Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1870.

CHURCH COLONIZATION.

For some time past, probably every Methodist congregation in the world has, by its contributions in support of the Foreign Mission cause, to some extent acknowledged the obligations under which it has been placed by God to send the glorious tidings of salvation to the heathen. It would be both sad and singular were it otherwise. For the whole spirit of Christianity is missionary. Methodism itself from the beginning has, when true to its own nature, been simply a missionary movement. Its *raison d'etre*, the philosophy, the justification of its existence is purely missionary. The command of the Lord Jesus to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, is so clear, specific and imperative, that men whose hearts are warm with love to Him cannot be otherwise than missionary in their aspirations and tendencies. Then, the truly broad theology of Methodism is so comprehensive in its vision of the mercy of God, the atonement of Christ, and the efficacious working of the Divine Spirit, that it hardly seems possible to cherish a cordial belief in its dogmas without being eager to make known to the perishing the Common Father's plan and purpose of saving them. Besides, the best traditions of Methodism are pre-eminently missionary in their influence. It would be passing strange therefore were Methodism indifferent to the Mission cause. Happily it is not indifferent to that noblest of causes; though it has not done all that it could have done, and therefore ought to have done in its support. Perhaps the very glory of English Methodism is its devotion to the general work of evangelizing the world.

But it is acknowledged that in the Home department of the Mission cause, English Methodism for a considerable period until quite recently has been somewhat slack and unenterprising. It is true, that its large bands of evangelical workers have all along been toiling manfully in the regular field, and reaping fruitful harvests to be gathered from time to time safely into the Divine garner. They have not labored in vain, nor spent their strength for nought. Very, very far otherwise. Yet it is evident they had trusted too much to their regular ecclesiastical organization, their perfect discipline and the momentum of the general body; while they gave too little scope to individual congregational activity and push in their several spheres of exertion.

But matters are changing in an important degree. The Home Mission movement has rapidly developed into a condition of great strength, and has achieved in the gathering of new societies and congregations a most gratifying success. Strong as it is, it is as yet in its infancy, and it gives promise of one day attaining a magnificent manhood.

Nevertheless, it seems to us that in the direction of what may appropriately be called Church Colonization, very much might be accomplished in England and elsewhere that has not yet been attempted. What we mean by Church Colonization we will explain at length. We will suppose that in any populous community rapidly increasing in the number of its inhabitants, and not in all parts thoroughly provided for by the Evangelical appliances, there is established a Methodist congregation and Society. It will be an object with this congregation to strengthen itself in every proper way to fulfil its mission and become completely self-sustaining. If its chances of multiplying the numbers of its pew holders be ever so good it will not build too large a church, if it be wise, it will remember that it is not safe to calculate upon having the pulpit filled steadily by a minister possessed of a voice of more than average strength and clearness, or of pastoral habits of more than average tact and activity. Large brains and warm hearts are not always allied with strong lungs, and very large Churches should never be built. In every community, there is a considerable number of persons, more or less dull of hearing. In private conversation or in public buildings of moderate capacity, these may not, under ordinary circumstances painfully feel their loss. But in great churches, except when listening to voices unusually strong or clear, these partially deaf persons are unable to understand much that is said. A few years ago, in the vestry of Mr. Spurgeon's Tabernacle, in substance we asked that gentleman if he expected to preach in the Tabernacle pulpit forever, and, if he cherished no such expectation as that, where, after he was gone to a better tabernacle, could his people find another voice to fill the earthly one? He said, in reply, that there was *one* minister of the denomination beside himself whose voice was powerful enough to fill that vast edifice. For such a man as Mr. Spurgeon, it might be the part of wisdom to construct a church of such an immense size, even were it transformed into two churches after his death. But as a general rule, neither for the preacher nor the people ought churches to be very large. Two are better far than one, if the two should not be small, and if the one would be very great.

Let us suppose that our congregation, worshipping in a commodious church, has reached that point of development at which, after doing its part in support of the Foreign Mission cause, it is more than able to sustain its own minister, what then? Let it colonize immediately, if a suitable field is at hand. Let it fix upon a locality not sufficiently provided for with Church privileges, in which, or near which, some of its own members reside. Let the members dwelling near the chosen field of operations swarm forth from the parent hive of the old congregation, and begin to build up a new one. Or let the enterprising off shoots of several congregations aided by those congregations coalesce in some well selected portion of the town or city, and build up a new cause, and so on continually so long as there shall be a field for this kind of colonization in the community which is the scene of these operations. Had this plan been steadily pursued in the towns and cities of England during the past fifty years, Methodism would be twice as strong perhaps as it now is.

The Exmouth Street Church experiment in St. John, N. B. furnishes a fine illustration. In 1855 preaching was begun in the part of the city in which the Exmouth Street Church is built. In 1857 the Church was opened for public worship; and now there assembles in that church a large congregation and around the table of the Lord within it, a numerous and pious membership. The church is commodious and out of debt. An excellent brick parsonage has been built along side of it; and only a few yards from it stands a fine Sabbath School House, crowded weekly with an overflowing and prosperous school. The congregation has become perfectly self-sustaining; pays its minister promptly, and has spirited Missionary Meetings and noble Missionary collections. What a calamity it would have been for St. John Methodism had this Exmouth Street enterprise not have been undertaken. Noble-hearted-men both living and dead who helped forward that movement must feel deeply grateful that they were privileged to take part in it.

Unless we greatly mistake, the attempt now being made in the same city to Colonize in another direction within its bounds, will prove to be in good time equally successful with the Exmouth Street enterprise. A very good beginning has been made in various ways. We trust the work will be pressed on with vigour. A preaching place and school room has been secured; but the sooner the contemplated church is also built the better. If a goodly number of pews were speedily vacated in the Germain and Centenary Churches by families colonizing in the field, those pews would very soon be re-occupied by new hearers. The old churches would quickly fill up again. Their admirable situation under an energetic ministry will always secure for them good congregations. But we must pause here.

J. R. N.

OUR MINISTERS—AND MINISTRY.

To the Editor of the Provincial Wesleyan.

Dear Sir,—We have afforded ourselves and the printers a season of quiet on the subject heading this letter, and mean time observed the tendency of Methodistic thought within the compass of our observation relative to the subject of Minister's salaries. There has been much said and a little written as to the questions opened up. The importance of the subject is generally acknowledged. A solitary voice has given it a secondary consideration, without evidently lending that serious thought to a matter of vital moment which its merits have demanded. In a broad, liberal and intelligent spirit we should approach any discussion which may involve individual as well as general interests; local or occasional facts, or arguments ought not to affect the discussion of a principle whose extensive folds take in an entire church's well being.

We have glanced at the relative position of our Ministers financially as compared with those of other churches. The general impression appears to be that, including the advantages of farms and investments of other kinds, permitted to those, taking the entire ministerial life we are not so favourably situated. But even if the advantages were really in our favour, that does not establish the fact that our Brethern are amply remunerated: it simply proves that others are less generously treated still.

The comparison of our Conference with other branches of the great methodistic body has formed a part of the discussion; but there are so many features of social and domestic tax in these Provinces which differ widely from those of other countries, that perhaps it would be unjust to strike a balance-sheet in this way. We can only see the full force of our own condition, and it is so humilating as to call for immediate action.

There is another comparison which has not been attempted:—that between our ministers and the ordinary mechanical and professional citizens around us. An authority not to be disputed has placed the average salary in our conference even lower than was at first stated in our letters. It would appear that $1,50 a day is more than our ministers generally receive. There is no man blessed with health and wielding industriously the most common implement of toil, who cannot earn more than this with fair opportunity. We are acquainted with several mechanics who save twice that amount and would think themselves cruelly wronged if deprived of any portion of it. Men of education, not always rewarded according to their qualifications it is true, do not usually count their profits by single dollars; in the very common successes of today they regard themselves as unfortunate if they fail to realize a competency in a short lifetime. True, there are reckless adventurers who fail in life; but the industrious and frugal and educated ordinarily prosper; and our ministers can bear comparison with the very best of them. We are not claiming equal favours and fortunes with our princely merchants. With us it is a question of *living*, of keeping afloat in a sea of wide and increasing difficulty. We leave the question of great affluence to others.

With the very great appreciation of what ministers are in life and influence, it is more than surprising that the question of their support has not received more attention. Our legislators frame laws and their country deals with them liberally; no public sentiment condemns the principle of prompt and generous payment to him who benefits the state. The guardian of our property and lives, who paces the street in weary watches, is a social benefactor and we cheerfully accord him his due. The discovery of any process by which human toil is lightened or misery alleviated is secured by patent and remembered by prosperity. Every successful author is enriched by the production of his hand and brains. And so through the entire round of industry and faithfulness and genius. Yet here is a class of men—the Ambassadors of Christ, the commissioned of Heaven—who give their lives to works of industry, benevolence and mercy, yet their pittance of salary depends in great measure on the energy with which they present their claims to the people! In days of health and prosperity they mould society, restraining its excesses, encouraging its virtues, denouncing its sins. When pestilence approaches they walk among the dying or are the servants of the dead. In prison, in sorrow, in poverty, in disappointment they are messengers of love. If our land is at peace—no bugle blast starting our slumbers—no prowling assassins in our chambers—no robbers in our vaults, we owe it as much to our ministers, past and present, as to any class of men. England, it is said, neglects her great men while they live, and worships them when they are dead: we fear the expression applies to the true Briton in different lands and this treatment of great men of more than one class.

The present writer indulges in no spirit of self-laudation. His brethern are very near his heart and very lovely in his estimation when compared with sinful beings in the aggregate; his own merits he leaves out of the question—thankful to be considered—"one of the least of these." More anon.

A Wesleyan Minister.

MINISTERS' SALARIES, &c.

To the Editor of the Wesleyan.

Dear Sir,—As a constant and deeply-interested reader of the *Provincial Wesleyan*, my attention has been drawn to some letters bearing the somewhat startling heading, "What is to become of our Ministers and Ministry?" which have recently appeared in your columns. The enquiry is certainly one of great importance, for if the position of the Ministry of the Conference of Eastern British America be imperilled, the great and blessed work which, under God, has been wrought through them, and of which they have the oversight, will suffer; and the toils and sacrifices of our fathers be well nigh lost. The opinion which I have formed is this: your correspondent has made it apparent that there is cause for grave and earnest enquiry on the part of both preachers and people, but there is no occasion for panic and alarm.

The Ministry of the Methodist Churches as a whole is second to none for zeal, ability and power, yet it is well known that it is not adequately paid for its services. It is so in all places, it has been so in all stages of its history, and in all probability it will be so the end.

The system of Methodism easily accounts for this, in its ever-enlarging sphere, its restless evangelism, and its equalization of burden and support, it appears destined to remain a toiling, hard-working Church, and its Ministry under-paid. The question before us is, whether in view of these facts which we think cannot be denied, the Ministry of your recently-formed and struggling Conference is in a worse case than the Ministry of other sections of Methodism. I do not believe that it is so. I do not think that your correspondent has furnished the requisite proof. References have been made to the exceptionally high salaries paid to a few Methodist preachers in some of the more favored localities in the United States, but will a fair statement of the average salaries paid to the vast army of preachers in the M. Episcopal Church prove in comparison so damaging to those paid in E. B. America? We have been reminded of losses accruing from your Ministers seeking more remunerative employment in other fields of labor, but is it quite true that that has been the principal motive? Has it been ascertained that they have secured the higher salaries to which reference has been made? It is known that several good and true men who were once in your ranks are now engaged in other fields of holy toil, but in the great majority of cases it has been questions of health, convenience, or domestic arrangements which necessitated the change.

We cannot report any very high salaries as being paid to Methodist ministers in England. Our Chapel Committee and Missionary Secretaries are the most exceptional cases, receiving £200 per annum, with the usual provision of a house, furniture, &c. Then we have the cases of those who occupy first class positions in Metropolitan Circuits, or the leading provincial towns, and on careful enquiry we find that £180 is considered a most liberal allowance. The scale descends rapidly, and in some districts we find that £100 only is allowed, or about $500 of your currency. Seeking for accurate information on this point, and from a wider stand-point than my own, some hesitation was manifested, and the correctness of my finding questioned when I determined to report the average income of the Methodist preachers in England at £120, or $600. My experienced friend of 34 years' standing in the Ministry would have placed it at $25 lower; while some of his reminiscences of a few years ago would form a somewhat painful chapter in ministerial biographies.

It must be remembered that there are hundreds of ministers whose incomes range from $500 to $600, and no provision made for horse or travelling expenses, except in the cases of a few aged men, or any whose condition may imperatively demand it; for them a grant is made from the Contingent Fund of $50 each for "Circuit travelling." Even where the most careful arrangements are made to carry the preacher to his distant appointments, there is nevertheless a considerable item of outlay for travelling for which the circuit is not accountable. The allowance for children as fixed by Conference, and only exceeded in comparatively few circuits, is £6. 6s., against the £8 which is the standard allowance with you. Every minister who is in connection with the Supernumerary Fund (and nearly all are so connected) has to pay £6 annually; let this be placed against the $10 payable into your fund. The high price of provisions, and the general cost of living in the old country must be taken into account in this comparison. Meat for three years past has averaged in this locality from 18 to 20 cents per lb; butter from 24 to 36 cents, and all kinds of vegetables proportionably high. I have had experience in the cost of living in both countries to which reference is now being made, and am in a position to give an opinion as to the largely augmented cost of nearly all the necessaries of life in this land. The demands upon the Minister for charitable contributions and for the relief of his poor members are more constant and formidable on this side, and the extras in the form of liberal discounts, and presents, are not so frequent as with your brethren. After taking into account the unpaid deficiencies, which press heavily upon numbers of your ministers, yet I am persuaded that very many of them have no severer struggles to pass through than brethren over here, and that many with us would not find the change to your allowances and manner of life at all embarrassing, or to their disadvantage. I have written with much plainness, which perhaps demands an apology, but I do most earnestly desire to save the brethren in your Conference, and especially the younger ones, from a feeling of dissatisfaction with their field of labor, and from any desire or attempt to forsake it in hopes of bettering their financial position in any considerable degree. I have no great fear that this will be the result of the discussion in your columns.

It may rather result in the formation and strengthening of a prayerful resolution to abide in it, and yet further develop its fine resources, and carry out the grand designs of our sainted predecessors.

Let there be no depreciation of your rising Dominion—no attempt to draw damaging comparisons which may produce dissatisfaction while the full answer may be tarrying. Methodism everywhere demands at the hands of its Ministry brave and unshrinking toil, and continual sacrifice. Its rewards are not pecuniary, but its financial system as a whole has not yet been improved upon. In another letter I may possibly venture a few remarks upon your financial matters, and meanwhile remain

Yours truly,

D. E. F.

England, Feb. 7, 1870.

ENGLISH CORRESPONDENCE.

The General Chapel Report—Post Office Telegraphs—The Ritual Commission—Opening of Parliament—The Weather.

Dear Mr. Editor,—The General Chapel Report for the year has just been issued, being the fifteenth of the series. Like its predecessors it is a document of great ability, methodical in arrangement, and full of valuable suggestions. The amount of business transacted in this department of Methodism, in the past twelvemonths is most gratifying. It proves that in the midst of many new enterprises, and urgent claims upon their liberality our people are steadily advancing in the erection of Chapels and in the payment of debts. The amount actually raised and paid for these purposes alone was £213,486 stg. Taking the aggregate of these three past years we find that provision has been made for 100,000 additional worshippers in Methodist sanctuaries. In the same period the actual increase of the societies in enrolled class members has been 14,343. In view of these facts it is hoped that while great progress is being made, the true work of the Church of Christ in the ingathering of souls has made some advance. It is important to remember the increase of membership, as an impression prevails that while costly and beautiful chapels are being erected, Methodism at home is not retaining its ancient prestige in the conversion of the ungodly. The outlay for schools has been £14,859, a much smaller amount than in previous years. The Loan Fund of £40,000 is working exceedingly well, and by its timely aid in loans, repayable in ten yearly instalments without interest, is saving to the Connexion large sums that were expended as interest, and freeing our chapels from the incubus of debt.

The transfer of the Telegraph lines from the hands of private companies, into those of the Government, has been effected within the last few days and is much commented upon. It is destined to work a great and beneficial revolution in Telegraphing. When it is fully completed there will be an increase of about 5000 offices, and the benefits of the system will be experienced in many out of the way places to which the old companies could never have ventured to carry their lines. An uniform rate of one shilling for all messages not exceeding 20 words, has been established for all places in the United Kingdom. Messages can be written on stamped papers and dropped into receiving boxes or pillars and will be transmitted as soon as received at the office.

Our Postmasters are all to assume charge of the Telegraphs in connection with their respective offices, and in due time every Money Order Office and Post Office in the Kingdom will be in a position by means of its Telegraph wires to place us in constant communication with the great world around.

After waiting about two years the public has been favored with another Report from the Commission on the Ritual of the English Church. The deliverance this time is upon the Scripture Lessons appointed to be read on Sabbaths and week-days. Some important and useful changes are recommended, but they do not come into force until made authoritative by Act of Parliament.

To the great regret of many they retain on the list of lessons, a few portions from the Apocrypha, for four Sabbaths and about forty for week days. It was hoped that that this objectionable feature would have been entirely done away. The greater part of the Books of Chronicles, the prophecy of Ezekiel, and the Book of the Revelation will now be read ie due order; for by some mysterious arrangement or oversight of the past, those valuable portions of Holy Scriptures have not been read in our National Churches.

The Scriptures appointed for the Festivals of the Church are selected so as to be in unison with the intention of the day, and where a third Sabbath service is held the choice of the second lesson is left entirely optional, provided it be from the New Testament.

These small concessions in favour of much-needed changes in the ritual, are eagerly hailed by Churchmen as wonderful boons, while to the general public it is amazing that so large and influential a Commission should, after so long a time, produce only a few amended Tables, and dignify them with the name of a Report.

The Queen has been suffering from severe attacks of neuralgia, and in consequence was unable to open Parliament in person. The ceremony was devoid of all interest, and the public lost one of the shows in which they so greatly delight. The Royal speech is of the usual staple, and promises of much useful legislation abound. It is generally admitted that time cannot be found for the full Ministerial programme, and as there is no remedy, useful measures will have to lay over for another year. The Irish Land Bill and National Education will be the principal topics this session of the Imperial Parliament.

The weather is unusually severe, the frosty spells are frequent and protracted, and snow has again and again covered the ground. For an English winter it is decidedly cold and and trying. B.

Feb. 11, 1870.

Circuit Intelligence.

MISSIONARY ANNIVERSARIES, HALIFAX.

The second week of February is generally anticipated with great interest in Methodist circles here, because of our Missionary Anniversary services; and this year the expectation of an able deputation consisting of Rev. Jas. G. Hennigar, Chairman of the District, and Brethren Nicolson and Joseph Gaetz, assisted by a strong corps of Presbyterian, Baptist and Congregationalist ministers and several of our own beloved laymen that would do honour to any platform, led some of us at least to hope very favourably both as to the meetings themselves and their financial results. It is gratifying now to know that our anticipations have been fully met. The claims of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, to which the Methodists of E. B. A., owe an infinite debt of gratitude, have received once more among us a most fitting presentation, and there is good reason to believe that Halifax Wesleyans this year are likely to continue to occupy the foremost rank in the Conference in missionary offerings, unless our brethren elsewhere determine otherwise, and by enlarged contributions contend for the honour—to which we by no means object. The sermons on the Sabbath were earnest and practical, sound and faithful expositions of the world's great necessity, and of the Church's privilege and duty to evangelize the world, just of the kind to be an admirable preparation for the more discursive and specific appeals of the meetings about to follow.

The services were held in the Brunswick-street church on Monday evening, Feb. 14, John Starr, Esq., in the chair; on Tuesday evening in Grafton street, E. Loyd, Esq., Chairman; on Wednesday evening, in Dartmouth, J. B. Morrow, Esq., presiding, and on Thursday evening, in Kaye street, under the Chairmanship of Joseph Kaye, Esq. At each meeting a report of the receipts, expenditure and operations of the Parent Society and of the Conference Auxiliary was read by the Superintendent of the Circuit, and such references made to distinguished instances of liberality and zeal on behalf of the good cause, as seemed justly merited. Suitable resolutions were moved or seconded in Brunswick street by Rev. Messrs. Hennigar, Elliott, McGregor, and Nicolson, and Messrs. Shannon and Knight; in Grafton street by Rev. Messrs. Nicolson, Hennigar, Campbell and Gaetz, and Messrs. Morrow and Dr. Black; in Dartmouth by Rev. Messrs. Hennigar, Faulkner, Hunt, and Gaetz, and Messrs. B. Russell and Chesley; and in Kaye street by Rev. Messrs. Gaetz, Goucher, Forrest and Hennigar. A programme so complete and varied every evening, as might be expected, exhausted every argument, appealed to every motive, recounted every indication of success, told of missionary toil and trial, borne even with martyrdom, surveyed the discouraging as well as cheering aspects and movements of the times, denouncing in withering terms treachery within the Church, and exposing and exploding new-fangled but hoary fallacies without, Protean in shape, grew eloquent on the wonderful openings of Divine Providence in the mission field, and waxed warmer and stronger as gratitude ascribed all the glory to God for what had been accomplished in the past, and faith kindled somewhat of seraphic ardor, as it gladly brought home to the heart the fulfillment of prophetic vision. Vain would it be, Mr. Editor, for me to attempt even an *epitome* of addresses which, without adulation, may be said to have had, not only the *right ring* but full weight and the clear image and superscription of the Lord's Anointed. We are thankful for the effective human instrumentality with which we were favoured; but more especially because of its being accompanied by the Divine Unction, making many hearts burn with an ardour never before experienced, and I trust leading many to resolve upon working more earnestly in the Lord's vineyard. Would that the appeals made to our young men concerning personal consecration to missionary work may meet with the proper response, and to *all* respecting systematic beneficence, as the Lord hath prospered them, may be the means of increasing largely missionary income,

A pleasing feature in the Brunswick street and Grafton street meetings showed itself after the collection, in the presentation of annual offerings. At the former $60 were presented by "Nemo," through the Superintendent, as continued fruits of obedience to the apostolic injunction, "lay by in store as God hath prospered you;" $100 as a thank-offering for success in business; $25.25 from the Young Men's Bible Class; and $156.12, collected by the children of the Sabbath-school. At the latter $38.26 were presented from the Sabbath-school.

Total receipts of Anniversary Meetings—

Brunswick Street - - -	$457.48
Grafton Street. - -	250.03
Dartmouth - - -	46.36
Kaye Street, - -	30.17
	$784.04

Halifax, Feb. 28, 1870. G. S. M.

YARMOUTH SOUTH.

Mr. Editor,—We held our Missionary Anniversary last evening, (Feb. 22nd), and have to write that it was a decided success. Our friend N. Moses, Esq., took the chair, and in a few remarks introduced the subject for consideration; Christian Missions as seeking to fulfil the command of Christ. The report read was a synopsis of a synopsis, embracing only the receipts and expenditure of the year. The Superintendent in the absence of an expected speaker made a few remarks on the topic assigned, "Gratitude for past success." Rev. Mr. Wasson next spoke on the topic; "Whitened fields, ready for the Reapers," and glanced at some nations providentially opened for the gospel. Rev. Mr. Hart spoke next, his theme being, "Christian labor the want of the world." He pointed out the duty of the Church to work, and the kind of work demanded. Rev. Mr. Christie next spoke on the subject, "Gathering to scatter, and scattering to increase." The subject of liberality was well and pointedly put, arguing that to ask for the support of God's cause was not *begging*, but a duty fulfilling the requirements of the Bible. The plate collection amounted to the sum of $9.70. Subscription papers were passed round by four of our friends. From the choir was given a challenge; as the Superintendent said they could make an increase of £15 on last year, which was $65; that three of them would give as much as any three in the church. Accordingly it was accepted, and four subscriptions were given each of $20; which was met with two $30 and one $20 subscriptions. The total as subscribed, and the are all good men and true, so that no subscriptions are likely to be lost, made up the sum of $225 including the collection. This is the highest amount raised here, since the organization of the Conference at least; the highest amount for Yarmouth town being in the year 1861--2 when it was $122.

It is a matter of concern to us, not so much financial success, as spiritual of which this may be only the precursor. Malachi's prophecy of the opened heavens pouring out great blessings, is connected with the tithes brought into the storehouse, then try and prove the Lord if the promise will not be fulfilled. We have for some time kept this in view, and some in the use of the ordinary means of grace are seeking salvation, for God's Spirit has rendered many of our gatherings of late, extraordinary seasons of refreshing. Our prayer is, "may the showers of blessing descend." J. S.

THE WINDSOR SABBATH SCHOOL.

Mr. Editor,—Last evening completed a series of engagements which were contemplated early in the season. The Library had gone down: a score of voices declared it must be replenished and on a scale worthy of the cause. On the faith of this purpose we were instructed to order one hundred dollars worth of Books—let it be known in honour of our Book Steward's taste, to whom the selection was chiefly delegated, and in attestation of the merits of his ample and varied stock of literature, that, perhaps for the first time in the history of Sabbath Schools—everybody is delighted with the Library. New music-books—"Notes of Joy"—were also secured in ample supply. A more complete assortment of chaste, stirring, sweet harmonies has never been given to the public. We advise all Sabbath Schools to order them through our Book-room forthwith.

We had now to meet the duty of payments. With an intelligent purpose, and a combined Sunday School almost anything is possible. Much depends upon a chief in all kinds of warfare; and where there is a superintendent who may be patted on the cheeks by tiny, soft hands, and pouted at laughingly in hours of recreation and yet can control a hundred scholars by a single look through the love they bear for him, any one may hope for good things. Windsor has found that man. His teachers are worthy of him. They organized and laid down their plans. A lecture was announced for early in January, and by selling Tickets they literally packed the spacious Temperance Hall. This brought them $55. A kind of conglomerate occasion was next resorted to, consisting of Reunion, Fancy sale, Tea-meeting, Concert and speeches, by which $115 were secured. Last night our little Church was crowded to witness the Sabbath School Annual Exhibition. The generous public again responded with a handsome collection. The Fund has thus reached one hundred and eighty dollars.

We have heard it said with something like a sneer, years ago,—Dear me, what petty and questionable means some good people will resort to for the sake of money! But money is *not* the only object in these efforts. That might be obtained as cheerfully by personal application. It is the *social element* in our Churches which we wish to reach by such means—to bring the people and children into common sympathy and co-operation; to give them the feeling that they have a home and an interest in the Church.

The exhibition was very fine. For two hours the vast audience sat or stood in admiration. Every variety of recitation, music and addresess we were favored with. Large classes performed their difficult parts in combination. Little girls stood and repeated their verses like angel's whispers, then in all the simplicity of their little hearts threw themselves from the platform into the arms of their parents. Twelve such miniature ladies sang "Hold up our hands," and went through the entire performance of preparation for school with mimic gestures, combing, washing, brushing and challenging scrutiny of their snowy whiteness of skin. It was with the utmost difficulty the audience could be restrained from hearty and repeated applause, by references to the sacredness of the place.

All are eagerly looking forward to the enlargement of our church and the space that will then be enjoyed for our general work. The cost will probaby exceed $4000, but there is no intention of marring the object by niggardliness. Nearly three-fourths of this amouni is already secured by Bazaar and subscriptions, nor has a thorough canvas as yet been made within the limits of the congregation.

We are still cheered by occasional evidences of God's presence in our midst,—reclaiming, subduing and converting sinners. And of all prosperity, this is the chief!

A. W. N.

BRITISH AMERICAN BOOK AND TRACT SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of this Society was held in Grafton Street Church on Monday evening. Hon. M. B. Almon, President, was unable to attend on account of ill health. Rev. G. W. Hill presided and spoke very hopefully of the position and work of the Society. Rev. A. McBean, Secretary, gave an abstract of the Report, from which we gather the following facts:—The receipts of the year were $14,583, being an increase over the amount of the preceding year of $8,270, and about $5000 more than the united receipts of this Society, and the Depository on Barrington Street for the same year. The total expenditures have been $14,364. Under statistics of Colportage the following interesting particulars are given. The number of Colporteurs employed is 6, time employed 49 months, total sales by ditto $3,155. Gratuitously circulated by ditto $255. They have held 250 Prayer Meetings, and found families destitute of religious books to the number of 57, destitute of the bible 71 families. Roman Catholic families visited 946, the number of Protestant families neglecting religious ordinances, visited 130, number of families conversed with on personal religion and prayed with, 5,543. Total of families visited 11,226.

There have been distributed by sale and grant over 50,000 volumes—including 3261 bibles, 1882 testaments, 4026 of the "Pilgrims Progress," 3250 of "The Annals of the Poor," 674 "God's way of Peace" 828 copies of "Anxious Inquirer," Baxter's Call and "Allein's Alarm," 297 copies of "Saints Rest" 406 copies of "Come to Jesus, 350 copies of "Call to Prayer" and 144 copies of the "Way of Life." Besides these, 115,000 Periodicals have been circulated, including over 10,000 given away gratuitously, with 1,600,000 pages of tracts which have been sown broadcast over the land.

The operations of the Society extend now to New Brunswick.

D. Blackwood, Esq., moved the following Resolution, which was seconded by Alderman Montgomery:—

Resolved,—That the Annual Report, an abstract of which has now been read, be published under the direction of the Executive Committee, and that devout thanks be rendered to God for the Divine favor in prospering and enlarging the operations of the Society, and for the crowning blessing of souls saved through its instrumentality.

The next resolution was proposed by the Hon. S. L. Shannon, and seconded by the Rev. Mr. Simpson, and was to the following effect:—

Resolved,—That Union Missionary Colportage, combining the personal, prayerful efforts of christian men in seeking to win souls to Christ and the distribution of religious books and tracts of an evangelical character, is an import and anxiliary in promoting the cause of the Gospel, especially among the more destitute of our population.

On motion of T. F. Knight, Esq., seconded by D. H. Starr, Esq., the following gentlemen were appointed office-bearers for the ensuing year. *President:* Hon. M. B. Almon; *Vice-Presidents:* Rev. G. S. Milligan, Rev. J. E. Goucher, Rev. G. W. Hill, Rev. John Forrest; *Treasurer:* George H. Starr; *Auditors:* R. N. Beckwith, Joseph Bell; *Directors:* Rev. F. Almon, Rev. E. M. Saunders, Rev. A. Simpson, Rev. R. Murray, Rev. J. A. Clark, A.M., W. S. Sterling, J. S. Maclean, T. A. Brown, A. K. Doull, D. H. Starr, W. Montgomery, Hon. Dr. Parker, D. Simpson, T. F. Knight, W. B. McNutt, W. Roche, junr., J. Grierson, H. N. Paint, E. Binney, Esq., W. H. Wiswell, Esq.

Devotional exercises were engaged in at intervals, a collection was taken up and the meeting was closed by the pronouncing of the Benediction by the chairman.—*Witness.*

Persons affected, however slightly, with any weakness of the Chest or Throat, involving either the Larynx, Trachea, Bronchial Tubes, or the Lungs themselves, should on the first symptoms commence with *Fellow's Compound Syrup of Hyphosphites* as by its use diseases of those organs (even Consumption in its primary stage,) are speedily cured, and more alarming symptoms prevented.

Sold by Apothecaries. Price $1,50 per bottle, or six for $7,50.

General Intelligence

NOVA SCOTIA.

House of Assembly met at 3 p. m. on Friday.

Several Bills and Petitions were presented.

A Bill entitled an Act to provide in a summary mode to recover possession of Crown Lands was presented by the Attorney General.

The Provincial Secretary laid on the table the Correspondence relating to the Arichat Schools; also papers relating to the dismissal of Mr. Rand and appointment of Rev. Mr. Hunt.

Tuesday was fixed as the day for the discussion of this matter after a somewhat spicy irregular discussion in which the leading members of the Government insisted that they were anxious for an early and thorough discussion; and Mr. Purdy and others that the discussion should not precipitated, but that time should be given for the examination of the papers already presented and for the production by the Government of others which were necessary to enable the House to come to a correct conclusion in regard to the propriety or otherwise of Mr. Rand's dismissal.

Arrival Home of the "Orontes."—The Troopship *Orontes*, from this port, with the 16th Regt., on board, arrived in England on the 8th inst. She encountered boisterous weather and lost four horses on the passage. Some of her sails were blown away in the gale, but beyond this the ship sustained no damage. The Orontes left this port on the 27th ult. On the 30th it blew so hard that Captain Phelps ordered the vessel to lie to for a few hours. Next day three horses died of sheer exhaustion from continued bad weather and incessant rolling of the ship. The weather became worse on the 4th inst. and the steamer was again hove too on the 5th, until noon next day. It blew a terrific hurricane for five hours on the night of the 5th, and at one time the ship was in imminent danger of foundering as sea after sea rolled over her. The engine fires were put out and she lay nearly on her beam ends, completely at the mercy of the waves. Subsequently, the vessel righted herself, the wind having moderated, but her situation for some time was critical. There were no casualties among the men of the 16th Reg't.

The Missing Steamer.—It is impossible to exaggerate the painful anxiety which prevails in Halifax—and indeed throughout the Lower Provinces—respecting the steamer "City of Boston," which left this port on the 28th January for Queenstown

The R. M. S. *City of New York* made the passage from Queenstown to this port in seven days and twenty-one hours. There is yet no tidings of the *City of Boston*. The *Etna*, which sailed from this port a fortnight later, arrived home on Sunday morning.

"Moral Warfare or the True Campaign," was the title of a very eloquent and interesting Lecture delivered in the Temperance Hall on Tuesday evening the 22nd ult. by the Rev. Jabez A. Rogers of Dartmouth. It was listened to by a very crowded audience with the closest attention and evidently very great satisfaction. The Lecture was one of the Course for which the public is indebted to the Young Men's Christian Association.

A Mysterious Case.—On the evening of Sunday last, Mr. Lowey, travelling agent of the Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company, left this city for Lunenburg, at which place he had some business to transact. The travelling being bad he stopped all night at the "Eight Mile House," and in the morning started to pursue his journey, but during the day he was found lying on the side of the road, some distance from where he had put up, badly wounded in the forehead, and completely insensible. The horse and sleigh Mr. Lowey had, arrived at Mr. Hubley's on the Margaret's Bay Road, without a driver. Upon the horse arriving, Mr. Hubley started to search for the driver, and found Mr. Lowey in the condition described. Yesterday Dr. Trenaman visited the injured man, whom he found still insensible, and unable to give any account of the disaster which had befallen him.

Mr. Lowey was brought to Halifax by Mr. Shadford of the Inkerman House, on Saturday last. All kinds of statements are afloat as to the cause of this mysterious accident. We are authorized to state that the injured man has never since the mishap been able to give any clue to its cause. On Saturday he could not recognize his most intimate friends. Yesterday, under Dr. Slater's treatment, he was considerably better, but only at intervals has he been able to recognize those around him. The doctor says that the skull is fractured, but there is good hopes of his recovery, Perfect quiet has been imposed, and any mention of the accident to him has been strictly prohibited by his medical attendant. There are hopes that in a day or two he will be able to give a lucid account of this "mysterious" affair. We do not wish to give it more importance than it deserves, but we are still of opinion that the mystery has not yet exploded.—*Citizen.*

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Storm of Saturday, the 19th inst.,—was very severe, and has spread desolation far and wide. Railroads, bridges, mills, and private dwellings, have suffered great loss. Western Extension came in for its share of injury, and Eastern Extension was assailed at several points by the rushing flood. At St. George, St. Andrews, and St. Stephen, the storm raged with great violence, and destruction of horses, cattle, and sheep at St. George, are reported to the *Telegraph and Journal*. The Hampton Bridge was shaken, but not seriously injured. The new bridge in course of erection across the Nerepis, was slightly damaged. At Sussex, there was a general sweep of the bridges, and private dwellings, were flooded. The *Telegraph* says: at Anagance several small bridges were carried away; and that James Howard, of Goshen, while attempting to drive across the bridge at the Portage, was swept off and both he and horses were drowned. The body was not recovered at last accounts.—*Visitor.*

Finances of New Brunswick.—From the annual report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, it appears that on the 31st of October, 1868, there was a balance on hand of $213,073.09; and that the receipts during the fiscal year ending Oct. 31, 1869, were $534,499.84, making in all a gross total at the disposal of the Local Government during the year 1869, of $747,572.93. Of this sum a balance of $113,040.49 remained in hand on the 31st of October, 1869.

Resigned.—William Mills, Esq., has resigned the office of Principal of the Provincial Training School of New Brunswick.

NEW BRUNSWICK LEGISLATURE.

Up to the time of our latest report from Fredericton, no matter of general interest or importance had been discussed in the House of Assembly.

The all-absorbing topic in Fredericton has been the Clerkship of the Legislative Council.

It seems that the Government assumed the right of dismissing the Clerk of the Legislative Council, Geo. Botsford, Esq., and appointed another, a Mr. Bliss, without consulting the Council. This has been resented by the Council as an infringement of its right and privilege.

This matter has been informally noticed in Lower House. It was first brought up by Mr. Caie asking the Government if it was true that the Clerk of the Upper House had been dismissed, and if so, why it had been done. The Attorney General replied in the affimative, and gave the following reasons, which he had already at hand in writing, as though expecting some such question. These reasons are given by the learned Attorney General, are as follows:—

"His avowed Annexation opinions, which the Government believed to be entirely adverse to the loyal feelings of the people, and highly detrimental to the best interests of the Province.

His open hostility to the existing Government which in the opinion of the present Government should not be allowed in a public officer.

That Mr. Botsford, being indebted to the crown on a bond dated the 16th of March, 1865, in the penal sum of £1,560, conditioned for payment of the sum of £780, as follows:—If paid within three months from date, without interest. If not paid within three months but within six months from date then at the rate of three per cent interest from date to the date of twelve months—and if not paid within twelve months from date then to be paid with interest at six per cent. This bond was not paid according to the condition of the bond, though Mr. Botsford was called on for payment. That a suit was instituted against Mr. Botsford by the then Attorney General, Hon. Charles Fisher, and Mr. Botsford caused an appearance to be entered to the suit