

Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 1862.

In consequence of the official station which this paper sustains to the Conference of Eastern British America, we require that all communications intended to be published in the paper should be accompanied by the name of the writer in confidence. We do not assume responsibility for the opinions of our correspondents.

Our Sackville Institutions.

After another year of success, and a most encouraging examination at its close, we deem it a fitting time to refer to our Educational Institutions; occupying as they do a very high place in the economy of our Church. The confidence which is generally felt in their management, and the appreciation of their usefulness, may explain why they have not, in the past, more prominence in our columns. Their excellence, on all sides acknowledged. We desire, in making them the subject of an editorial, to be the means of diffusing more widely its benefits which are being conferred upon the numerous students who fill the halls of those excellent institutions.

Had not a pious and learned Archbishop assured us that "there is no such thing as a gift of supererogation," we might consider any arguments to commend the advantages of education to be such. The Episcopal canon, the intelligent reader will at once perceive, bears a restricted meaning; and we shall not be guided by it.

The politico-educationalists of England are becoming marvellously philanthropic. They express their faith that the present system is inferior to that of the United States, and that the public money which is now expended might be distributed with greater advantage to the interests of education, by lowering the character of existing institutions, and by increasing the number of schools. One important fact is, however, entirely overlooked—that the same individuals who are foremost in the work of superior education, are those who are active and untiring in providing education for the masses.

While politicians are theorizing, tens of thousands of the indigent and neglected are being sought out and instructed. And it ought to be remembered that these are the philanthropists under whose education grew and expanded before Government was aroused to activity. The best friends of education have found, from experience, that the higher the standard, the more the general interest, and the more the noble work is increased, and the leaves consequently diffused throughout the mass of society.

"Reading, writing, and arithmetic" can no more be accepted here than in England, by the intelligent friends of education, as a complete curriculum, even for the neediest of our population. But when we would feel concern for the mental and social elevation of those who compose the bulk of our own population, we are convinced that they should intelligently consider the advantages which are presented by our Sackville Institutions.

Take for instance, the older of our Academies. How many hundreds of youth, now occupying positions of trust, honor, and usefulness, have been educated within its walls. Who can attempt to estimate the efficient beneficial power which each has exercised in the sphere in which he has acted? He has in his turn become himself an educator. And the agency, though unobtrusive is continuous.

How universal almost, until the foundation of the Female Academy crowned the noble benefactions of Charles F. Allison, was the lament of the want of the means for female education. And since the existence of *public school Academies*,—how many a female mind has been aroused to unexpected power and capacity. How many a home has been elevated by the presence of intelligence, and gladdened and beautified with the sounds of melody, and the elegancies of art.

This is not all. In our Academies religious instruction and training compose the foundation; and many youths of both sexes have, under the blessing of God, there for the first time experienced the reality, and the blessedness of experimental religion.

One important object is considered in the general management of our institutions—the health of the students. Gymnastic exercises are combined with ample opportunities for recreation. All admit that the condition of the physical faculties has an important connection with the operations of the mental powers. We all experience from our own sensations, the mental faculties are weakened, and weariness, the strength and action, next to the regular, *mens sana in corpore sano* is the summus bonum of a man, enjoying.

We said that we would not promise to accept Archbishop Tillotson's assertion; and might be tempted to write something more about the advantages of education. There are many considerations of an utilitarian kind which in the present day render it almost indispensable. Society is advancing in intelligence. A closer connection subsists by means of periodical literature, with the minds of other countries. Taste is more extensively cultivated; and the productions of polite literature find their way into many of our families. Intellect has become more active. Science, in its progress, is demanding the recognition of all classes of society. And, if a country is content with lagging behind the march of intellect it must not complain if it be obscure and neglected.

In this connection, the subject of our Theological Institution becomes prominent. If we have an educated people, it has been truly observed, we must have an educated ministry. Religion must be adapted in its mode of exhibition somewhat to the state of society; if not, it will be unheeded and despised. This is not the only argument for an educated ministry. Infidelity comes before the world in a new guise. Christianity is now, to say the least, *respected* by the world; and the scold is discountenanced. But *religion* is rudely assailed, and the guardians of the truth, must be armed not only with the panoply of faith, but with well burnt weapons, for the defence of the gospel.

Your affectionately,
Rev. C. CURCHILL, A.M., &c.
Carleton, May 30th, 1862.

Letter from Newport.
MR. EDITOR.—Amid the multitudinous duties connected with the close of our methodical year, I cannot but pause, and fill, if but for a promise made in my own mind to pen a few lines in reference to this my much loved circuit.

A sojourn with this affectionate people of three years, has now rapidly fled, and I must now entertain the disagreeable idea of a removal. In reviewing the past, I find much cause for gratitude in relation to this Circuit; *prosperity*, both spiritually and financially has been ours, with many a blessing, and I trust profitable, social intercourse.

Letter from Newfoundland.

MR. EDITOR.—We have just concluded another of those annual convocations which the members, office-bearers, and especially the ministers of the Wesleyan Methodist section of the Church of Christ look forward to with an interest and anxiety second only to the Meeting of the Annual Conference. Our District Session was appointed to be held in Carleton, to commence Wednesday, May 21st, and, what is somewhat unusual in this District (owing to the uncertain mode of travelling between the Capital and the remote Circuits, West and North) nineteen out of twenty-one ministers were present at the opening of the session. The other brethren arrived the day following. Fraternal greetings, mutual sympathies, such as Methodist Ministers and their people are wont to enjoy and reciprocate, were never more hearty; and the prospect, "to rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep," was sincerely exemplified. Our joy, however, was chastened. One youthful form was missing from among our number. He was not, for God had taken him. Many tears were shed over the grave of W. S. Shenstone, who joyfully finished his brief course in August last. Diligence, earnestness, and Christian zeal were quickened in view of the brevity and uncertainty of life. Thankful were we that the vacancy occasioned by his early removal from us, was, by the good Providence of our Heavenly Father, so soon filled up, by the appointment from England of a young brother of great promise.

The devotional exercises with which the session was opened were marked by good feeling and good effect. Nor less so, our beloved Chairman's opening remarks. The officers—chosen, as usual, by ballot—were: Brother Peach, District Secretary; and Brother Harris, Journal Secretary—brethren admirably fitted for their posts of honour and toil. The routine of the District business proceeded with great regularity, and with more than usual despatch. The pulpits was occupied on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings, by brethren Winterbotham, Pascoe, and Goodison, to the interest and profit of the hearers: the attendance each evening was large. We are happy to report one candidate for our ministry from the Harbour Grace Circuit—a son of one of our most esteemed and efficient Local Preachers. On Saturday morning the Brethren on trial six in number, were thoroughly examined, according to the usage of a Wesleyan District Meeting; and we never remember to have witnessed a more interesting and satisfactory examination, of a like nature. The brethren spoke, with remarkable clearness and hallowed feeling, of their religious experiences and call to the work of the ministry, evidencing, both in their answers to religious and theological questions, that they possessed gifts, grace, and had fruit of a Divine vocation to the work of the ministry. The Lord made them all able ministers of the New Testament!

On Sabbath morning the Chairman, Rev. E. Botterell, preached with great freedom and power from Solomon's Song, viii. 6; and in the afternoon Brother Phinney delivered an excellent sermon from Eccl. xii. 14. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered at the close of this service, by the Chairman, and Brother Stanstone. In the evening we had a Missionary Prayer Meeting—when to a large and deeply interesting congregation, Brethren Prestwood, Gaetz, and Ladner, gave a short account of the Work of God in their respective spheres of arduous and blessed toil. God had owned their labours in the hopeful conversion of many souls. Bro. Prestwood gave us a very interesting account of the awakening, sound conversation, usefulness, and happy death of one young man, who was convinced of sin during his Missionary tour to the North side of Bonavista Bay. In that region there are five thousand people, under the regular preaching of the Word of Life, many having never before seen a Wesleyan Missionary; and not a few were uttering to us the Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us!" And help them we will, if it please God. On Tuesday evening the session closed, the brethren feeling grateful to those kind friends by whom they had been so hospitably entertained during their few days sojourn in the town, took an affectionate leave of them and of each other; some to proceed to the remotest stations immediately; and all thanking God, and taking courage in the review of the past, and resolved amidst all the uncertainty of the future.

"To labour on at God's command."
We had under our respective care:
The Brethren are nothing daunted though hard times are passing over our country. Many things have occurred to make the past year one of more than ordinary trial. Among these may be mentioned the extreme poverty of many of our people arising from the failure of the Shore fishery, and the Labrador voyage of last summer—the unprecedented failure of the Sealing voyage of this spring, and the total loss of a large number of vessels engaged therein.

The inhabitants of Green Bay, form a providential exception. They were reduced to extremity, but they have had an extraordinary catch of Seals as it were at their own doors, without the cost and hazard of any outfit.

In all other parts of the District, want and suffering have made the year a testing season. Alas! that many who were not enough rooted and grounded in love, should have fainted in the day of adversity; and in the time of temptation have fallen away. Of more, we rejoice to feel assured that it may be said, as of the Church in Smyrna, "I know thy work, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich)." May God in mercy spare us from further chastisement, and so sustain upon the enterprise of the coming voyage, that the industry of the people may result in a sufficiency of bread to eat and raiment to put on! And last, though not least, may be the cause of Christ, the cause of Evangelical Christianity revive, spread, and prevail! Great and effectual doors of usefulness are opening, and should if possible be at once entered. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into his harvest."

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I addition to the Revels already reported, it has pleased the Head of the Church, again to smile upon extra services held in several localities within the few last weeks; and many have been led to give themselves to the Lord and his church. During the two last Sabbaths, we have had our Sacramental services; and if one such service last year, caused my beloved Brother and professor Rev. A. McClure, to rejoice in witnessing so many for whose spiritual welfare he has laboured, coming to our sacramental table—

I am sure his joy would have been much augmented, had he been with us during these more recent festivals.

We have also much cause to be thankful for the steadfastness manifested by most of those who united with us two years ago—this is what we want, "continuance in well-doing,"—for such "are our joy and rejoicing."

Within the last three years, a number of our dear people, have been called to part with their beloved children, but with efforts well, *well, forever*. The members whose names are now found on our death list, have all left satisfactory evidences that they have gone to join the church above.

The noble man realised last year through the Avondale Bazaar, has cleared our church in that Village of all financial incumbrance, and enabled the trustees to procure all needful apparatus for lighting their beautiful edifice, well as to call the people to the sanctuary of their God.

The Oakland church (the mother church on this circuit) will soon I trust, share in the attention of our people. And as for Meander, I hope the increasing people, will soon contribute to the purchase of an edifice commensurate with the wants of the community.

With the financial results of our Tea meeting last year, the Mission House has been furnished with many useful articles, by making out a young brother's name. I sometimes Mr. Editor, wonder what kind of a Mission House I shall find on leaving this. It will be a disappointment to come down in this respect, in these days of progression. It is truly astonishing, how much the kind, timely, and united efforts, of our friends, and our female friends in particular, may do to lessen the difficulties, and inconveniences incident to itinerancy, by making out a Mission House comfortable previous to the arrival of their Minister. I am not fastidious about a circuit, but I hope to find a good and comfortably furnished Mission House. Hoping that our approaching District meetings, and the Conference, may furnish rich seasons of grace.

Wesleyan Missionary Society.

We gave our readers last week a brief account of the Anniversary in Exeter Hall, London. As the meeting of the present Society is expected to interest the hearts, and to stimulate the efforts of all throughout the Connexion who are devoted to the cause of Missions, we cannot deem an apology necessary if we devote the greater part of our editorial page to the report of the prominent speeches, as contained in the *Watchman*.

Amongst further interesting intelligence, contained in the Report, we find that the following twenty-five Missionaries, and eleven wives of Missionaries, have been sent out by the Society since the last Anniversary:—

Mr. Terry, to Germany; Mr. and Mrs. Pigott, Mrs. Green, and Mr. Lissolo, to Italy; Mr. and Mrs. Alton, to Spain; Miss Treffy, to Madras; Miss Ashwell, to China; Mr. Fish, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Sawtell, Mr. Hunter and Mr. Allison, to South Africa; Mr. Berrie, to Sierra Leone; Mr. Taylor, to the Gold Coast; Mr. Pearce, to Antigua; Mr. Kent, to St. Christopher; Mr. Black, to Toronto; Miss Hunt and Mrs. Carter, to Barbadoes; Mr. Watson, Mr. Locke, Mr. Sunderland, and Mr. Gleave, to Demerara; Mr. and Mrs. Foster, Mr. Atkins, and Mr. Massey, to Jamaica; Miss Walker, to Honduras; Miss Gaud, to the Bahamas; Mr. Pascoe, to Newfoundland.

Of this number, Messrs. Stott, Filcher, Foster, and Alton, who have been before honourably and usefully employed in various Missions, had returned home for a season, have been again appointed to the Foreign work.

Misses Eacott, Parks, Ward, Bagley, Evans and Gunnson, School Teachers, have also been sent out.

The following much lamented Missionaries have been removed by death:—

Mr. Coking, at Bangalore, India; Mr. Joseph Tindall, at Robertson, Cape of Good Hope; Mr. Shaw, at Antigua; Mr. Pimm, at Torquay, Devon; Mr. Carter, Ocho-Rios, Jamaica; Mr. Van der Horst, at Samana, St. Domingo.

To this affecting record must be added that of nine excellent females, the wives of Missionaries, who have also exchanged mortality for life.

The following is a GENERAL SUMMARY of the Society's labours and agency:—

Central or Principal Stations called Circuits, 173

Chapels and other Preaching Places, in connection with the above-mentioned Central or Principal Stations, as far as ascertained, 1,104

Ministers and Assistant Missionaries, including Five Supernumeraries, 262

Other Paid Agents, as Catechists, Interpreters, Day-school Teachers, &c., 753

Unpaid Agents, as Sabbath School Teachers, &c., 3,979

Full and Accredited Church Members, 68,349

On Trial for Church Membership, 5,176

Scholars, deducting for those who attend both the Day and Sabbath Schools, 50,335

Printing Establishments, 6

Other Missions of the Society having also relation to the Conference in Ireland, France, Australasia, Canada, and Eastern British America.

Central or Principal Stations called Circuits, 392

Dr. G. Smith.

MR. EDITOR.—My Christian friends, the revolution of another year has brought us together once again to give our hearty and cordial support to our great cause which we have been connected with for many of our years.

God has so often blessed us, while we have been directing our efforts to its support, that we come to it as an altar of sacrifice intimately connected with the outpouring of heavenly blessings. In that way I feel I stand this morning; and as I address myself to some thoughts respecting this great and glorious cause, I feel my heart and mind united in pouring out my acknowledgments in grateful praise to God.

The more I look at this cause, as how and where—wherever I turn my eyes, I feel that we cannot take a step, that we cannot retain our position, without the divine blessing. Looking over all the agencies in our own country, we find that they exhibit a marked organization, extending to every part of these islands, and acting everywhere for one common end. We turn our mind for a moment to our resources, and I know nothing so remarkable. We have no power to do more than to call the people to the sanctuary of their God.

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The more I look at this cause, as how and where—wherever I turn my eyes, I feel that we cannot take a step, that we cannot retain our position, without the divine blessing. Looking over all the agencies in our own country, we find that they exhibit a marked organization, extending to every part of these islands, and acting everywhere for one common end. We turn our mind for a moment to our resources, and I know nothing so remarkable. We have no power to do more than to call the people to the sanctuary of their God.

The Oakland church (the mother church on this circuit) will soon I trust, share in the attention of our people. And as for Meander, I hope the increasing people, will soon contribute to the purchase of an edifice commensurate with the wants of the community.

With the financial results of our Tea meeting last year, the Mission House has been furnished with many useful articles, by making out a young brother's name. I sometimes Mr. Editor, wonder what kind of a Mission House I shall find on leaving this. It will be a disappointment to come down in this respect, in these days of progression. It is truly astonishing, how much the kind, timely, and united efforts, of our friends, and our female friends in particular, may do to lessen the difficulties, and inconveniences incident to itinerancy, by making out a Mission House comfortable previous to the arrival of their Minister. I am not fastidious about a circuit, but I hope to find a good and comfortably furnished Mission House. Hoping that our approaching District meetings, and the Conference, may