THE WESLEYAN, FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 1861.

THE WESLEYAN. FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 1881.

THE WORD OF TRUTH.

We lately reminded our readers that the Holy Scriptures contained abundant proof that they are a revelation from God. Yet we could but touch upon this theme, which is as large and many sided as it is profound and practical. That they are authenticated by the miraculous, within and without, as the seal of their Divine origin, cannot reasonably be denied : though this, it may be argued, assures us of nothing more than the security of the foundation of the Christian religion. What, it may be asked is the superstructure ? Is the dwell in us richly. temple of truth complete ? Are its sacred courts accessible to us personally, or can we only hope for a knowledge of their internal glories as they may be reported to us by separated and authoritative interpreters ? In a word, it is of the highest interest to us to ascertain whether the Bible is the Word of God, whether it is sufficient as a means of instruction on the most vital questions of truth and duty, whether it is of itself of unimpeachable authority, and whether, without the intervention of any human exponent, we ought, each one for himself, to "search the Scriptures," and be regulated by an appeal to their decisions ?

In reply to all such enquiries, we can but take the affirmative. We would emphasize it in every particular. Here is no possibility of "yea and nay," but of "yea" only. If one of these fail us, all fail us. If one stand, all must stand. We know that this is the ground taken "by a majority of those who possess the Holy Scriptures in their own language. If they read the blessed volume at all, . they must assume that they are perusing the oracles of God. Could they forget this, almost every page would force the fact upon their notice. And yet the full impression of the great truth the previous year. may be seldom realized, and may soon.

among the pressing influences of sense, be weakened or forgotten. And, indeed, even where the right notions in regard to the teaching of the Bible may be held, by a strange inconsistency, too often, those teachings are unread or unheeded. The written word has its own peculiar advantages over direct revelation, but this is one of the disadvantages necessarily incident to it. Here,

too, alas ! familiarity may promote neg-

lect, if it does not breed contempt. The

shut up three years and six months ;" all, the cry, as of "a human being a return to our old ways of reaching in distress," called forth by the an-For as Jongs was three days and three nouncement of the Government policy nights in the whale's belly, so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." But lingness to withdraw from the hold upon we have His most comprehensive and that highly valued prize. It is evident. authoritative decision on this subject in too. that in thorough forgetfulness of one of His exceptical discourses after the resurrection : "These are the words which I spake unto you, while I placed within their reach, they are rewas yet with you, that all things must solved to leave no stone unturged, and be fulfilled which were written in the to neglect no appeal, based upon denomlaw of Moses, and in the Prophets, and inational feelings, religious bias and sectional interests, which may secure a in the Psalms concerning me." From this there is no appeal. Our confidence for them a larger annual grant than can in the Bible, as our ultimate standard in be expected by the friends of ather dematters of faith and of practice. is fully nominational colleges. Such efforts in assured. We have but to act in harmony with it, and " let the word of Christ now they will be seen from the housetops. So much the better for those

EDUCATION.

The "Annual Report of the Superintendent of Education" is no longer a pamphlet-it is a volume. This report for 1880 is worthy of study and suggestheir own ideas of justice. tive of thought. From the concise and clearly-arranged facts, presented by Dr. Allison, space will permit us just now to select but a few for remark. tion, as introduced last Thursday by the Provincial Secretary. From a glance We are sorry rather than surprised to they will learn that the Government has find a reduction, as compared with the previous year, in the number of schools. had the courage to propose an equal alof teachers employed and pupils in atlowance to each of the colleges concern-

tendance. A similar decrease, we learn has been reported in the neighboring it in consequence of the amount propos-Provinces, and has no doubt been in ed to be given to the Roman Catholics. this part the result of general causes. To In view of the work done by one of their these, which may easily be named after colleges we have some doubts as to the a moment's thought, Dr. Allison would wisdom of the appropriation, but are

Council of Public Instruction to im- year the status of both colleges under prove the character of the schools, to do the management of that body has been justice to those who hold its own license recognized. As to any lack of equality to teach and to elevate the profession of in the treatment of our Presbyterian teaching generally, by kiniting to cases friends, the reader need only be remindof absolute educational necessity the ed that their past treatment by success issue of local permissive licenses." The sive governments should settle them total number of pupils in attendance at into silence. In regard to the section the public schools is 93,700-a decrease of the Bill, providing for the inspection of 5.394 from the registered names of of the Colleges, little need be said. Were any man less capable than Dr. Al-

In another column our readers will

A general diminution of the already lison in the office of Superintendent of too meagre salaries of teachers is a fact Education, much might be said. His to be regretted. With good opportuni- presence affords a sufficient guarantee ties to watch the influence of the teacher that for the time being inspection would upon the community, we have long de- be efficiently and faithfully performed. sired to see such a provision for their The wisdom of the proposed arrangesupport as would attract into and keep ment is, however, from other aspects in the profession a class of men and open to doubt.

women enthusiastic in their work. The Will the Government be able to car-"false notions of economy" which the ry out their policy? That remains to be Superintendent vainly hoped had pre- seen. The Bill passed its second readviously done their utmost harm, are ing in the Lower House on Wednesday only tending to increase a roving dispo- afternoon, with but one dissenting voice:

those that are without many cases lately we have heard of bold mission efforts. Congregations have last week, will dispose at once and for- turned out inte the streets to seek the ever of the repeated assertions of wil- stranger and the lost, and never without success. Our people have done what the early Methodists were always doing, and what the Salvation Army are doing in other ways. We need not say, ~ God the Provincial funds which have been be with those who go out into the streets and lanes of the city-God is with them, the Good Shepherd Himself invisibly always marches at their head. We have heard of a company of our people, belonging to the working class, coming to chairman of a northern district for leave to mission a neighborhood as the Salvation Army does. The leave of course was given, and the result o course was the usual one. In some the past have been made in a corner, cases, we believe, the contrast between the appearance of the strangers gathered from the streets and the pews they sat in was striking. Perhaps the pews were colleges which may be driven to appeal. not improved by the unwonted occuthrough such unfairness, to those who pants, but that is a trifle. Elegant have borne the principal burden in their chapels have received their true conse cration in strange but blessed scenes of maintenance: so much the worse for conversion. The heart of the fathers those who look on at an effort which has been turned to the children and the they in vain will seek to reconcile with heart of the children to their fathers.

The prayers of parents for years have been wonderfully answered. How many more such prayers still await their anfind the bill regarding this knotty ques-

Our American exchanges generally speak with similar feelings. Column after column abounds in well-packed items respecting revival work. Coned. Objections have been raised against cerning the outlook in the New England Conferences, Zion's Herald has

On the whole, while there have been them the propriety or importance of no remarkable or sweeping revivals in taking a Church paper. Some time aftthe New England Conferences, the past erward a Presbyterian preacher held a year has been a profitable one in aladd. "the determined efforts of the met by the statement that year after most every department of Christian protracted service in the same town. work. Many very burdensome and danusing the Methodist Church for that gerous debts have been paid, and purpose. He received but three memchurches, relieved which have been in bers into the Church, but secured fifperil for a number of years. The pasteen subscribers for his Church paper, a tors have not depended so much as heretofore upon the labors of evangelists, majority of these subscribers being conbut have continued through the year, verts at the Methodist meeting. Five honoring the established means of grace, vears later more than half of these preaching the simple doctrines of the Methodist converts, nurtured by Pres-Gospel, giving special heed to the Christian nurture of childhood, and calling byterian food, were Presbyterians. out the personal labors of the member-Draw your own conclusions. The Church generally is in a re-It is to be feared that the late suc-

vived state, and ready to co-operate heartily with its pastors in the legitim. ate work for which it was established upon the earth. There is a growing earnestness of desire and prayer for a real reformation from heaven, inspiring fresh consecration, breaking up the prevailing worldiness of society and the unbelief of the hour, and bringing the thousands out of Christ into the commu nion of the Church. We may hope during another year to hear from a freshlybaptized people the old Wesleyan warsong of victory :

' The year of jubilee has come. Return, ye weary wanderers, home." EDITORIAL NOTES.

sages reported to be altered, he express. ed a hope that the preachers would give The pastor who receives a number of no countenance to the new version when converts into the Church, and neglects it should appear. to urge upon them the duty of taking

Bishop J. T. Peck gives a leaf from the Church paper, may live to know at some future time the sad injustice that his experience, in the Western Advocate The class of which he speaks is happily he has done them and the Church of which he is a minister. An intelligent little known among us. "I have been " Christian service cannot be looked for says the Bishop, "for many years a careful student of petitions. They come from him who is ignorant of the grand aggressive movements of the body of to me from official boards, from private which he is a member. The pastor who members, in letters, in dispatches, may have to deal with him, and look to through committees and Presiding RI him for aid, will be likely to find in him ders. I have files of them in my pock. one of those narrow-minded men whose ets, in my valise, on my table, and they notions, unworthy of true Christian are all read and carefully considered breadth of purpose, will repel him with hold the right of petition to be sacred But it is really wonderful to see how disgust. We say "him," but our remarks are true of "her" as well as nearly they are alike. Not a single nearly tition for a rough, slovenly man, for a of "him." Less is said of "Woman's Rights " to-day than was said a few story teller, for a man who sits in storea. on dry goods boxes talking nonsense. years ago, but the march of woman towards a greater share in the control of joking, laughing; not one for a lazy, the destinies of her country is all the lounging man, or an ignorant man; not more certain, and is being won at no one for a pedlar of pills, or sewing machines; not one for an insurance agent. loss of that quiet, gentle, home influor a political stump speaker, or a candience which has often been exerted with date for Congress. Whether the numsuch grand results. Will our pastors give good attention to this part of their ber of these classes be small or large, the duty ? Under the heading of "How it | people don't want one of them. is done," the Central Methodist furnishes

The editor of a Methodist exchange. a suggestive fact concerning a case of in replying to a question, makes this neglect : "A Methodist preacher held confession, worthy of thought on the protracted services in a small town for three weeks, took forty persons into the part of all whom it may concern :---

" Tobacco used for nine years did us Church, but never once mentioned to more physical and mental harm than any other error in diet into which we ever fell. We used it till we had been in the ministry three months, when we were asked with what propriety we could urge men to deny themselves the gratification of their lusts when yielding to our appetite for tobacco ; and how we could pretend that the Holy Spirit could give strength to resist every temptation when we acknowledged that we could not stop the use of tobacco. We found that boys and young men were quoting our example to their parents in justification of smoking and chewing, and that men who used ale and wine asked us if we did not smoke and chew for the same reason that they used these drinks, because of the pleasure derived. Convinced of the impropriety and undesirableness, and (for us) the sinfulness of the practice, we quit it, and for twenty-three years have not touched it, and have induced many to give up the practice."

clares that the Nihilists will continue A friend sends us a copy of a small their work, and warns the new Emperor Episcopal periodical containing a silly to beware of his father's fate. The readarticle on Methodist ordination. Such iness with which such a promise may be attacks from the pens of men who base performed is not calculated to promote all authority upon the figment of Aposthe comfort of sovereigns. Somewhat tolical succession, and not upon higher startling, too, was the dispatch announcfoundations, have been a thousand times answered. In spite of such efforts and others of more serious character, Methodists have reached a reported number of eighteen millions. To require one to follow up all that some silly curate may write would be to condemn one to a continual mosquito hunt. Wesley wrote in 1785: "If any one is minded to dispute about Diocesan Episcopacy, he may dispute, but I have better work." So say we.

Inch, of Mou city on Friday Rev. T. M. New Brunsw English Miss North of Irela Rev. J. C. B interesting Lower Monta minister state gret Mr. Berry of the Island. The St. Jol of a lecture Carleton Met The t ion." The t Mr. Read wo upon its more Zion's Hera Winter, forme of this city, w ber, Secretar Christian Asso to have prove efficient office scope of usefu terest, and in more vigorou Mr. work." work. Mr. native of Fr

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word by which the Divine character of Holy Scripture is declared is well chosen -inspired : " All Scripture is given by inspiration of God." If this does not formulate a doctrine, it at least alirms a fact. The "all" here comprehends every portion of the Old Testament, and also of as much of the New as was then written, and, by fair inference, it casts the shield of its defence over every part which was subsequently written. The "Divine in-breathing may be supposed to belong rather to the agents than to their productions, but that is not the way in which the matter their being "a law unto themselves, is here put. The influence of the inin the absence of any directory, are causspiring Spirit passed through them-it ing a large per-centage of money, time used, often stimulated, and always con--which is the same thing-brains and trolled their powers-but the idea voice to be spent in vain. Few teachers, sought to be conveyed goes still further ; in following each other in our country it affirms that the very expressions of districts move in the same track as their the human agents were the utterances predecessors, and often a great part of of God Himself, and that put into writthe term is lost while the pupil is seeking they bear His "image and supering to accommodate himself to new plans scription." Hence, He who "spake in and books. Of the proposed Course, to times past to the fathers, hath in these be submitted at an early date to the last days spoken unto us by His Son. Council of Public Instruction, Dr. Alli-Most emphatic are some of the phrases son says, "the attainments and experiof both parts of the holy book. " The ence of those chiefly engaged in its pre-Lord spake unto Moses, saying," is unparation, and the fact that it will receive doubtedly a claim for full, and even for the critical consideration of our entire verbal inspiration. Jeremiah is equally Teaching Profession, organically repreexplicit. "But the Lord said unto me, sented in the Provincial Educational Say not, I am a child, for thou shalt go Association, give me strong assurance to all that I send thee, and whatsoever I that it will commend itself as a measure command thee thou shalt speak. . . and instrument of educational progress."

And the Lord said unto me, Be hold, I have put my words in thy mouth. "

Our Lord Himself, as "the truth," our Higher Educational Institutions. has placed the seal of his authority upon Certain of our contemporaries are discussing the subject with an energy the whole volume of inspiration. "The which might amuse a stranger as a mere Scripture," said he, asserting its unity, " cannot be broken." "Search the spectacle of literary gladiatorship but which challenges close attention when Scriptures," said He again, in reference principles of justice, and denominationto the diversity of times and means of al rights, are the objects of the contest. communication by which they were Step by step some facts are being given, " for they are they which testify brought clearly before the public. An of me." He even vouched for the certainty of some of those matters of fact important one is that the Presbyterians which are now most fiercely and insidiof Nova Scotia are resolved to cleave to Dalhousie College with a death-grip. ously attacked-for the Mosaic author-The late remarks of the Presbyterian ship of the Pentateuch, for the miracles of the old dispensation, and for the Witness respecting their readiness to move from that Institution are shown to truth of prophecy. Viewed in this light, of what value to the apologetics of have had no weight, while the persistent the present day are such sayings as these declarations of the Christian Messenger -" Remember Lot's wife ;" " Your go far to convince the public that "a fathers did eat manna in the wilder- door in the rear" was left open for ness ;" "Many widows were in Israel in their retreat with all their possessthe days of Elias, when the heaven was | ions in case of possible defeat.

sition in our teachers, and are causing strong opposition may, perhaps, be them to regard one of the noblest pro- looked for in the Legislative Council. fessions on earth as merely a stepping- Past experience is calculated to awaken stone to something better. Every one suspicion. Flank movements are posknows that work done under such con- sible in politics as well as on the battleditions would be merely perfunctory field. Endowments may be indirect in and void of all generous enthusiasm. character and yet of higher value than Other matters in the report, ably dealt any direct vote for endowment. A meawith, challenge remark, which just now sure introduced into the House on Wedat least, must be withheld. We linger, nesday afternoon looks in this direction. however to express satisfaction at the We shall not be surprised at any attempt prospect of a Provincial Course of Inwhich may yet be made. There are men struction. The migratory habits of our in more quarters than one who believe teachers, and the present necessity of that "the end justifies the means."

Admitting the ability of the Govern-

ment to carry their measure through both Houses, it will be remembered by our readers that the Board of Trustees Mount Allison will have to provide for a deficiency of one thousand dollars caused by the decrease in the Government grant. This loss, though it may for a time embarrass the managers of the Institution, will prove a blessing if call forth the liberality of our people, and enlist a more generous sympathy in behalf of our Colleges and Academies. Next to the great work of leading men to salvation the fostering education should be our glory and joy.

THE RELIGIOUS OUTLOOK.

Cheering tidings are reaching us from various quarters. The Methodist ministry in Britain, released from that financial effort which during the last The all-engrossing topic at present in year or two has engrossed so much of Educational circles is the State aid of their time, seem to be addressing themselves to their true work with results which, so far as they can be tabulated. are very encouraging. There can be little doubt that the special conventions promoted by President Jenkins, and eagerly attended by large numbers, have done much to quicken the faith and zeal of both ministers and people. The Methodist Recorder says :

While there has been no startling strengthened in their good work. movement, a spirit of awakening has been abroad, and great numbers of circuits have witnessed gracious revivals of religion. The work is not less real because quiet. Little has appeared on the and of all engaged in mission work in subject in the public papers. No one France is the same. ovement has been striking enough to call for special record, while the aggregate result will prove considerable. all sides we hear of circuits and congregations quickened, and of special missions crowned with rich blessing. noticeable fact is that the greatest suc- removal to a much larger and more con-Above cess has followed where there has been venient place of business.

ing the attempted explosion beneath the private apartments of the Lord From France, for fifty years and Mayor of London, who is soon learning more, " one of the hardest and most unthat his elevation is not an unmingled grateful fields of labor, where Poperv pleasure. Had the explosion taken place was a power, and unjust laws and petty as expected, absence from home would exactions hampered the missionary in have saved him, but others would no his movements," a most pleasing doubt have lost their lives. Regard for change is reported. Rev. D. A. Moulthose they deem innocent, however, pied, earnestly appealing for help, thus does not seem to enter into the calculawrites of it to the Methodist : tions of these wretches. The careful To-day all this is changed, the "cure"

is relegated into his own church and the search and the extra guards placed commissaire de police" is the friend, about the Houses of Parliament, and and almost the helper of the " conferenthe double guard at the Bank of Engcier" wherever he goes. We can go everywhere and preach everywhere. land, are significant of the dangerous Of course, there are difficulties to constate of society even in Britain. Wheretend with, but he who goeth a warring unto these things may grow, one dares expects to encounter difficulties. not guess. Meanwhile, Methodists every-At Rouen, our bold brother. Le Rou where will rejoice over the safety of getel has opened two "Salles des Conerences," one at Sotteville, a populous Lord Mayor McArthur, whose faithfulsuburb of Rouen, and the other at St. ness, during every change of fortune, to Sever. In the former place I lectured the Church of which his father was an to a motley crowd assembled in a fifthhonored minister, entitles him to their rate dancing saloon, decorated with the tawdry ornaments used in such places. warmest regards. We learn that many The people, numbering about 300, listcongratulations have already reached ened fairly well ; there was some interhim from this side of the water. ruption, some shouting, etc., but many

listened eagerly and at the close gave me hearty thanks. At St. Sever the at-Dr. Philip Schaff, the President of tention of the audience was perfect. It the American Bible Revision Committee has made the following official announce-

cessful attempt upon the life of the Czar

will only whet the appetites of regicides

and other assassins. The proclamation

discovered at Roussakoff's residence de-

1. The Revised New Testament will quarter of Havre a large dancing saloon. be published by the English University In this hall I met a compact mass of Press in May next, in different sizes and some 450 men and women. All the styles of binding, at corresponding men wore their caps, and most of them prices. 2. The American Committee give their sanction to the University editions as containing the text pure and simple. 3. The committee have no connection with any of the proposed reprints. 4. The publication of the revision will be precisely on the same footing as the present authorized versionthat is, protected by copyright in England and free in this country. 5. The American committee will present to every old and new subscriber of not less than ten dollars toward the expenses of their work a memorial copy of the best University edition in royal octavo, hand-

somely bound and inscribed. This offer holds good till next May, and the copies will be forwarded free of expense as soon as received.

As to the reception of the new version These things are taking place all over France : the testimony of the agents of there are various opinions. Dr. Strong of Drew Theological Seminary, at a late the three great home missionary societies, of Mr. MacAll and his workers. meeting of the Newark District Conference, expressed a belief that it would not in any popular sense supersede the

Our friends will act wisely in watchold : and Dr. Nevin, of the Presbyter-Do you wish to be kept in pleasant reing the list of books at reduced prices. ian Church, recently obtained a hearing membrance by some friend at a disnow offered by the Book Steward. The tance? Then send him or her a copy of before the Preachers' Meeting (Methodthe WESLEYAN for a year. A lady in offer is made in view of an approaching ist) of Baltimore for the purpose of the United States writes to us : "The speaking upon the new version. After WESLEYAN (sent to her by a friend) a keen criticism of several of the pas- comes like a weekly letter from home.

The Dominion Parliament was prorogued on Monday. The Senate's amendment to the Canada Temperance Act was not therefore introduced to the notice of the House of Commons. Temperance men, through this delay, will have a further opportunity of showing their faith by their works. In the county of Shelburne the Act has been carried through, with an amount of opposition on the part of the old town of that name, which, were it not unfortunate as an index to the state of the place, would be refreshing, so numerous have been the cares in which the Act has almost been allowed to pass by default. In St. John, N.B., successful efforts are being made to secure the passage of the Actat an early date.

In reference to his numerous and large gifts, Mr. George I. Seney lately said to the reporter of a New York paper :--- "The fact is that I have seen so many instances of men's apparent wishes, as expressed in their will, becoming of no avail that I wanted to make sure that the money would go ex-

actly where I wanted it to go. By making these gifts in my life-time I am sure that the precise object I desire is accomplished.'

A gentleman, who was present at the late Eurhetorian gathering at Mount Allison, speaks in high terms of the ability of the students who took part in the exercises. The opening address, orati m, and parliamentary scene, were all given in a style which promises well for the success of the young gentlemen when these shall be called upon to take their places in the work of the Church and the world.

Perhaps son seem rather be to place the en fact form-and mittee of these many enquirir them, or givin mation in what best. We are those who have thing that will the people are creased means, the informatio them, as to th which they hav

is a most promising field of labor. At Graville, I beheld a sight that would have fired Whitfield. Our dear ment :--brother Whelpton has hired in this low

were smoking short pipes or cigarettes. I had been told that the name of Christ raised derisive laughter. The valiant Pnam, the great Protestant controversialist of France, introduced me to the meeting as an Englishman who had lived many years in a French colony. This excited interest. I spoke for three-quarters of an hour of Jesus

Christ the great Teacher. I was interrupted again, but with true cheers. The standing crowd did its own police. Hush ! hush ! they said, and they listened to the end in a manner that proved

that here also men hunger and thirst for the truth. The "commissaire de police." who sat by my side, looked on in admiration, and all the brethren were