of settlement on the part of the Government of the Province, we hereby affirm the undoubted right of Acadia and the other colleges to the sum of \$400 each annually, so long as the loan of \$200,000 is retained by Dalhousie College, without interest; and we trust that the Board of Governors of Acadia College will take such steps as may be practicable for the recovery of their just dues in this behalf.

On the sixth page will be found the conclusion of the brief but carefully condensed report of the Newfoundland Conference, by the Rev. R. W. Freeman.—It is hard to keep literature within strictly denominational lines. At a recent gathering a gentleman said that he had found the strongest argument he had ever read in favor of infant baptism in a book purchased at the Halifax Baptist Book-room.—It is stated that five applications for divorces have already been made for the next session of the Dominion Senate. Are we about to imitate our neighbors across the border. God forbid.

The fifth annual meeting of the Provincial Educational Association took place last week at Truro. Four hundred teachers were present, and leading educationists of the Province took part in the proceedings. Among the latter were Dr. Allison, Superintendent of Education, and President ex officio, Supervisor McKay, Secretary, and Professors Rand and Keirstead, of Acadia, and McGregor, of Dalhousie. The session this year has been probably the most successful of any ever held, and the papers read were of a high order. In addition to the papers were a number of lessons given by Normal School pupils to classes taken from the Model School. These lessons were particularly interesting and instructive. Such a gathering must prove a fine stimulus to the teachers of the Province.

The cholera still calls for notice in the cable despatches. In Marseilles the number of deaths has been much smaller than during previous epidemics, but at Toulon the disease is reported to be assuming a virulent character. It has reached Paris. Vigorous preparations are being made for its advent in New York, should it cross the Atlantic. The worst cholera epidemic in that city during the last half century—that of 1849, causing 5,071 deaths—was taken there by French vessels. No very special measures have yet been taken in Canadian cities, though there is probably need enough for them.

The outlook for liquor dealers in this city is not of the most cheering kind. On Monday in the Supreme Court the Chief Justice delivered judgment in two cases which had been appealed to him from the conviction of the City Stipendiary for selling liquor without license under the Dominion Act of 1883 and argued before him on appeal last Tuesday. His Lordship dismissed the appeals and confirmed the convictions in the court below with costs, holding the Act to be intra vires so far as these cases were concerned. His decision on appeal is final and must be accepted as settling the cases.

On Sunday next the formal re-opening of the Charles street church will take place. In the morning the Rev. Ralph Brecken will preach; in the evening the Rev. S. F. Huestis. In every way the interior of the church is greatly improved. At both services a special collection will be asked for in aid of the cost involved, and in the evening a financial statement will be given.

BERMUDA.

The Bermuda Royal Gazette of the 15th inst. says:

On Sunday afternoon last the new Methodist church at Port Royal was dedicated with the ceremonies usual in the denomination. Rev. J. S. Coffin, of Hamilton, preached with his usual eloquence, setting forth the claims of Christ upon men, and His special sympathy through His human nature. The speaker congratulated the people upon the completion of their beautiful house of God, and paid a high tribute to the character and ability of their departing pastor.

In the evening a congregation, with representatives from nearly all the parishes in Bermuda, filled the church to hear the closing sermon of Mr. Wier. The service was most solemn and powerful. The preacher spoke from Matthew, xvi, 26, "For what is a man profited if he gain the whole world and lose his own life; or what will a man give in exchange for his life?"

An address followed by J. Uttridge Brown, Esq., in which he recounted the advances made by the congregation during the past two years in the different departments of work. He related the pressure brought upon their minister to retain him another year, and he, himself, could be reconciled to his departure only by a knowledge of his personal and private reasons.

The Rev. Mr. Wier was then presented with a magnificent testimonial in the form of a purse accompanied by a most appreciative address.

From this address we take a single paragraph: As we look over the past history of our church no period of its existence is marked with such evidence of Divine blessing as the two years in which you have labored among us. To God be the praise! We are aware, dear sir, that your prayers, sacrifices and endeavors have all been in our behalf, and many of us are the seals of your ministry. Although we know that the membership of our church has doubled itself under your charge, yet the spiritual results cannot be measured by figures. Not only in spiritual things, but in material resources have we as a church advanced. Our building enlarged, our Sabbath-school work and social services more efficient, our congregations increased in numbers and attentive interest, our missionary, our philanthropic and other enterprises obtained a more liberal support.

A SILVER WEDDING.

An obliging correspondent sends us this account of a pleasant gathering:

The celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Lathern's wedding, as announced in the WESLEYAN, took place at the Reform Club Hall, Windsor, on Monday evening. The committee of arrangements had the hall nicely decorated and everything in readiness by 8.30. At that hour the Rev. A. W. Nicolson took the chair, and the "happy couple" came up the aisle, these proceedings being accompanied by Mendelssohn's Wedding March on the piano and violin.

After the Rev. R. Morton had offered prayer, the chairman in a humorous manner described in a position of a young couple thirty years ago—one in the North of England, the other in the metropolis of New Brunswick. This young couple was to be brought together, and the question was, how was it to be done. Step by step he followed them in their different paths, until at last they met and were united twenty-five years ago. He referred to his connection with Mr. Lathern in Halifax, and other circuits, and closed by wishing Mr. and Mrs. Lathern as much happiness in the coming twenty-five years as in the past, and by expressing a desire that at the end of that time their golden wedding should be celebrated in Windsor, as was their silver wedding. Mr. Nicolson's speech had the effect, as he evidently intended it should, of removing any feeling of stiffness or formality that the audience might feel in assembling in a public hall. The choir then followed with a well-rendered quartette, Tennyson's "Sweet and Low," after which the chairman called on Dr. Black, Warden of the town, to make the presentation of the articles on the table.

Dr. Black, in an excellent speech, referred to the feeling of respect cherished toward Mr. Lathern, not only by his own congregation but by the whole community. He had often, in his professional capacity, had occasion to meet him in the sick-room and at the deathbed, and he could testify to his kindness and sympathy in all cases. In his own congregation, Mr. Lathern was loved more the longer he stayed with them. This feeling of respect and love, he claimed, was not confined to the church in Windsor, but was felt all over the Maritime Provinces, as was shown by presents sent from St. John, Halifax and other places. He briefly referred to Mr. Lathern's services to the Church outside of his pastoral work, in the compilation of the Hymn-book, in the union movement and in other branches of Church work. He closed by offering his congratulations and by making the formal presentation of the silver presents. Besides a number of gifts suitable for the household, were a pocket communion service from two ladies, a fruit dish from the lady teachers of the Sunday-school, and an ice pitcher and mug from Dr. Lathern's Bible class. In silver coin was \$162 from Windsor, \$102.50 from Halifax, and \$10 from St. John, N. B.—a total of \$274.50.

Dr. Lathern, on rising, said that though he could not say that he was "unaccustomed to public speaking" yet he was embarrassed to find himself in this position and found it difficult to reply to the kind speeches made. He could hardly say what his feeling was when he first saw the circular in the WESLEYAN last week, but he had thought afterwards that as the friends were so kind as to offer him this honor the least he could do would be to accept it. He referred to some points in his early history to which reference had been made by the chairman, and said it was a wonder to him where Mr. Nicolson got all his information about him, as some of the stories he had never told outside his own family. Dr. Lathern made a pleasant speech, and after thanking his friends took his seat.

Speeches were given by the Rev. Dr. Maynard, Rector, the Rev. A. Gunn, of the Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Mr. Vidot of the Baptist Church, and Rev. R. Morton. They all spoke in the same happy style, congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Lathern, and wishing them much future happiness. Between the speeches vocal and instrumental selections of music were rendered by different persons, all in such a manner as to draw hearty applause from the audience. The concluding overture, to the "Past and Present," on the piano and violin, was especially well given. The audience separated at 11.30, well pleased with the entertainment and all, if possible, with a stronger feeling of love and respect for Dr. Lathern and his lady than before.

C. E. N.

The income contributed by the noblest of the last year to Dr. Bourne's Home for outcast children in London, was no less than £55,740.

The Russian Government has suppressed the Russian Temperance Society and banished its active officers, Count Koff and Mr. Von Paszkow. Both of these gentlemen have been successful leaders in evading the work, and the authorities of the Orthodox Church are taking this method of removing them. They were ordered to have their Episcopates for ten days, and their tracts were ordered to be burned.

AN... We... Watch... National... The... Fete... one of... actor... like... From... ing, it... night... from... of the... of jub... rendez... when... opened... and ch... England... enter... a prog... and en... worthy... study... At half... place... Templ... Temper... revolut... these... hand... except... At elev... entered... and silv... an Alpe... course... was a g... the No... choirs... began... medals... zealous... the win... glory... great... the O... son, Har... sent... organiz... Tawna... by M... and the... remark... ments... half pas... was giv... parts of... the "D... not hear... to be... the Re... hour... of total... under... teat... At a qu... imposing... lodge... was crow... initiated... In the... gaged in... as cold... ancient... from a s... lars, S... Sons of... perance... and not... instruct... symbol... of the... 5.30 an... place, r... metrop... town and... then the... voices... ments... We... amuseme... tion... of the... day... kind... It is... sands... parts... in the... They... of day... B... impo... impo... vigorous... scenes... and the... public... flows... happy... through... mental... Men... and he... illustr... absent... days... were... galed... open... scenes... story... and rec... youth... vogue... and hos... than... get... est... Such... ne that... an hour... ever... one... the... own... tolling... the... what... a scene... The... will... deap... in... and mo... and the... the... Sabbath...