STANDING REGULATIONS.

Correspondents must send their communications written in a *legible hand*, and, unless they contain the names of new subscribers, or remittances, *free of postage*; and entrust us in *confidence*, with their proper names and addresses.

The Editor holds not himself responsible for the opinions of correspondents—claims the privilege of modifying or rejecting articles offered for publication—and cannot pledge himself to return those not inserted.

Communications on *business*, and those intended for *publication*, when containing in the same letter, should, if practicable, be written on different parts of the sheet, so that they may be separated when they reach us.

Communications and Exchanges should be addressed to the Editor, Halifax, N. S.

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THE WESLEYAN.

Halifax, Saturday Morning, August 3, 1850.

THE TRUE ELEVATOR OF SOCIETY.

The morally degraded condition of the greater portion of the human family forces itself on the attention of meditative minds. A few bright spots, like stars in a night of storms, appear to relieve by their striking contrast the general gloom. After all the efforts of preceding centuries, and of present times, to ameliorate the circumstances of the debased portions of our race, the surface of society, to look no deeper, presents scenes at once calculated to appal by their enormity, afflict by their wretchedness, and excite to deepest commiseration by their ruinous character. Even in those communities most distinguished by the elevating power of christian truth, and the consequent humanizing influence of civilization, and the amenities of life, a great amount of moral degradation, ignorance and crime exists, demonstrating that the regeneration of the world, is, under the most favoured circumstances, but lamentably partial, and that both ample scope and urgent necessity remain for the utmost exertions and fervent prayers of the christian philanthropist. But when we look beneath the surface, and contemplate human character in the dark and saddening, yet truthful, colours in which it has been delineated by pens inspired of God, our position is increasingly painful. Whilst the sneers of men of dubious minds, who can see nothing in the moral phases of human society to deplore; nothing to justify the vast expenditure of pecuniary resources, of physical and mental skill, of Mind itself, on the part of the Christian Church in her recuperatory aims and in her performance of deeds of mercy; who would by more than content were the records of christian devotedness and christian zeal blotted from the sacred pages, and the mighty chain of agencies by the destruction of evangelical operations, left unsupplied and which it is attempted to substitute a meagre, half-rational, half-sensual process of improvement [illegible] sympathising with these decidedly erroneous views, though put forth with great labour under the specious pretension of [illegible] liberality, and freed from [illegible] we unhesitatingly declare our firm, unshaken conviction, that spiritual christianity is the only true, and efficient *regenerator* of mankind, and *elevator* of human society. A spurious christianity, unknown to, and unsanctioned by, the "oracles divine," is only debasing in its effects, and can only serve to accelerate the progress of human nature in its downward tendencies. [illegible] of the moral and religious [illegible] we are free to confess, in many instances, perhaps *secondary*. The [illegible] and religious results from [illegible] means alone were as unlikely [illegible] would be to [illegible] adequate [illegible] Life, may [illegible] character of you[illegible]

lation of the world, and infix within their breasts principles which shall influence them for good throughout life, and fit them for the duties and responsibilities inseparable from their being, and prepare them for the happiness of an ulterior and higher state of existence, we maintain, fearless of the shafts discharged by nerveless sciolism, that the instrument of that up-lifting must be pervaded and supported by evangelical truth. This may not be in accordance with the defective views of man's wisdom, but it is in thorough conformity with the deliverances which Infinite Wisdom has been pleased to utter. In theory as well as in practice we are resolved to abide fast and firm by the "old landmarks," persuaded that the truth of God, however overlooked or neglected by worldly men, will commend itself to the conscience, and approve itself to the judgment, of the humble and sincere christian, whose utmost wish must be, in all things, to conform himself, his thoughts, his principles, and his actions, to the Divine Will.

THE BRITISH CONFERENCE.

The British Conference, according to previous arrangement, was to have commenced its annual sittings in London on Wednesday last. In the course of a week or two we shall receive accounts of its doings, a synopsis of which we shall lay before our readers. All things considered, the present Conference perhaps may be regarded as one of the most important in the history of Wesleyan Methodism from its commencement to the present time. Never has it had more momentous subjects under its consideration than are those which will challenge its calm and unfettered deliberations during its present session: never has it had more need than it has now, of that wisdom from above which is profitable to direct; never more urgent claims on the sympathies and prayers of the members of our own Church at home and abroad, and of the lovers of peace, and truth and holiness throughout the world. More we need not add at present [illegible] speak, in its [illegible] sense synod [illegible] went supplications, and to ex[illegible]dent belief that this truly a[illegible]ble Body of Christian Mini[illegible]rected by the good Provide[illegible] the adoption of those measures, which, in the end, will tend most to promote the extension of the true principles of Wesleyan Methodism, the [illegible] Church universal, and the benefit of the world.

[illegible]

We [illegible] the Industrial Exhibition of all Nations [illegible] held in London in May 1851. [illegible] the English [illegible] display of [illegible] Horticulture, [illegible] Manufactures, Minerals, F[illegible] Mineral Kingdom of this Provin[illegible] circular issued by the Provincial Commissioners [illegible] that "in addition to purchasing articles from those who cannot afford to give their time and labour gratuitously, the Commissioners intend awarding pecuniary remuneration [illegible]

tention. James Forman Junr., Esquire, a member of the Board, will act as *Treasurer*, and acknowledge the receipt of all sums remitted him for Exhibition purposes."—To prevent unnecessary expense, by having too many specimens of the same description of material forwarded to the Capital, Catalogues of the Articles which each District can supply, with a brief historical or general account of the articles, are requested. We need not urge at length on the consideration of Nova Scotians the necessity of taking prompt and energetic measures, to supply specimens of the character required to fill the ample space allotted, in a manner which will be calculated to reflect *personal* credit on the competitors and others who may engage in the undertaking, and to do honour to our common Country. Nova Scotia abounds in valuable natural productions, and her sons, if disposed, are qualified to produce specimens of skill and workmanship, which may favourably compare with those of other lands. We indulge the hope that no time will be lost, no talent will be withheld, but that every available means and resource will be put into immediate requisition, in furthering the laudable objects contemplated by the Provincial Board of Commissioners for the honour of the land which must be endeared to the heart of every Nova Scotian.

WESLEYAN METHODISM IN ENGLAND.

According to the accounts published in the *Watchman* of July 17th., the state of religion in English Circuits is encouraging. Notwithstanding the recent agitations, the work of God advances, and contributions to the support of the cause of God are liberal. We are glad to see so many Circuits repudiating a desire for organic changes in Methodism, as it was, and as it is. Chapel building is progressing—new Sabbath School [illegible] and School—and though [illegible] is much to [illegible] the labours of our Ministers [illegible] and holy [illegible]

[illegible]

The July [illegible] which we thank [illegible] *Missionary Record* [illegible] The [illegible] number [illegible] of the be[illegible] stations of the agents of the Society, as well as other interesting matter. The Sub[illegible] success in their [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] anecdote in [illegible] periodicals. It is worthy of consideration—in bygone days, Coleridge once [illegible] quite a chal[illegible] vexed at being able [illegible] where he wanted to swim, and no[illegible] at a short distance a spot thickly overshadowed by the foliage of a large tree, cried out "Ah, there's a pretty place, let's go there!" "Nonsense," replied Coleridge, after glancing first at the water and then at the tree, "it isn't deep, it's only dark!"

On this circumstance a contemporary comments thus:—darkness is too often mistaken for depth. Many are [illegible] whose shallow souls is covered by the gloom of doubt, or overarched "a very deep Hollow," by his a [illegible] acquaintance. Not a few wi[illegible] [illegible] Mere than [illegible] sophistry [illegible] logical opinions is advanced merely because it is incomprehensible; superficial readers are ignorantly tempted to plunge into it, because its surface, [illegible] and dismal error, seems to [illegible]

Firmness of Principle.

The following anecdote related [illegible] nah More of the celebrated Dr. Johnson [illegible] bits in a striking manner the inflexibility of his moral principles:—I asked him, says Mrs More, if he did not think the Dean of Derry a very agreeable man, to which he made no answer; and, on my repeating the question, "Child" said he, "I will not speak any thing in favour of a Sabbath-breaker, to please you or any one else."

A Bouquet for Florists.

On the shady banks of the Rio Magdalena in South America, there grows a climbing Aristolochia, bearing flowers four feet in circumference, which the Indian boys draw over their heads in sport, and wear as hats or helmets. And in the islands of the Indian Archipelago, the flower of the Rafflesia is nearly three feet in diameter, and weighs about fourteen pounds.

Dr. Webster.

Littlefield, the principal witness for the government against Prof. Webster has had an interview with the condemned man. The Professor received him cordially, acknowledged the injustice he had done him, and asked his forgiveness, which Littlefield readily granted. Both parties were much affected during the interview and parted with mutual good feelings.

Too Much Altogether.

The annual cost of intemperance is said to be, in the United States, $40,000,000; in Sweden, $5,000,000; in Great Britain, $150,000,000; and in France, $200,000,000; and this immense sum is exclusive of the cost of private police, workhouses, &c., &c., which intoxicating drinks render necessary.

A boy, who a short time ago fell overboard from H. M. Sloop *Sappho* in the Bay of Fundy, not far from St. Andrews, and who was in great danger of perishing, was rescued from a watery grave by the gallant conduct of the Commander, Hon. A. A. Cochrane, son of the Earl Dundonald, who plunged into the water and succeeded in saving him.

H. M. S. *Plumper* went ashore on Thursday, the 25th ult., at the entrance of Digby Gut, but was a few hours afterwards got off, not however without considerable damage.

The Rev. John Mackinlay, the Rev. Charles Elliott, and George Smith, James Creighton, Alex. Forrest, M. D., and James Carter, Esquires, have been appointed Commissioners of Schools for the County of Pictou.

John Hall and Samuel Chipman, Esquires, have been appointed Delegates from King's County to the Portland Convention. £25,000 of stock, we understand, have been pledged to be taken in any line passing through the County.

On [illegible] day last we had a pouring down rain for some h[illegible] We [illegible] swarth would receive some [illegible] The weather has been warm and seasonable. The hand of Providence should be devoutly acknowledged in all our good.

We see it stated that the Directors of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company have accepted tenders for the immediate construction of five magnificent Atlantic Steamships for the voyages from Southampton to the Isthmus of Panama.

According to *Brewster & Smith* it is the intention of the owners of the British & North American R. M. Steamships to commence a line of screw Steamships, of great size and power, to convey goods and passengers to and from New York and Liverpool.

Letters addressed to Cabinet Ministers or officers of Government are still to be forwarded through the Post Offices in England.

Francis Jenny Swift, Esqr., has succeeded in extracting Naphtha from the Pitch Lake, which he exhibited publicly in the town of Port of Spain. The light was remarkably brilliant, and can be supplied at the rate of 4½ cents per hour. The light in one of Holliday's patent gas lamps was equal to that of 24 wax candles. Light is certainly increasing in the world.

The Kingston, Jamaica, Market is amply supplied with Mackerel. No sales did at [illegible] White Pine Lumber realizes [illegible] per M. Cedar Shingles are worth 25s. to 27s. per thousand.

A numerous meeting has been held in Turk's Islands for the purpose of expressing sympathy with the sufferers in the late calamity at Nassau.

Ferocious bulls have injured the salt making in Inagua. The prince would not let fire to rake for some time. The health of the Island was good.

On and from Sept. 2nd next, a modification of the present West India mail route scheme will come into operation. The steamers will no longer call at Bermuda, but will go direct, both on the 2nd and 17th of the month, to St. Thomas and Chagres, returning by the same route. Branch steamers will carry the mails to and from St. Thomas and Jamaica, the Mexican Gulf, the Spanish Main, and the Windward and Leeward Islands.

Dr. Vries of Trinidad has proceeded to England to communicate to the British Government an alleged valuable discovery. The Doctor says he has discovered motive power [illegible] extraordinary that the machine is simple, and can be [illegible] and kept in operation at very little cost, and without steam entirely aside. "There will be no more steam machinery," he says. "I have discovered the [illegible] Motion. I [illegible]