

Vice-President of the Bible Society, some of those people who can do right if assured that others did it before, raised a doubt whether there was a precedent for conferring that honour on a non-titled gentleman. A member of the Committee reckoned up that in a given time, Mr. Farmer and his family had contributed more to the Society than all its titled patrons put together. His benevolence was not confined to some few best schemes: like all men who "devise" liberal things for themselves, and do not wait for others to devise and do them, he had his favourite objects; but his aid, in one degree or other, availed every Fund of his own Church, and every effort of the Church Catholic. And this general support of good things lay one secret of his general influence; yet it may be doubted whether by more concentrating his gifts on some great reproductive works of the Church, he would not have made a more permanent impression. We may take for granted that the more a man is known to be rich and benevolent the more applicants he must disappoint; and this being the case, the wonder is that, considering the greatness of Mr. Farmer's reputation in this respect, the complainants were so few. Had all the plans which worthy people formed for using his hundreds and thousands been carried into effect, his neighbour Hothschild must have come to his aid, and the Bank of England have rallied to the support of both.

His great gift was never held by him as a title to dictate, and override his less wealthy fellow-labourers. He would advance and maintain his own views with energy, but was never impatient of opposition, and when the majority went against him their act was adopted as his own, and his hand and purse were ready to carry it out. He did not give nobly and spend magnificently; but, in his style of living, took his place beside those of his own station; and his prodigious giving on the one hand, and his well-appointing establishment on the other, appeared to brighten the effect of that humble and unpretending bearing, that cheerful, innocent, fraternal spirit which he displayed, whether in great meetings, working committees, on his own lawn, or by his bedside. Many a Missionary sailing for some far off shore, carried away from the most pleasing retrospects of his last days in England, the recollection of the happy hours spent at Gumburns House; and the joy of a return from strange scenes had his first impressions of dear old "home" made even pleasanter than otherwise they would have been, by the welcome that awaited him there. That dwelling is darkened now, but the prayer of ten thousands, will rise that its mourners may be comforted; and, that God may bless England with many such men as him whom He has taken from us,—bless the world with many such homes as that which was formed around him,—bless the Christian, or right to say, we shall never look upon his like again; rather let us hope that the same grace which made him all he was, will now descend upon many, and that they who know and see that they who have heard of him, will pray to be made as devout, as humble, as ready to labour, as prayerful, as Bible-loving, as liberal as he; and then they will have a face as generally smiling, a name as fair, as desirable, a memory as available. Who that knew him will not say, Thank God that I knew him!

Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 1861.

In consequence of the official relation which this paper sustains to the Conference of Eastern British America, we require that Ordinaries, Resolutions, and notices addressed to us from any of the Circuits within the bounds of the Conference, shall pass through the hands of the Superintendent Minister. Communications designed for this paper must be accompanied by the name of the writer in confidence. We do not undertake to return rejected articles. We do not assume responsibility for the opinions of our correspondents.

The Approaching Conference.

ORDER OF MEETING OF PREPARATORY COMMITTEES IN THE SCHOOL ROOM OF GERMAIN STREET CHURCH, FOR 1861.

ORDER OF COMMITTEES FOR 1861.—The Committees preparatory to the next Conference are appointed to meet in St. John as follows (subject, however, to any changes of the particular order, days or hours here specified, which the President, giving due notice to the parties concerned, may make):

1. Stationing Committee.—Thursday, June 20th, at 9 o'clock, A. M.
2. Book Committee.—Friday, June 21st, at 9 A. M.
3. Theological Institution Committee.—Saturday, June 22nd, at 9 A. M.
4. Auxiliary Missionary Society Committee.—Saturday, June 22nd, at 3 P. M.
5. Board of Trustees of the Mount Allison Academy.—Monday, June 24th, at 9 A. M.
6. Contingent Fund.—Tuesday, June 25th, at 9 A. M.
7. Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Fund.—Tuesday, June 25th, at 3 P. M.
- N. B.—1. The Secretaries of the several Funds are directed to meet in St. John on Thursday, June 20th, for the purpose of preparing for their several Committees the accounts of their several departments.
2. The Assistant Secretaries are requested to attend at the same time, for the purpose of compiling from the District Minutes various lists, &c., which will facilitate the business of the committees and of the subsequent Conference.
3. Special Notice to Chairmen of Districts.—They are particularly requested to bring, in time for the meeting of the Secretaries of the several Funds, on Thursday, June 20th, the necessary copies of the District Minutes, the Circuit accounts of each Circuit in their respective Districts, and the Minutes of the Financial District Meetings.

Movements of the President.

In pursuance of the course mentioned in our last, the President of the Conference has completed a rapid survey of the work to the Westward of Halifax—visiting in succession the Circuits of Lunenburg, Petite Riviere, Mill Village, Liverpool, Port Mouton, Shelburne, Barrington, Yarmouth, Digby, Annapolis, Bridgewater, Wilmot, Aylesford, Cornwallis, Horton and Windsor; from which place he returned on Saturday evening last. He has thus travelled in eight days the distance of 428 miles, and has had the opportunity of becoming better acquainted with the ministers themselves and their several spheres of labour, than he could have been in any other way. It will not only be a matter of satisfaction to the ministers, but it will be a lasting advantage to have one of our influential ministers at home, so well acquainted with our work, and so well qualified to represent our wants. It is a matter of devout gratitude to God that his life and health thus far have been preserved; and we trust fervent prayers will be offered at many a family altar, that he may pass through the onerous duties yet before him, with undiminished health and vigour.

After labouring again on the Sabbath day, he finished his visit to Nova Scotia, and left accompanied by his beloved family, (who have won the affection of many hearts since their brief sojourn among us) for Charlottetown, P. E. I., on Monday morning last, from whence he will go direct to New Brunswick at the end of the present week.

Consecrated Living.

Human life in every instance furnishes material for most instructive study. No one enters into this world, and sojourns in it for even the briefest period, without exercising an influence upon others; and it is impossible to tell how strong that influence may be, how wondrously it will combine with other influences, or how, ultimately, it may produce changes and events of the greatest magnitude, and the most lasting character. But some lives are long, and some men faintly require to be known by their doings, their deeds, or their endurance. Their fame is sounded through the earth while they live, and their memory is perpetuated for ages after they die. How have they attained their greatness? What is the nature of the benefit which they have conferred on their race? And what, as respects themselves, is the end of their being? Mysteries indeed are the depths to which these enquiries conduct us. Yet, let us ponder. Human existence is a mirror. "The thing that hath been, is that which shall be; and that which is done, is that which shall be done; and there is no new thing under the sun." One man is like his fellows; and he may become a slave to his passions and circumstances, as some of them have been, or he may manfully conquer them, as others of them have done. He is so situated that he must do good or evil; he is so situated that he must prove a blessing or a curse to the world; he is so conditioned that he must joyfully or painfully reap the reward of his earthly life throughout eternity.

The Approaching Conference.

MR. EDITOR,—We are approaching the termination of another ecclesiastical year; and as we glance back upon its chequered scenes, what varied feelings arise in our minds. How will the beams of many of our Ministers and people leave with emotions of sadness, at the thought, that friendships begun under providential auspices—perpetuated amid scenes of prosperity and adversity—and strengthened, like the oak in its position, by the genial sunshine, and the "windy storm and tempest"—loosening the earth, that its roots may expand, and strike the world of God will grow and multiply. The Millennium will be here, and every heart shall bound, and every bosom burn; for the Lord of Hosts shall be seen to us; and the God of Jacob shall be known in our palaces as a refuge.

We rejoice in the arrival of our President from England. He will draw together the tie that binds us to the great Methodist family at home. He will introduce and foster in our juvenile Conference those time-honoured plans and institutes that have been found to work so well in the Mother Country. We want not American institutes nor American fashions among our preachers or people, but give us good Old English Methodism.

Yours, &c., A COLONIAL ITINERANT.

Baie de Verte Circuit.

Since the last session of a Conference, God has honoured the "Wesleyan Societies" on this Circuit with many tokens of his favour—some of which we shall enumerate.

In the beginning of Sept. the weather-beaten and dilapidated appearance of the chapel prompted the "Ladies" accustomed to worship therein to devise means to repair and beautify it. The means chosen were ten and a half shillings. The day was exceedingly pleasant, the tables presented a most pleasing appearance, which was witnessed by a numerous attendance from the adjoining neighbourhoods. Among others present were the Rev. John Snowball, Rev. Charles Dewolf, A. M., John Allison, A. M., and Dr. Pickard, who delivered interesting addresses. At the close of the meeting the parties interested were much pleased to find that they had yielded forty-three pounds, by which their sanctuary was materially improved internally and externally. There has been an improvement also in the congregation in number and apparent seriousness, and some increase in the society, for which we praise Almighty God.

LOWER CHAPEL.

The Chapel has been enlarged by the addition of fifteen pews. It was rededicated on the last Sabbath in Sept. In the morning the service was conducted by the Rev. Humphrey Pickard, D.D.; in the afternoon the Rev. William Perkins officiated. Again in the evening the Dr. favoured us with an excellent sermon, which, through the Holy Spirit, influenced three persons to re-consecrate themselves to God. The following morning the preference of the pews was disposed of in the usual manner, and much to the satisfaction of the Trustees, overpaid the sum incurred by the addition. Immediately after the service set out for home, leaving the impression on the minds of the people that "Education" does not prevent a minister of Christ from earnestly seeking the salvation of souls. Since that time the congregation has increased, and ten persons have been added to the Society. In other parts of the Circuit the Lord has revived his work, so that in all, upwards of forty persons have manifested their desire to "free from the wrath to come" by uniting with the Society.

Observations.

MR. EDITOR.—It is gratifying to notice the efforts which are being put forth at the present time to promote the moral and intellectual improvement of the population of our country; and you Sir, sharing in the feeling of gratification, will doubtless be willing to chronicle facts which indicate progress in this direction in our little town.

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Mrs. A. Keith, Hollis street; the Misses Black, Goringham street; Mrs. A. Scott, Birmingham street; Mrs. B. Salter, Pleasant street; Mrs. W. Sutherland, Morris; Mrs. John Whitman, Morris street; Mrs. G. C. Whidden, Belvidere.

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KING'S COUNTY ELECTION.—This election took place yesterday. So far as heard from last night, Moore (Conservative) was ahead and is doubtless elected.—*Journal*.

New Brunswick.

THE FISHERIES.—The Gloucester *Advertiser* says the fishing season thus far has not proved so successful as usual, owing to scarcity of fish and the small prices obtained for those which have been caught. There is yet time to make a

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THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GARDEN.—We are glad to learn that the arrangements for holding the Bazaar for the benefit of the Institution are completed.

At a meeting of the Directors and ladies of the Shareholders, held at the Hall in the Garden, on the 15th inst., it was determined to hold a Bazaar on the 15th day of July, or first fine day after, and that there be one Grand Fancy Table. The following ladies kindly consented to take charge of it, and receive donations in work or otherwise, viz.:

Mrs. A. Keith, Hollis street; the Misses Black, Goringham street; Mrs. A. Scott, Birmingham street; Mrs. B. Salter, Pleasant street; Mrs. W. Sutherland, Morris; Mrs. John Whitman, Morris street; Mrs. G. C. Whidden, Belvidere.

The following ladies kindly consented to take charge of the Refreshment table, and receive donations in that department, viz.:

Mrs. George Smithers, Granville street; Mrs. George McKenney, Granville street; Mrs. John D. Nash, Queen street; Mrs. John Richardson, Barrington street; Miss Nutting, Pleasant street.

The aid of the ladies of Halifax generally, is respectfully solicited, in order to make this a Grand Bazaar, and enable the Directors to sustain a public institution of great utility, and when they are enlisted in any undertaking there is no such thing as fail.

His Royal Highness Prince Alfred left yesterday morning by rail for Windsor. He will proceed on the steamer *Empress* to St. John, where he will be met by the Lieut. Governor of New Brunswick. He will leave St. John on Friday for Fredericton, and after a short stay at that place will proceed by land to Quebec, visiting the principal localities on the route.—*Colonist*, May 30.

The New York *Allion* of the 18th inst., remarking on the British view of the American crisis says:—Her Majesty's government wisely determined to send a strong naval force to the coast, to watch the course of events; and, if necessary, to protect British interests that might be imperilled. We presume therefore that the first instance of the West American and West Indian squadron will be detailed to watch and report from time to time, whether the proclaimed blockade be "effective" in the international interpretation of that term, extending also such duties as may devolve upon them, when privateers—often synonymous with, and always the forerunners of pirates—shall make their appearance in the Gulf of Mexico. This squadron of ours in Western waters will of course be largely increased. It is under command of Rear Admiral Alexander Milne, K. C. B., whose flag flies in the *St. George*, gun screw steam-ship; and he has under his orders the following steamers, the *Calcutta*, and *Saxon*, 21 guns; the *Despatch*, 12; the *Barracuda*, *Firebrand*, *Gladstone*, *Sigsbee*, *Hydra*, and *Spiteful* 6 each; the *Laurel* and *Vindicta*, 5 each. To these may be added in case of need the *St. George*, 90, the training ship of our youthful Prince Alfred. It is probable also that the Emperor of the French will be partial to demonstrations and is largely increasing the commercial workings of the conflict, may order a fleet on his part to act conjointly with our own, or separately as may prove desirable. What instructions will be given to naval commanders, and what to H. M. Minister at Washington, is not so far divined, and indeed could scarcely be decided until the respective attitudes of the two hostile parties had been shaped out more definitely.

THE CENSUS.—The population of the Province is ascertained to be about 330,000. In 1851 it was 276,117—showing an increase of nearly 54,000. Continuing to increase in the same ratio, the population would double in less than 40 years, making the population in 1891 over 550,000. There is a much larger increase in some counties than in other. From some counties large numbers during the past few years have gone either to the United States or other countries, which may in great measure account for the disproportionate increase. We understand that Halifax, Colchester, Cumberland, Kings and Queens show the largest proportionate increase than any of the other counties.—*Chronicle*.

H. M. steam frigates *Jason* and *Gladstone* left this port on Thursday evening last with sealed orders. Their destination is supposed to be the Southern waters.—*Rep.*

The brig *Horwath*, of St. John, N. B., was captured off Richmond by the blockading squadron, in attempting to run after having been ordered off. She was taken to New York, and is now in the hands of the Prize Commissioners.

SALMON.—The *Express* says:—About 100 fine fresh salmon arrived here on Wednesday on Friday last in a schooner, carefully packed in saw dust and ice. They sold readily at 6d per pound.

EXPLOSION AT THE ALBION MINES.—A correspondent at New Glasgow telegraphs us that about 11 o'clock last night an explosion occurred in the old pits at the Albion Mines, Pictou.

Three men and seventeen horses were instantaneously killed by its violence.

One man is also stated to be excessively ill on account of the fire duty, which met him whilst in the act of exploring a pit.

The extent of the damage that was done was not known this morning. The explosion was felt very severely in all the houses situated on the mines, and caused great consternation.

ANOTHER EXPLOSION APPREHENDED.—The exploring party has been ordered up by the mines, as they were afraid of another explosion. It is thought that some of the Boards below are on fire.

Heavy volumes of coal smoke are rising from the pits.—*Rep.*

PICTOU, June 3.

The fearful accident at the Mines on Friday evening was caused by an explosion of "fire damp."

They have had to drown the mines with water, and all the sufferers in them. It will be three months before they can reach the dead bodies.

The extent of the damage cannot be ascertained at present.

Mr. Ross states that the accident will not affect the supply of coal.—*Col.*

CLOTH FACTORY.—A correspondent of the *Yarmouth Tribune* says that near Annapolis, at what is termed Lequire, there is in operation a cloth manufactory, where the wool is taken in its crude state, and after being subjected to the various changes necessary, is turned out into fine satinettes, kerseys, jeans, and flannels as were imported from the United States.—*Journal*.

At a meeting of Aldermen of the city of Boston on Monday last, the following resolution was passed in answer to that of the House of Assembly of this Province:—

Resolved, That the City Council of Boston have received with sensibility the resolve of the House of Assembly of Nova Scotia, expressing their sympathy with the people of this country in our present national conflict. If a morbid apprehension of encroachment upon their constitutional rights has misled our countrymen of the South into armed rebellion, still less can we hope that a regard for law and loyalty to Government characteristic of our race, will ere long convince them that such apprehensions are groundless, and bring them back to their allegiance. The event in the keeping of Providence, but, if ordered in accordance with this hope, will inspire the friends of liberty with greater confidence than ever that Government essentially based upon the ballot as here and in the Province, are not only the most just, but the most stable.

Resolved, That a copy hereof be transmitted to the said Assembly, through its presiding officer.—*Chron.*

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