Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1873.

OUR Mother Church in England has seemingly passed safely through a somewhat dangerous crisis. Some of her ablest sons were greatly divided in opinion on the educational question, and strong feelings were aroused in relation to it. Had the matter been dealt with by incautious and reckless men much evil might have resulted. Happily the leaders of opinion on all sides were good and wise men, conscious of the responsibility resting upon them, and anxious to only promote the best interests of the Church and the nation.

The conclusion arrived at by them, already described in these columns, has excited much comment on both sides the Atlantic. In Britain, in the United States and in the Dominion, reference has been made to it sometimes at much length both in the secular and the religious press. The conviction seems to be general among writers of all sorts posted on the matter, that the resolutions adopted by the late Wesleyan General Educational Committee indicate a great stride on the part of the Wesleyan body in behalf of an unsectarian national educational system.

CERTAIN New York secular papers publish some unedifying reports of proceedings in a New York Methodist preacher's meeting. It seems the good brethren attending that meeting allow themselves to indulge in a pretty wide latitude of discussion. Encouraged by the knowledge of this fact, one gentleman who found his way to that meeting endeavored to utilize his opportunities to ventilate his ideas in regard to the annihilation of the wicked. He has long since, it appears, accepted that dogma, and given free expression to his belief of it from the pulpit and elsewhere. We cannot understand how any Methodist minister can honestly pursue such a course as that. Methodist ministers, like other men, are at all times free to revise their creed and change their views. For such change, to what ever extent it may be carried, they are responsible to God. But when any important change takes place in their theological sentiments,—when they lose faith in grand fundamental doctrines which they had solemnly accepted as true, and pledged themselves to preach faithfully in due season, they ought to vacate a position in which the honest fulfilment of their vows is no longer possible. The place for promulgating their new views is outside the Church whose doctrines they, to some extent, disbelieve.

Moreover, it seems extremely unwise and of evil tendency for men who retain their faith in the distinctive doctrines of the Church of their choice, to permit those doctrines nevertheless to be regarded among themselves as mere open questions.

THE British Conference has not maintained fraternal relations with the Methodist Episcopal Church South. It has simply ignored that communion, on account of the pro-slavery attitude assumed by it. But slavery is gone from the South never to return; and there has arisen in the bosom of the Southern Methodist Church a yearning for kindly recognition at the hands of the Methodist Mother Church in England. We do not see why that filial feeling should not be tenderly and promptly responded to. Despite its mistakes on the slave question, Southern Methodism has done much good work for the common cause, has produced many most-saintly and gifted servants of the Lord Jesus, and is likely to exhibit as much of the true Methodistic fervour and evangelistic zeal as any Methodist Denomination in the world. Would it not be well for British Wesleyan Methodism by the lips of some of its best representatives to speak words of sympathy and love to the great Methodist body of the South on the first fitting occasion? The London *Watchman* has done us the honor of placing many of our articles before the eyes of its readers, could it find room in its columns for these brief remarks.

SOME notable revivals are occurring in Methodist circles both in Britain and the United States, and much anxiety is evinced in high Methodist quarters in England and America that the outpouring of Divine influence may become general. It is to be hoped the readers of the PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN will be refreshed from week to week with tidings of a joyful revival sort from many portions of our own conferential field. There ought to be a good and gracious work in every circuit within our bounds.

THE near approach of the period when Dr. Punshon will take his departure for England is the subject of deep and general regret throughout Ontario among Evangelical Protestants. He has by his zealous and gifted labours made a great impression on the mind of the people of that class, and week by week he seems to be still exerting himself at full working power. J. R. N.

These are times in which it seems in an especial degree desirable that Christian men should be always ready to give a reason for the faith they embrace, the hopes they cherish and the course they pursue. The world seems passionately desirous of knowing the causes of things and the whys and wherefores of what passes beneath its notice. The passing age of unconditional submission to authority and of unquestioning acceptance of prevailing dogmas is gone never on earth to return. In many respects, it is well that it is so; but the situation has nevertheless its difficulties and its dangers. The presence of some of these is already painfully felt. At every turn almost Christian men are placed on their defence. They are gravely challenged even to prove their right to enter the audience chamber of Deity, to approach the Divine footstool to offer prayer and supplication to the Most High, and they are defied to prove that the effectual fervent prayer of any number of righteous men availeth either much or little. All the newspaper reading portion of the human family has probably heard of the prayer-guage challenge of the Scientist Tyndal. Fewer doubtless know anything of the severe criticism to which the Archbishop of Canterbury has recently been subjected on account of his having recommended the Clergy of the Anglican Church to use the prayer for fine weather in view of the tremendous rain fall by which England was being deluged. Objecting critics rushed into print, and arraigned the wisdom of the Primate's suggestion. They affirmed that the land needed just such a rainfall as was taking place, to replenish the natural resources that had been so greatly depleted during previous years of drought, and to give town and country a thorough cleansing, that such cleansing combined with the mildness of the season had saved a large number of valuable lives, and that the general good resulting far more than counterbalanced the attendant evil. They added that the Archbishop would have acted with greatly more wisdom had he instead of urging the clergy to pray for the stoppage of the rain, roused the people to construct tanks and reservoirs in which to store up a goodly quantity of the precious water to meet the requirements of the time of need, which will return with the next dry season, probably not very distant.

This seems to be a case in which the right is not all on one side and the wrong all on the other. Certainly the Archbishop was not wrong in suggesting the propriety of praying that such weather might be granted as would enable the husbandman in due season to gather the fruits of the earth. For we are permitted to pray for that which seems good both for ourselves and for our fellow men; and we are not forbidden to entreat our Heavenly Father to avert from us and from our fellows temporal evils that seem to be impending. But then it is plain that we rarely know what is best in the long run, and upon the whole in a temporal point of view whether for ourselves or for others. And therefore it becomes us to fashion our supplications on the model of that offered by the blood sweating supplicant of Gethsemane. The Christian man whose soul is exceedingly sorrowful and in an agony in view of the ravages of fire, or flood or famine or sword or pestilence or death, cannot well pray amiss if in the spirit of Jesus he shall cry out again and again and again, *O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.* These are words that righly breathed in the time of trouble private or public, cannot be gainsayed by any philosophy whatever. They accord with the aspirations of the deepest piety; and they are in harmony with the suggestions of the truest science. The critics may be found to have played a better part than they intended if their criticism serves to remind Christian men that they ought to pray as their Master prayed in the hour of his midnight agony.

SOME remarkable articles have recently appeared in the London *Times* on the manner and spirit in which Missionary work ought to be performed. The occasion thus improved was found in the observance of a day of prayer in the Anglican Establishment for the raising up of Missionaries. The *Times* would have mission work prosecuted with enthusiastic zeal, intense energy, and implicit faith; by men untrammeled by the bonds of mere ecclesiasticism, and as intent on success as was Saul of Tarsus, who went flaming in the old time through so many Mediterranean countries. It is refreshing to listen to such preaching for the times as this from the most powerful organ of public opinion in the world.

J. R. N.

NUMERICAL INCREASE OBTAINED IN ANSWER TO PRAYER.

We endeavoured in a former article to illustrate the necessity of numerical increase in order to the continued prosperity and vigor of the Christian Church. The inquiry thus naturally suggested is, how may such an augmentation of members be secured to the Church as will at once conserve and demonstrate her vitality and power? It is evident that such a result can be realized only through Divine interposition. None but God can truly convert a soul; the Holy Ghost alone can achieve the stupendous miracle of the second-birth; and all accessions to the Church, gained independently of His operation, are counterfeits and impostures. Now it is a matter of clearest and most emphatic revelation that the revival and multiplication of God's people, by genuine, living converts, is suspended upon the condition of *earnest, believing prayer.* The Prophet Ezekiel referring to this very subject represents the Almighty as saying, "I will yet for *this* be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them, *I will increase them with men like a flock.*" Other passages of similar import might be cited. There are also manifold indications, furnished by the past history of the Church, showing that *prayer* is the instrument specially designated by God for the obtainment of this needful and precious boon. One instance drawn from the scenes of early Christianity will suffice as an illustration. All New Testament readers are familiar with the history of those ten memorable days which intervened between the day of Ascension and the day of Pentecost. The Inspired Historian has not left us to mere conjecture as to how that interval was occupied by the bereaved but faithful disciples—"They all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication"—and in this becoming attitude, this most appropriate exercise, they were found on that eventful morning, when with mighty rushing wind and cloven tongue of fire, the Holy Ghost came upon them, and when sanctified and emboldened by his holy anointing, the Apostles spake words of unwonted power, and in a single day gathered three thousand souls into the infant Church of Christ.

Thus shall we ever find that every true and permanent revival of religion has had its origin in prayer—that long before the sound of an abundance of rain has been heard, or even the little cloud like a man's hand been seen, the Church has been, like Elijah on Mt. Carmel with bowed head and bended knee, postrate before the Lord of Hosts in mighty and persistent intreeession for the souls of men. Nor need we wonder that such prayer has been uniformly and grandly successful. The sceptic may indeed cavil, and the scoffer deride, and the timid and faint-hearted hesitate; but the Great Head of the Church who has himself appointed the instrument and ordained the issue, has declared that "If two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in Heaven."

In order that our prayers for numerical increase may be successful, certain conditions are necessary to be observed. The ancient Israelites "inquired of God" *through the medium of their priests.* Even so all our approaches to the Throne of Grace, whether on behalf of ourselves, our fellow-men, or the kingdom of Christ upon earth, must be conducted through the intervention of the One Mediator, the Great High Priest of our profession—Jesus Christ the Righteous. An object so dear to the Redeemer's heart as the extension of his cause and the conversion of men cannot but enlist his all-prevalent intercessions, and thus command the powerful and gracious interposition of Him who "cannot turn away the presence of his Son."

Inquiry of God in olden times was generally *accompanied by a suitable offering.* Saul and his servant hesitated to ask counsel of the man of God until they had provided a present for him. When *we* appear before God to make supplications on behalf of his Church or perishing souls, let us not forget to bring our offering with us—even the acceptable sacrifice of our own hearts. Self-consecration on the part of God's people is the grand and indispensable prerequisite of all true spiritual revival and increase. Not until "Holiness unto the Lord" is legibly written on the heart, and luminously exemplified in the life of every professing Christian, will those universal visitations of Divine power be vouchsafed, which shall shake society in all its grades and departments, and gather an apostate world into the fold of Christ.

Again, our sincerity in inquiring of God must be evinced *by our renunciation of all known sin.* If we regard iniquity in our hearts the Lord will not hear us. The Church in which positive violations of the Divine Law are sanctioned and practised without rebuke or restraint, may look in vain for real and permanent prosperity. The Achan must be dislodged, the unlawful spoil surrendered, the accursed thing destroyed, before victory can crown the banners, or willing captives swell the train of God's embattled hosts.

Prayers for the revival of God's work should be followed *by hearty efforts to do his will.*

The Prophet Jeremiah chides the people of Israel because they dissembled in their hearts when they asked counsel of God, and refused to obey his voice when it announced to them their duty. Let us beware lest we be guilty of a similar offence. When we approach God to inquire concerning the increase of his kingdom, his invariable and imperative response is, "Son, go work to-day in my vineyard." Prayer is the soul of labor, and labor is the embodiment of prayer. Work without prayer is a folly, but prayer without work is an abomination. It avails nothing that we pray, "Thy kingdom come," unless we personally strive to build up that kingdom. In vain our churches re-echo the cry, "Oh Lord revive thy work," while we ourselves will not touch that work with one of our fingers. Every member of the visible church should feel that there is a sphere for him to fill an obligation for him to discharge, a work for him to do, in the benign and noble enterprise of bringing men to Jesus.

If ever there was a time when the combined agency of prayer and effort on behalf of God's cause was urgently demanded, that time is the present. Precious souls are perishing from our midst. The numerical disproportion between the church and the world does not diminish as rapidly as could be desired, if indeed it is not on the increase. Accessions to the number of the saved are realized all too slowly when compared with the extent and efficiency of the instrumentalities employed. In view of these serious and painful facts, what is our obvious duty? Is it not first to betake ourselves to prayer, and then to gird ourselves for labor? Shall not our sanctuaries resound with mightier supplications? Shall not our domestic altars be surrounded by more fervent petitions? Shall not our closets witness more protracted pleadings? And from all these scenes of worship shall there not ascend as with one great voice of prayer the earnest appeal, "Wilt thou not revive us again that thy people may rejoice in Thee?" Then clothed with a new investiture of strength and courage, shall we not go forth to our assigned spheres of labor with cheerfulness and zeal? Shall we not count it our joy and honor to point sinners to the Saviour, and bring home wanderers to the fold? And thus praying and thus working shall we not witness the desire of our hearts in copious refreshings and large ingatherings to Messiah's Kingdom? The barren wilderness shall wave with a luxuriant harvest; the deserted sanctuary shall be filled with devout worshippers; and the languishing Church, which mourned as a mother bereft of her children, shall be replenished with living converts, and "increased with men like a flock."

S.

Circuit Intelligence.

MIRAMICHI CIRCUIT, JAN. 12, 1873.—Our gatherings during the week of prayer were large and deeply attentive, both in Chatham and Newcastle. The brethren of the different churches appeared one in spirit and one in earnest desire and holy zeal to promote the glory of God. We hope God will hear and answer the prayers of his world-wide church, and cause the present year to be one of great religious prosperity.

We held our Home Missionary Meeting at Derby on Monday evening. Collections and subscriptions were over $25.

Tuesday evening the meeting was held in Chatham. Our Presbyterian brethren, Revs. Wilson, McDonald and Allen, rendered us good service by excellent speeches. Collection $4 over last year.

A very imposing and profitable Ordination service was held in the Presbyterian Church at Newcastle, when the Rev. Mr. Russel was set apart to the great work of preaching the gospel.

A Home Missionary Meeting was held at the close—assisted by the Wesleyan Minister. A large collection was taken up.

The School Bill has again been discussed by the people of this town (Chatham.) It appears to me a great pity that parents cannot see eye to eye in that which promises to confer so great a boon upon the rising youth of our Province. Perhaps the day will come when this shall be. Nova Scotia takes the lead of her sister Province in this respect.

I am better in health now than I have been for some time. I fear the storms of this winter. I hope the Lord will give me strength according to my day.

I. SUTCLIFFE.

PARRSBORO.—Bro. D. B. Scott, writes Jan. 20, 1873:—"We have commenced special services at Port Greville. The indications of success are cheering."

LUNENBURG.—Bro. Joseph Gaetz writes, Jan. 22nd, 1873:—"We are engaged in special service at Ritcey Cove. The Church is revived, backsliders are reclaimed, and sinners are converted. The work is going on gloriously. Have not time to send particulars now. We give all the glory to God. * * * Bro. Baxendale was nearly drowned in the LaHave river a few days ago."

NEW GERMANY.—Bro. James Scott reports, Jan. 16, 1873:—"That a Donation Visit was made to the Parsonage on the evening of the 14th inst., when, after the company had partaken of an excellent tea, which had been provided by the ladies, George F. Young, Esq., took the chair, and Nelson Chesley, Esq., gave an address, at the close of which he presented $30 to Mr. Scott as a token of respect to him as their preacher. Mr. Scott acknowledged the favor gratefully in a brief address. The Rev. Mr. Hall having been called upon by the chairman, also gave a very good address; so that with the music, speeches, &c., the evening passed away very pleasantly."

Mr. Scott reports, also—"That the friends on the circuit have supplied the Church at New Germany with an organ, made by Waters of New York, which is beautiful in appearance and rich in tone; which proves a great assistance in the Psalmody of the congregation."

HORTON CIRCUIT.—During revivals of religion, and in our social religious services, we urge upon those whom God has blessed with pardon and peace, to confess the Lord Jesus, and "tell to all around, what a Saviour they have found." Upon the same principle, we think it the duty of churches, when favoured with special manifestations of the Spirit's presence and power, devoutly to acknowledge the same, to the praise and glory of God. Such testimonies to the love and faithfulness of our God, whether given by a young convert in a social service, or by a revived Church, in the columns of a newspaper, are calculated greatly to cheer and encourage the lovers of Zion everywhere. May we have many such testimonies in the WESLEYAN during the remainder of this conferential year.

In the course of my ministry upon this circuit we have been greatly blessed, and have rejoiced in the prosperity of Zion, and I am thankful to say, that at the present time the Lord is among us and powerfully working upon the hearts of His people and of sinners.

During the stormy Christmas week, a young man of this community, resolved to lead a new life. Pressing through the cold and snow he found his way to our usual week night prayer meeting, where he made known his purpose and asked the prayers of the church. Such was the beginning of this revival. The young brother to whom I refer has experienced the pardon of sin, and already rejoices in seeing his wife, father and other friends and neighbors following his example. The good work is yet confined to Lower Horton, we trust it may spread on every side. The church is awake and at work, and among our most faithful and diligent workers, are found many of the converts of the revival experienced here two years ago. We devoutly thank God and take courage.

S. F. HUESTIS.

Lower Horton, Jan. 25, 1873.

MONCTON.—We learn by extract from the local paper which has been sent to us, that on the 14th inst., a number of Rev. Mr. Thurlow's friends, after spending a very pleasant evening at the parsonage, presented him with a purse of $60, and a complimentary address. After referring to "considerable improvement" as having been made in the Parsonage, exterior and interior of the Church edifice, Musical department, Sabbath School, and size of Congregation, through Mr. Thurlow's exertions and the united efforts of Trustees and people, and stating that "some spiritual prosperity had been witnessed," the address ends with the following paragraph:

"Your faithfulness and well-timed discourses have proved you to be a workman that needeth not to be ashamed; for this we love and esteem you, believing that you have not labored in vain. We regret exceedingly that Mrs. Thurlow's health has been for some time past so precarious, but we are pleased and thankful that she has so far recovered as to be able this evening to welcome her friends. We have much pleasure in presenting to you this token of love and respect from your congregation and friends.

Signed, J. F. Goodere, E. McCarthy, W. C. Robinson, W. J. Robinson, J. R. Colpitts."

The following is a copy of Mr. Thurlow's reply:

"I am pleased to meet on this occasion so many of our friends, and receive from them such a substantial proof of their esteem. I rejoice with you in the improvement and advancement made, since my coming among you. Much of this is owing to the fact that our Trustees and people have worked harmoniously with me, in all I have endeavored to accomplish for the cause of God. Your address refers to a workman that needeth not to be ashamed. I admit that it is my ambition to become an able minister of Christ; yet it appears to me that I am about as far from any ideal as I was fourteen years ago when in my teens I entered this work. The summit is distant, but I am climbing, and the future must tell whether I reach it or not. Accept the thanks of Mrs. Thurlow and myself for your presence with us this evening."

Miscellaneous.

METROPOLITAN W. M. CHURCH.

The first Missionary Anniversary in the Metropolitan Church was held last Monday evening. Missionary sermons were preached last Sabbath; in the morning by the Rev. Dr. Punshon, President of the Conference; in the evening by the Rev. F. H. Marling, of the Congregational Church. On Monday evening the church was occupied by a large audience. John Macdonald, Esq., one of the Treasurers of the Society, presided. He appealed to the congregation, as they had taken the lead in church building, to let their godly example and Christian liberality be in keeping with their large and beautiful church. The Rev. H. Johnston addressed the audience in a speech characterized by point, humour, and brilliant thought and language. The Rev. A. Sutherland's address was earnest, impressive and convincing. The triumphs of the Gospel and its adaptation to the world's need were vividly portrayed. After the collection and a general subscription was taken up, Dr. Punshon appealed to the audience on behalf of missions to the heathen, with special reference to Japan. His vivid portraiture of the idolatry and degradation of purely heathen countries carried the feelings of the audience completely with him. He maintained that even a corrupt form of Christianity was not so bad as no Christianity at all; and said that he pleaded for such an enterprise as the mission to Japan, as much for the sake of the church, as for the sake of Japan. It was the conviction of his conscience that the church could not retain her vital energy if she pursued an exclusive policy and neglected the claims of the perishing millions of Heathendom. He asked, from the young people of the congregation, an addition of *one thousand dollars for Japan* in $10 subscriptions, or larger if they chose. In a short time over $1,100 was subscribed, thus showing an unmistakable interest in the Foreign Mission Work. This first missionary anniversary in the Metropolitan has been a great success. The ordinary collections and subscriptions on Sabbath, and at the meeting amounted to $1,000; besides over $1,100 extra for Japan. When one congregation gives $1,100 extra for the Foreign Mission Work, surely the Lord is moving the hearts of the people to strengthen the hands of the authorities of the church in this matter. Several choice pieces of music were rendered in superior style during the evening. It should have been mentioned last week, in the account of the Queen Street anniversary, that the result of the meeting was $340, with $400 extra for the Japan Mission.—*Toronto Guardian.*

The Newfoundland Correspondent of the *Toronto Globe* says:—

It is curious to note the various items of consumption in a colony numbering only 146,300 of population. Of butter we consumed 15,335 cwt.; of flour, 250,391 brls; of pork, 32,271 brls.; 7,297 cwt, of sugar, and 465,315 lbs. of tea, or between three and four pounds per head. The staple food of our fishermen is tea, pork, bread, and molasses. Of the last-named article, we used last year 645 315 gallons, or about 4 1-2 gallons per head. The amount of tobacco required to cheer and support us while engaged in working the silvery quarries of the sea is no less surprising, our consumption of "the weed" last year being 446,104 lbs., which must have cost consumers not less than $138,676. Of this quantity Canada sent us 201,487 lbs; Nova Scotia 100,260 lbs; and the United States, 139,653 lbs. To this we must add 248,000 cigars, costing perhaps $2,500. We must be mighty 'cloud compellers,' when this serious amount is spent on the universal consoler. Doubtless is votaries get a return in some shape, though it is rather difficult to discover it, or represent it in figures. It is all very well when in a poetic mood, to sing with Bryon—

"Sublime tobacco! which from east to west,
Cheers the tar's labours or the Turkman's rest;
Which on the Moslem's ottoman divides
His hours, and rivals opium and his brides,
Magnificent in Stamboul, but less grand:
Though not less loved, in Wapping or Strand;
Divine in hookas, glorious in a pipe,
When tipp'd with amber, mellow, rich and ripe.
Like other charmers, wooing the caress,
More dazzlingly when daring in full dress:
Yet thy true lovers more admire by far
Thy naked beauties—Give me a cigar!"

but when one thinks of an annual offering to Eolus, from a colony of fisherman, which costs them about £35,000 per annum, the thought is apt to arise, how much better it would be to devote this amount to the increase of the solid comforts of home, and the promotion of education. All preaching, however, is vain where the blandishment of this bewitching narcotic are concerned. From the fisherman tossing in his punt to the ruler of millions, all ranks and ages are found among the devotees of tobacco; and from pipe or cigar, its smoke is wafted "from Portsmouth to the Pole."

Indoxicating Drinks.—A larger sum than that devoted to tobacco is spent in rum by our population, the quantity entered for home consumption in 1871 being 105,442 gallons, which must have cost the consumers not less than $150,000. Then of brandy we imported 8,489 gallons, selling price about $33,936; whiskey 6,244 gallons, value $14,250; geneva, 10,224 gallons, selling price $23,480; beer, 62,852 gallons, selling price $39,066. Our wine account amounted to 23,274 gallons, costing consumers about $59,262. Putting together these various items we find that our total expenditure in intoxicating drinks in 1872 was about $319,974. This esttimate is low, and certainly far short of the reality. It is melancholy to think that we spend in liquors of various kinds $2.20 per head for the entire population, or about half as much as the average revenue. Temperance principles are making way among us, and the standard of temperance is higher than it was some years ago, but still the foregoing figures show that we have much need of further reformation in regard to our drinking usages. We have on the statue book a law embodying the principle of the Permissive Bill, for which the agitation is so vigorously carried on in England at the present hour, but as yet it is in force only in two districts, with what results is not yet known.

ZION'S HERALD.

ITS FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY.

The semi-centennial of the *Zion's Herald*, the New England organ of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was celebrated last week, in the Wesleyan Association Hall.

A large audience were in attendance, composed of clerical and lay members of the denomination, their ladies and invited friends. Edwin Ray, Esq., of the Wesleyan Association, under whose auspices the paper is published, was the chairman of the evening. The exercises were opened by singing a hymn written by Rev. Josiah Brackett, senior member of the association, followed by a scripture reading by Rev. W. R. Clark, D. D. Prayer was offered by Rev. A. D. Merrill, one of the oldest ministers present. After singing another hymn, composed by Revd. D. Sherman, D.D., the opening remarks were made by the chairman. He stated that *Zion's Herald* was owned by an association of gentlemen, members of the M. E. Church, and sent forth into the world as a true herald of God to proclaim his truth, and in evangelizing the world. A cordial welcome was extended by him in behalf of the Wesleyan Association.

Letters were read by Dr. B. K. Pierce editor of Zion's Herald, from Rev. W. S. Studley of Brooklyn N. Y., Isaac Jennison, of Natick Mass, Rev. Dr. Cobleigh, detained by a severe accident, Rev. E. O. Haven D. D., Rev. A. Stevens, D. D., of New York, former editors, and S. S. Stevens of Baltimore. The letters were full of sympathy for the birthday gathering and compliment and good wishes for Zion's Herald.

The address was delivered by Rev. Fales H. Newhall, D.D., of the Wesleyan University, and was devoted to a sketch of the paper's history for the last half century. Zion's Herald is the pioneer of Methodist periodical literature on this continent, and the acknowledged leader in the denomination in educational matters, as well as foremost in the fight with rum and active in the warfare with slavery, and a most efficient worker in religious and all good under-takings. The speaker said that the period of the editorship of Dr. Abel Stevens represented the most brilliant epoch of the paper's history. Bishop Haven's belligerency and love of fighting Satan was happily alluded to in his supposed entreaty to the archangel when chaining the devil—'Please don't, Michael." As Dr. Haven dropped the pen the doors of Janus seemed to close, and a more peaceful, yet active, administration inaugurated. The poem by Rev. Mark Trafton was very humorous and interesting, illustrative of the Herald's surroundings and experiences—"just fifty years ago." The remarks made by Mayor Kingsbury of Portland and Rev. Dr. Wise of New York, former editors, were full of pleasant reminiscences of past years and labors, exceedingly happy and entertaining.

Rev. Dr. Dexter, representing the Congregationalist, and Rev. Dr. Olmstead, of the Watchman and Reflector, followed with a few words of fraternal feeling and good wishes.

After brief remarks by Dr. Warren, of the Theological School of Boston University, the literary part of the evening closed with song, and a benediction by Rev. Dr. Dexter. A collation of ice cream, cake, coffee, &c., was spread in an adjoining room, of which all partook. Thus closed the Zion's Herald fiftieth birthday.—*News and Nation*

SOCIAL RE-UNION.—The annual "social re-union" of the H. Y. M. Wesleyan Institute, was held in the hall of the Brunswick Street Wesleyan Church, on Tuesday evening. The Hall was appropriately decorated for the occasion. The pillars were trimmed with evergreens and the ceilings festooned with bunting. Over the organ was a shield—supported on either side by the national colours, on which was 1867, painted in large crimson letters—referring to the year in which the Society was founded—over this in gas jets were the initial letters "Y. M. W. I." At the opposite side of the room, and over the entrance was placed in a semi-circle "Our Absent Friends." The windows were draped with flags and bound with evergreens, while in each was placed a beautiful hot-house plant or flower—a number of which were supplied by Mr. Harris. Mr. W. B. McNutt presided. There were present between three and four hundred members and their guests. At a quarter to seven the company sat down to tea, which was discussed at length and with much zest. After the tables had been cleared the Chairman made a few remaks, welcoming the guests. A very well selected programme occupied the remainder of the evening. There were several intermissions for introductions and conversation. An excellent choir composed chiefly of members of the Philharmonic Society, catered to the musical tastes of the company. The entertainment was concluded about 11 o'clock, with "God save the Queen."—*Citizen.*

EVANGELIZATION IN SPAIN.—*La Semaine Religieuse* of Geneva, says: "At Barcelona the work has been more extensively developed than in any other city in Spain. Our fellow-countryman, M. Empaytaz, has two chapels, and the schools under his direction number two hundred children. Mr. Brown, an English Wesleyan, has three chapels and about three hundred children. Mr. Fenn and Mr. Payne have seven schools, numbering about seven hundred children. About seven months ago, Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Fenn started a boarding school for young girls, under the auspices of the American Consul, the immediate results of which have been so satisfactory, that it has been found necessary to enlarge the building. The night-schools for adults are frequented by about one hundred persons, each paying a small sum. One of the special difficulties of the work at Barcelona is that the language of the people is Catalin, and the mass hardly know any real Spanish. At Alicante, Mr. Knapp, a missionary of the American Baptist Society, has gathered an interesting congregation, within a very commodious chapel, in connection with which there is also a well-conducted Sunday-school. A second congregation of Pedobaptists, of about fifty members, have hired a hall, have furnished it, and keep it up exclusively at their own expense."

The *New York Examiner* of January 2d says: "Short Settlements seem to be the order of the day. It is said the Methodist are now the longest settled pastors in New England. One of the strongest Churches in the interior of Massachusetts, and one of the most desirable settlements, has been long without a pastor, and has already heard forty-five candidates, and more are on the way. This Church had a pastor settled nearly a half century. But since his death, change has been the order of the pastorate. Nearly all the old parishes that were famous for keeping a minister twenty-five years ago have been famous for change ever since. The old Church of Dr. Emmons, and that of Dr. Hawes, are cited as cases in point."

He who endows a college, or aids thereto, does that which, in all probability, will be of lasting and growing benefit to mankind. He contributes to create an enduring source of intellectual, moral, and religious culture. He helps to put in operation a power for good of incalculable might. He may die soon, and all his other accumulations be scattered by improvidence and folly, but the college he has helped to endow will go on "developing and ennobling men from generation to generation, to the end of time." The seed thus sown during all the generations of the future, may be producing thirty, sixty, or a hundred fold. What use, what bestowment of money can be more appropriate or more beneficent? What more necessary to meet the wants of the present time? What more Christian? None—absolutely none.—*Western Advocate.*

The *California Advocate* of November 21 has the following personal item:

On Thursday last Mr. Budgett, a son of the "Successful Merchant," (whose life was written by Arthur,) called on us and spent a half hour in social conversation. He has long been identified with the Methodist publishing interests in London. For a few weeks with his wife, son, and daughter, he has been visiting the most important cities in the United States and Canada. Returning East he will make a tour of the Southern States, and then, visiting the West Indies, will return to his home in England.

COMMENDABLE. The Baptist Church of Orange, N. J., of which Rev. Dr. Hague is pastor, last year appropriated $3,644 towards the support of 34 students in seven of their denominational institutions in various parts of the country. This year they have subscribed $3,772, and will devote it to the education of 41 students in nine of their seminaries.—*Christian Weekly.*

PLEASANT SURPRISE.—A pleasant event took place at the residence of the Rev. Mr. Narraway on Wednesday evening last. The ladies of the German Street Wesleyan Church, accompanied with a few friends, "surprised" the Rev. gentleman and his wife, and, after spending a pleasant evening, departed after leaving a purse containing $60, and other tokens of their friendship to the amount of $110 in all.—*St. John News.*

Rev. Henry Bascom, travelling companion of Bishop Asbury; and the oldest Methodist preacher in the United States, is now in his 85th year. On Sunday, December 1, he administered the ordinance of baptism to Kate and Lottie G., daughters of Mr. and Mrs. William B. Stewart, at their residence near Rossville Staten Island.

Messrs. Adam, Stevenson & Co., of Toronto, so we learn from the *Canadian Monthly*, are about to publish Dr. Punshon's lectures and a few admired sermons in a handsome volume.

THE British papers mention that Mr. Munsen of Birmingham, has given upwards to two million dollars to the literary and charitable institutions of that city and has been knighted by the Queen as a mark of her appreciation.

Mr. Lockhart, a Liverpool merchant, is a very popular lay preacher, and supplies the pulpit of a large edifice similar to the London Tabernacle, in the South end of the city. On a recent Sunday he officiated in Mr. Spurgeon's pulpit in London.

Bishop Peck has appointed Rev. J. C. Davidson and Rev. Julius Soper, members of the forth-coming graduating class of Drew Seminary, as missionaries to Japan. Bishop Wiley has selected Rev. I. H. Corrella, probationer of the Philadelphia Conference, to reinforce the mission at Foochow, China.

A new Life of Gideon Ouseley, the well-known Irish Evangelist, is soon to appear from the pen of Rev. William Arthur, A M.

General Intelligence.

INVESTMENTS.

The unusual high price of gold, for this season of the year, and its recent unexpected rise, makes the present a most favorable time to purchase Northern Pacific 7-30 Gold Bonds, sold as they are at par in United States currency. Private advices confirm the recent published intimation that a six per cent Bond may soon be issued for the balance that may be required to complete the road, and the sale of 7-30's discontinued. Early in the spring, trains will run regularly on more than 500 miles, and the completion of recent contracts, will give the company upwards of 800 miles of finished road by the close of the current year. Over $100,000 of these Bonds have been sold by the General Agent for these Provinces, principally to our foremost capitalists, in some cases $10,000 have been taken in a single lot in others, an equal amount, in numerous purchases, extending over many months, indicating a careful study of and increasing confidence in the security. $10,000 Dom. cy. invested in N. P. Bonds now will yield a yearly gold interest of $825. It will require $13,750 at six per cent. to yield the same amount. Besides this difference in interest the holder of the N. P. Bonds would have $1,300 added to his principal when the Bonds shall be paid. Holders of 5,20s and other low interest marketable Bonds and Stocks may thus see the advantage in exchanging for Northern Pacifics. The N. P. Bonds are issued for, and may be had in any sum, from $100 upward. It is stated by reliable authority that first mortgage R. R. Bonds of the U. S. for the last twenty years have proved the safest and best paying investments they have had there, excepting only Government Bonds. Some of the most popular U. S. R. R. Bonds are secured on the Roads only.

In addition to the road bed, rolling stock, telegraph lines and franchise, the N. P. bonds are a first charge on the land grant of about 23,000 acres per mile of road, the sales of which thus far have averaged $5.66 per acre. A pamphlet descriptive of the land grant, etc., of the road, compiled by the Gen'l Agent, from information derived mainly from sources independent of the Company, will be sent free to any applicant.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association of Halifax was held in Argyle Hall on Saturday evening. The reports of the various officers and committees shewed the Association's affairs to be in a very satisfactory condition. The following officers for the ensuing year were elected:

President—J. B. Morrow.

Vice Presidents—D. Henry Starr, Dr. Delaney, Dr. Gordon, Sheriff Bell, Thomas A. Brown, James C. McIntosh.

Corresponding Secretary—Archibald Patterson.

Treasurer—S. H. Black.

General Committee—Charles H. Longard, William Roche, Jr., John Smith, D. Blackwood, W. B. McNutt, Archibald Patterson, Joseph H. Townsend, E. D. King, Joseph S. Belcher, Hon. S. L. Shannon, W. H. Waddell, James Farquhar, John S. McLean, M. M. Lindsay, R. N. Beckwith, John Naider, W. H. Webb, J. W. Flemming, W. H. Wiswell, S. G. Matheson, Samuel M. Brookfield, D. M. Sterns, C. E. Puttner, A. G. Dow, James Forrest, M. Creighton, H. P. Burton, Edw. Jost, W. H. Neal, Dr. Slayter, J. F. L. Parsons, W. Y. Lougheed.

There are now on the books about 550 members—a small increase over last year's membership.

DARTMOUTH Y. M. C. A.—The annual meeting of this Association was held at the Rooms last Friday evening, and was well attended. The reports of committees for the past year were almost a blank, but as the meeting was intended to be the occasion, if possible, of reviving the Association, no one was discouraged or disappointed by the reports. A considerable amount of discussion took place with regard to the objects of the Association and the means by which those objects were to be attained. Considerable interest was manifested in the working of the Association, and a determination evinced to revive it and put it on a better footing than it has hitherto enjoyed. The officers for the ensuing years are:—President, James H. Austin; Vice President, J. H. Angwin, Leonard Leadly, John Gillard, Jr., and W. T. Forbes; Treasurer, G. J. T. Russel; Secretary, John A McDonald; Committee, S. A. Chesley, B. Russell, W. Cruikshanks, H. Shaen, W. H. Waddel, A. McKay, P. McNab and Dr. Cogswell. Geo. J. Troop, J. W. Johnston, and Jos. W. Allen, Esqr., were elected as a special Committee to assist, and advise the General Committee in regard to financial and other important matters.—*Chronicle.*

DEDICATION OF A NEW TEMPERANCE HALL.—A special despatch to the *Globe* says that the new Temperance Hall in Fredericton was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on Thursday evening in presence of a large gathering of spectators and temperance people. Unfortunately the Most Worthy Patriarch, O. D. Wetmore, Esq. was unable to be present, the train on which he was being delayed.

After the dedication ceremony, brief addresses were made by Messrs. Gaetz, McLeod, Everett, of St. John, and others, and there were readings by Mr. McWilliams, and musical selections by the Band of the 71st Batt. The evening was generally voted an enjoyable one.

From CHAS. F. E. SHIELS, Druggist, Portland, N. B.—"I have used Graham's Pain Eradicator in a severe attack of Neuralgia, and believe it to be invaluable in cases of that kind. Since using it myself I have recommended it to some of my friends, and in every case it gave the greatest satisfaction. I have known it to cure when Chloral Hydrate and Morphene failed to ease the pain."

THE "HIMALAYA" SAFE.—Sir Hastings Doyle received a telegram on Saturday from