

THE WESLEYAN.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 1880.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER.

The Week of Prayer is being observed in Halifax in accordance with the programme of the Evangelical Alliance. A prayer-meeting is held each morning at 9.30 in the Young Men's Christian Association Hall. And prayer-meetings are held in the north end and the south end of the city each evening. The attendance at all the meetings is good. So far as we have learned, these meetings are sustained chiefly by the Baptist, Free Baptist, Presbyterian, and Methodist portions of the community. The obvious effects of these meetings, here and there, over a great portion of the world, are good; and the effects that are not so apparent must be blessed and beneficial. In many localities, during the last few years, the week of prayer has been followed by special services, which have been blessed of the Lord, and in which many souls have been converted, and many churches have been greatly strengthened. May we not hope that similar results will follow this year?

OLD TIMES IN FREDERICTON.

Forty years ago this week—on the first Sunday in January, 1840—the dedication services of an enlarged Methodist church in Fredericton, were held. The first Methodist church in Fredericton was built about the year 1808. A second and much larger church was built about the year 1831. In a few years the congregation had so much increased in numbers as to require the enlargement of the building, by the addition of about twenty feet to its length. The Rev. Sampson Busby, who had been the superintendent of the Fredericton circuit when the second church was built, preached the first of the reopening sermons on the Sabbath week indicated. His text was: "Come, thou and all thy house into the ark" (Gen. 7: 1). The Rev. John B. Strong preached on the same occasion, in the afternoon, from the words of Joshua (24: 15): "Choose you this day whom ye will serve." In the evening Rev. Frederick Smallwood preached from the words of Paul (1 Cor. 15: 25): "For he must reign till he hath put all enemies under his feet."

Messrs. Busby and Strong were then in the prime of their ministerial manhood; and they have both, long since, in the fulness of the time, been called to their reward. Mr. Smallwood was then in the beginning of his ministry. He had but recently arrived from England. The sermon he preached then was full of masculine thought. His sentences were long and massive. Gigantic words rolled off from his tongue with wonderful rapidity, indicating a familiar acquaintance with an unusually large vocabulary. He was enthusiastic and impetuous in his delivery. His audience was held spell-bound. The preacher's mind, or heart, or sermon, or all combined, seemed charged with a peculiar kind of magnetism, whence subtle flashes thrilled the audience, while the thunder of his oratory filled all the place wherein the crowded assembly listened. At the close of the service a prayer-meeting was held, and praying penitents pleaded for mercy and pardon in the newly dedicated house of the Lord.

This was the beginning of a season of revival which continued through all the winter. Many persons were, during this season, brought to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus, some of whom remain until this day. The chief officials of our church in Fredericton in that day were eminently devoted men of God. Prominent among them were Thomas Pickard, Robert Chestnut, Joseph Gaynor, John Simpson, Philip Risteen, and Henry Fisher. Those men were remarkably successful as workers in the interests of Methodism in their day.

On the 11th Nov. 1850, the sanctuary of which we have written was consumed, in a conflagration which swept away eighteen acres of buildings in Fredericton, and which was the most disastrous fire known in the history of that town. The new church, which now stands on the site of the old one, was dedicated on the nineteenth of December (1852), seven and twenty years ago.

REVIVAL RESULTS.

Some discussion has recently been going on in the Montreal "Witness," as to the propriety of inviting Rev. Mr. Hammond, the evangelist, to that city. One of the parties to the discussion endeavoured to show that revival efforts did not, as a rule, add to the numerical strength of a denomination. He referred to the Presbyterian Church, and the Church of England, which, he intimated, were non-revival churches, and to the Methodist Church, which is a revival church, to sustain his position. He gave some statistics which appeared to corroborate what he had said. Other writers, however, have given

more accurate figures, which indicate that the positions taken by the first writer were not correct. A writer in the "Witness" says:

"But let us shape these figures a little differently, and then I think it will not be so clearly seen that the Methodists who really not advanced with the population in the same ratio as the Episcopalians or the Presbyterians who have such meetings. This I hold to be a damaging fact against the utility of these spasmodic efforts."

Table with 3 columns: Church, 1861, 1871, Increase. Rows include Church of England, Presbyterians, and Methodists.

May we dip deeper into this census? Vol. v., p. p. 14 and 15, give the wider figures for the whole Dominion, and it is surely safer to generalize from the four Provinces than from the tabulated result of a single city. Now, what does this impartial census tell us of the standing in 1871 of that church which "holds periodic revivals and has not advanced?"

Table with 3 columns: Church, 1861, 1871, Increase. Rows include Church of England, Presbyterian, and Methodist.

In another article in the same paper, the Rev. W. I. Shaw says:

How is it that Methodist revivals have not prevented the astonishing growth of Methodism from a dozen members in 1739 to 23,000,000 adherents in 1879, an increase unparalleled in church history? How is it that Methodist revivals have not obstructed the marvellous enterprise and mighty energy in missionary work and education and every department of religious activity in the great M. E. Church of the United States, the largest denomination in the Republic? How is it that Methodist revivals have not hindered the amazing increase of Methodism in Ontario and Quebec, so that the last decade the increase among the churches was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Denomination, Increase. Rows include Anglicans, Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, and Methodists.

Coming nearer home, how is it that in this Province of Quebec in 1871 there were absolutely 1,038 Anglicans less than in 1861, and while Presbyterians increased 2,430. Methodists increased 3,419? The explanation of all these facts, if the other churches would only know it, is spiritual life and revival power. Many among them are recognizing this, and what is more are surpassing us in religious zeal. Where this is the case, even when they outstrip us, we wish them God speed. We hate the strife as to "who shall be greatest in the kingdom," when there are so many tens of thousands outside of all our churches perishing for want of truth and light and sympathy. Anybody, we do not care who he is, that goes after these to bring them to purity, and happiness, and heaven, delights our hearts by his success.

PERILS OF THE DAY.

MISS BERTHA LAWRENCE, a young lady of Marion, New Jersey, in company with her sister, Mrs. H. E. Pachtman, whose husband is of the firm of Pachtman & Moelech, jewellers, of 363 Canal St., New York, crossed from New York to Jersey City, in a Desbrosses street ferry boat, on the evening of one of the Christmas holidays. Miss Lawrence is said to be a "pretty blonde of 18, with blue eyes, light hair, and rosy cheeks."

A Mrs. Rudiger, of Jersey City, who keeps a hotel, with a sign over the door bearing the words; "Meals at all hours," was at the ferry landing waiting-room, in company with a Mrs. Slack, of Ninth Avenue, New York, on the same evening. Mrs. Slack, just as the boat was about to leave, missed her pocket-book. A news girl, and Mrs. Rudiger, said they saw Miss Lawrence pick up Mrs. Slack's missing pocket-book. Mrs. Slack remained on the New York side. Mrs. Rudiger had Miss Lawrence arrested on the boat, and boldly confronting the young lady, charged her with the theft. Miss Lawrence was taken to the police office, and upon the testimony of the two witnesses, sent to "The Tombs." Miss Lawrence, before being locked up in the cell, was searched, but no property of Mrs. Slack's was found on her person.

At 11 o'clock next day information was brought to the Police Court, showing that when Mrs. Slack arrived home, on the previous evening, she discovered that she had not lost her pocket-book at all. She had only placed it in her wrong pocket. She appeared to regret that her mistake, and the false testimony of Mrs. Rudiger, and the news girl, should have led to the locking up of Miss Lawrence in the horrible New York Tombs, through the long hours of a winter's night. It is to be regretted that our laws do not provide a practicable way for protecting innocent persons from the false testimony of those who, regardless of consequences, utter the foulest accusations.

THE FREDERICTON CIRCUIT has prepared a new book for keeping the records of the circuit, including members in society; families, and their places of residence; marriages; burials; trustees; official members of the church; subscribers to WESLEYAN; normal school students; University students, etc. Such a book as this is needed in every Methodist parsonage.

JANUARY STARS.

Mars is evening star this month, decreasing in size and brilliancy. Jupiter is evening star, and rapidly approaching his conjunction with the sun; sets about nine. Saturn is evening star; is moving from us; sets about eleven. Venus is morning star; is beautiful throughout the mornings of January; is drawing nearer the sun. Mercury is morning star; rising about 6.30. Venus and the waning moon will be in conjunction on the morning of January 8th; the moon to the right of the planet; on the 9th there will be a new exhibition of the same picture, with the parts reversed. The new moon will be very near Jupiter on the evening of the 15th; near Saturn on the evening of the 17th; near Mars on the evening of the 20th and 21st. Venus, "the fairest and brightest of all the host," will grace all the winter mornings.

THE teachers and friends of the Methodist Mission Church, South Brunswick Street, in this city, gave the scholars of the Sabbath School a dinner on New Year's day. There are fifteen officers and teachers, and about one hundred scholars belonging to the school. Seventy-four of the scholars partook of the dinner on New Year's day. It consisted of two large joints of beef weighing 67 lbs., with fourteen plum puddings, vegetables, etc., etc. Each of the scholars was also supplied with a bag of candy, nuts, etc., on leaving the hall. This school is doing a work that is not done by any other school in the city, inasmuch as it receives, instructs, and in various ways assists, a class of children not reached by the ordinary methods. These scholars have been gathered into the school by the efforts of the teachers, and the Missionary, Rev. E. R. Brunyate. This mission is not quite two years old, and is doing a peculiar and much-needed work in the city.

REV. J. C. HURD, M. D., pastor of the First Baptist Church, Burlington, Iowa, died Dec. 21st very suddenly of heart disease. He preached as usual Sunday morning. After the service he felt poorly. And about nine o'clock that night passed away. He was a native of Wallace, N.S. He was at one time pastor of the Baptist Church in Fredericton. He had many warm friends in these Provinces.

LANDRY'S MUSICAL JOURNAL, for January 1880, contains: Angels called the little darling—song and chorus; Fairy footsteps gently falling—song and chorus; and, Heart and home. It also contains a considerable amount of reading matter of interest in musical circles. It is published by Landry & Co., 58 King Street, St. John, N. B. See advertisement.

THE CATALOGUE OF THE WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY, Middletown, Conn., for the current year, indicates the continued prosperity of that successful institution, if we may judge by its long roll of students in the several departments.

THE following are among the contents of "The Preacher and Homiletic Monthly" for January:

- Sermonic—"The Shunammite," by Wm M Taylor, D.D.; "Our City," by Llewellyn D Bevan, LL.B.; "A Thanksgiving Service—Our Country," by J P Newman, D.D.; "The Christian's Exalted Position," by C D W Bridgman, D.D.; "Giving as an Act of Worship," by F W Beatty, D.D.; "Faithful Unto Death," by Prof Roswell D Hitchcock, D.D.; Thanksgiving Sermon—"The Reasons for Thankfulness," by Wayland Hoyt, D.D.; "Soul Restoration," by Rev Benjamin D Thomas; "The Doom of the Wicked," by Rev Thomas Kelly; "The English Prayer-Book," by Dean Stanley; "Righteousness and Love," by Canon Farrar; "The Leper's Cure," by Rev W Wight; "Convincing and Abiding Evidence of Revelation," by Bishop Matthew Simpson; "The Silence of Our Lord," by Miss Anna Oliver; "Christian Saviour and Service," by Rev A H Steat; Also, a second paper, by Chas F Deems, D.D.; on "Ministers and Money Matters;" "Brotherly Talks with Young Ministers," No. IV, by Theodore L Cuyler, D.D.; "Prayer-Meeting Service—Hints for its Improvement," by Rev Lewis O Thompson; Then we have "Sermonic Criticisms," "Preachers' Exchanging Views," "Studies in the Book of Revelation," etc. This "Monthly" grows in favor continually. \$2.50 per year; 25 cts. single number. I. K. FUNK & Co., New York.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.—The number of "The Living Age" for the week ending Jan. 3rd, has the following valuable contents: The Letters of Charles Dickens, Fortnightly Review; "He that will not when he may," by Mrs. Oliphant; "The Development of the Color Sense, Macmillan; St. John's Eve by the author of "Pat ty;" First Impressions of the New World, by the Duke of Argyll, Fraser; A Deadly Feud, a tale from France, by Rudolph Lindan, Blackwood; The Literary Calling and its Future, by Jas. Payn, Nineteenth Century; A Hindu Almanac, Saturday Review; Some Victims of French Diplomacy, Pall Mall Gazette; together with the usual choice poetry and miscellany.

This number begins a new volume (the 144th) of this standard weekly magazine. Two new serial stories, one by Mrs. Oliphant, and the other by Mrs. Parr, the author of those thoroughly charming stories "Dorothy Fox" and "Hero Carstew," have been recently begun in "The Living Age," from advance sheets, and the publishers present to new subscribers for 1880 their six numbers of 1879, which

contains the opening chapters of both these serials. The present is therefore a favorable opportunity for subscribing.

For fifty-two numbers of sixty-four large pages each (or more than 3,300 pages a year), the subscription (\$8 00) is low; while for \$10 50 the publishers offer to send any one of the American \$4 monthlies or weeklies with "The Living Age" for a year, including the extra numbers of the latter, both postpaid. Littell & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

We have received The Advertising Hand Book, ninth edition, 1880, published by T. C. Evans, 252 Washington St., Boston. This work contains a list of the most desirable advertising mediums in the United States and Canada. It is accompanied by a very handsome calendar for 1880.

NOVA SCOTIA CONFERENCE.

GENERAL CONFERENCE COLLECTIONS. The following sums have been received since last acknowledgement:

Table with 2 columns: Location, Amount. Rows include Hillsburgh, Canso, Digby, Kentville, New Germany.

S. F. HUESTIS, Treasurer.

January 7, '80.

THOSE who have heard the Rev. W. Taylor, of California, during his late visit to Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, will be glad to learn that several of his most interesting publications may be obtained at the Book Room. See advertisement in another column.

"STOP MY PAPER."

No message is more unpleasant to the publisher or editor of a paper, than this; except when the reason assigned is so singular as to be amusing. Any one will see, at a glance, that this must be the case. An editor is doing his utmost to make his paper entertaining and instructive. He discusses living questions, inserts pithy selections and choice poetry, and when he thinks he has made the paper so valuable that no one who has been reading it can do without it, somebody writes, "Please stop my paper." He does not care about the money; but the want of appreciation of his labours touches him sorely. And, what adds to his pain, he has a strong conviction that those who are most easily persuaded to give up the paper are those who need it most. It is a bad way of beginning a new year to give up a good religious paper, full of information and timely counsels such as you and your family need.

We venture to say that, in nine cases out of ten, the reasons given for stopping a religious paper are not good ones. Let us look at a few of them. "I cannot afford it." There is hardly any one so poor but may, by a little wise economy, take a religious paper. Far better to cut down expense in something else, than for a man to deprive himself or his family of wholesome mental food. "I do not agree with the views you take on several questions." Well, it would be a very poor paper with which every body would agree. Any live independent paper must contravene the opinions of many of its readers. That makes it of greater value. Probably the paper is right; and you need new light on the point complained of. "We get more papers than we can read." Very likely. But surely this cannot justify any Methodist, or friend of Methodism, in doing without the church paper—doing something that if every one did the same would stop the publication of the paper altogether. "We get other papers cheaper." We cannot publish the paper more cheaply. But these papers cannot supply the place of a Connexional paper, which presents the claims of all the enterprises of the church. Those who stop their paper deprive their family of something whose value cannot be estimated by money. One article may do more good than ten times the subscription price. The publication of this paper is one of the most important agencies of our church for carrying on the religious education of our people. LET NO OLD SUBSCRIBER GIVE UP THE PAPER. Do not forget that this is the last issue for 1879. If the month of January is allowed to pass without completing the canvass, it cannot be done so successfully at a later time. Let there be a forward movement all along the line.—Guardian.

POSTAL CARDS.

POWNAL, P.E.I., Dec. 30th., 1879.

We live among some of the finest people. Had many marks of kindness shown us during the Christmas Holidays. But the most distinguished came on the evening after Christmas day. A large number of persons representing all the Churches in the neighborhood, gathered in the large Hall at Pownal, had music, recitations, readings, speeches, and refreshments in abundance. Before this pleasant and profitable service, we were made the recipients of a purse containing \$62.00. Our friends here have felt the scarcity of money, yet, they say they must make the last year of their minister's residence among them the best financially, and we trust it will far surpass the two previous years in spiritual results.

WILLIAM MAGGS.

FLORENCEVILLE, N.B. Jan. 3rd, 1880.

DEAR MR. EDITOR—The big hotel here was this morning destroyed by fire. "The Florenceville Hotel" was owned and managed by Mr. W. Birmingham who is a heavy loser. The Methodists at Florenceville had a good time on Christmas eve at the Christmas Tree. The music was inspiring and the dialogues by the young people amusing. The tree was well loaded. E. MILLS.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LAWRENCETOWN CIRCUIT, HALIFAX.

The Christmas Tree, Tea Meeting, and Fancy Sale, held by the ladies of our church, at Cole Harbor, on 31st December, proved very successful. A choir of about twenty voices, assisted by an organ kindly presided at by Miss Jessie Bowers, of Dartmouth, added greatly to the success of the entertainment. We are much indebted to the ladies of Grafton Street Church for very material aid given, both by their presence and donations. One lady, whose name is widely known in Halifax for her many acts of generosity, will not soon be forgotten by our Sabbath School children.

Temperance Hall has become too small for our church fairs, which, to the credit of our ladies be it said, are conducted in the most orderly manner, and free from those ways of disposing of articles whose morality is, at least, doubtful.

G. WIER.

ANNAPOLIS CIRCUIT.

It is but due to the friends of our cause in this circuit, that an acknowledgement should be made of their recent zeal and generosity. A year ago they found themselves deprived of a grant for the first time, having a debt of \$1,000 on their personage. A scheme was adopted, for which the circuit is indebted principally to a friend residing at a distance, whose name may not be given, by which the debt was extinguished in a few years. Meantime, the circuit has the interest to meet. Within a few weeks nearly \$100 have been raised by a sale and social. Donations from Clementsport and Annapolis resulted in a contribution to the circuit funds of \$100, chiefly cash. Thus we have been supplied with furniture for the parsonage, the interest is secured for this year, and the officials are striking hopefully for the salary of \$750.

A very blessed influence has accompanied our public services for some time. Quite a number have resolved to lead a religious life.

MR. EDITOR.—Our Sabbath School at Ship Harbor held its annual entertainment and Xmas tree on the 25th instant. The programme, consisting of declamations, dialogues, and singing, was somewhat lengthy; but so successfully were all the parts sustained, that the crowded audience did not lose interest for a single moment.

The tree surpassed anything we have ever seen. There were three—one very high, and a small one on either side. These were literally loaded with gifts, useful and ornamental; all the way from a gold brooch to a miniature chromo bearing its Christmas greetings.

Santa Claus, and his "better half," a queer looking pair—stripped the tree. Many were made happy by the kind remembrances of friends. The pastor and his lady came in for a bountiful share.

On the 29th inst. the school at Musquodoboit Harbor held a festival at the residence of its esteemed superintendent, Isaac Gaetz, Esq. After a bountiful repast, the tables were cleared away, and a good programme, consisting of declamations, readings, and music, afforded an hour of real enjoyment. The superintendent gave an excellent address, and after a few remarks by the pastor, Rev. J. M. Fisher, the exercises closed. Dec. 30, 1879.

POWELL NEWPORT.

MR. EDITOR, DECEMBER 29, 1879. Glad that, when I am sure you will be brethren engaged and another of the of circuit work in the arduous duties aged, by surprise heard, and encouraged, evidencing a suitable kindness on the part of the brethren, MeMurray, whose unremitting brother and sympathy, through kindness twelve months sickness and in that laid me under a heavy debt of gratitude. I received, a few days ago, a donation from dear friends in Annapolis amounting in cash to something like forty-five dollars. The gift was a pure and simple; the furthest from any thoughts and expectations. But he retired some years earlier than I had anticipated; and during a year of extra expense to fit up a home, this unexpected benefit is felt to be specially seasonable.

To be remembered by friends in such a manner is cheering, and encouraging; and I desire to show my appreciation of such unexpected kindness by an acknowledgement through the WESLEYAN, and as Paul assured the Philippians in the name of the Lord, that God would supply all their need, according to His riches in glory, through Christ Jesus; so we will in our daily prayers seek for those kind friends the fulfilment of the same comprehensive promise.

Mercies abound towards me. In tribulation, peace was bestowed. Thank God. I have had some weeks now of relief, and reviving. Slowly, but steadily, I am improving in health; and am not without hope of being able, after a while, to do a little more work in the vineyard of the Lord. I long to be able, if it be the will of God, to see again His power and glory, so as I have seen in the sanctuary. To hold forth publicly the word of life; to visit and pray with the people of God. I have found great comfort and blessing in intercessory prayer. For my friends, my brethren, and companions' sakes, and for all the interests of the Church of God, God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for these.

I am, dear brother, Yours truly, ELIAS BASTILLE.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

MR. EDITOR was my privilege. McNeill, the daughter of Stewart and as she has place of abode, think it only to her as the church here.

For some for with willing as successfully of our services. And I only gregation and say that her plaid; for she was the church was pers, to head choir of singers sent from the where she was in making such fitable.

Then her succ Sabbath School of the children's reference. It was my ple last, which I am creditable to an Province.

The correctne were sung or read (some of them old), was remark It was held a proceeds devo School purpose Hoping that to her lot, and t upon some oth gation, believe

Yc Burton, Digby

It is now twel A. S. Tuttle held field (Cape Tor in a large ing that memorable but few who hav ing grace of God last we began a cality depending vice spirit and t to do all that in a revival of pur At first the atte rapidly increas evident that th hearts of the peo ing in the valley bership of the ch opened and fell int captain of our s seven weeks w meetings and b the Unseen Hand continued them i very gratifyi 130 besides old the congregatio them were som people of the pla den with the peo adults and inf and about fifteen desire for baptis esting of the m ostage when M of the widely kn baptized. She i and is 88 yeari ginal special circuit and hope give a rich harv The superint been presented v ing gloves by th the junior pres with a new buffa and is none the from his Bristol

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE Ladies of the dist Sabbath Sch week. Singing tions formed p Rev. W. B. Bre Shav delivered a was presented to the Bible Class, T. Allen from b to Miss Harrison tifully bound Bi Burrill for good

Rev. Wm. Twie was the recipient a respectfully fil A Mr. Noah B in the rear of a Moncton, on Fr shoemaker, on last seen. A was drun has recon-son, Gibson, oppon cured the servc Ontario, and equal to anythi H M Irvine, and others have a flour mill at G will aim at the finest grades, elsewhere manu

CENTENARY O Another meetng church was held consider the ten of the church, b some discussio, hearing on the 12th inst. A con to prepare a state of the present bui subsequent meet The Governor a silver and a bron for by the es Xavier's College t the first terminal c