

THE WESLEYAN

FRIDAY, JULY 11, 1884.

A WORD TO METHODISTS.

Through the financial statement the circulation of the WESLEYAN has been brought pretty fully before the public.

To day, as never before, the press is a power in the world. Books are not to be ruled out, as their constantly increasing number shows, but the newspapers, the many literary and religious journals, find their way where the book rarely comes and are doing a beneficent and necessary work.

The WESLEYAN is not a local paper. For this reason lengthy communications on purely local matters have been often declined.

It is a paper for the people. Long communications have at times been cut down to a few lines, simply because the remark, "It's a minister's paper," once reached the ear of the editor.

With our growing numbers, our people should be posted as never before. Their activity will depend upon their knowledge. We hope to do something in this direction, unassisted though we are in our office work.

FRATERNAL GREETINGS.

Among the more significant signs of the times are the least pleasing are the courtesies which were recently shown by several Christian bodies in Canada to each other.

For many years, happily, Presbyterians and Methodists have cherished a growing fraternal spirit. When, some fifty years ago, a Presbyterian minister, under some compulsion to the Methodists, announced an appointment in his church in a Nova Scotia village for Wm. Webb, then on his way to Guysboro', he probably represented the feelings of his brethren when he added that he "would rather not have him preach there."

Provincial element became more influential in Presbyterian circles, and as the work of the Methodists became more widely known, such erroneous views were abandoned, and in 1863, at Charlottetown, deputations passed for the first time between the Presbyterian Synod and an Eastern Methodist Conference.

With our Western contemporary, the Christian Guardian, we "trust that this growing fraternal feeling may lead to a wise economy of men and money in the missionary field, and in other places. Without amalgamation, why cannot arrangements be made whereby, in a village of limited population, four or five different churches will not be sustained at a large cost of money and labor in order to allow Methodists, Presbyterians, Anglicans, Baptists and Congregationalists to worship apart?"

With the consummation of union there comes for the first time a public exchange of courtesies between Anglican Synods and Methodist Conferences. It is worthy of note that the resolution of congratulation passed in the Synod of Toronto upon the accomplishment of the union was favored by all sections represented in the Synod.

On this subject, the Evangelical Churchman, of Toronto, of whose Christian spirit we have had occasion to speak in the past, remarks:—"Most heartily do we rejoice in the spirit which prompted the fraternal and hearty greetings sent by the Synod to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church and the United Conference of the Methodist Church, and which were so cordially and graciously reciprocated by these bodies."

THE EPISCOPAL SYNOD.

An interesting discussion took place in the Episcopal Synod last week on the educational standard for candidates for the ministry. Last year the Synod passed a law requiring each intending clergyman to take a full arts course, except in special cases to be decided by the bishop.

Our Episcopal brethren are showing a strong disposition to lay aside the ecclesiastical straitjacket. Their temperance meeting in Freemason's Hall was a most excellent one. We regret that the several Methodist ministers so courteously invited by them to take part in the meeting were unable, though several causes, to give a more emphatic recognition of this courtesy.

THE CHOLERA.

That the cholera brought to France from Tonquin is of the Asiatic type can scarcely be doubted. The fact is a startling one, though an ocean rolls between the American continent and France. Appalling as have ever been the visits of this dread scourge, it would seem that the French physicians were not decided as to how it should be met.

Cholera epidemics were in the past always connected with the twelve-yearly Hindu festivals. The great epidemic of 1819 proceeded up the Ganges as far as Allahabad and then deflected southward as far as Bundelcand, in which the Marquis of Hastings was carrying on war with 90,000 men against the Maharrats. In two weeks 9,000 men succumbed. It reached Bombay, going from village to village, and thence spread up the Persian Gulf, where 18,000 persons died, and from there to the Caspian Sea, and by land and sea to the mouth of the Volga, where it died out. In India the epidemic spread in every direction.

In 1826 another pestilence appeared in the north of India and epidemic cholera broke out at Hurdwar. Thence it was carried back to Calcutta. It spread over the Asiatic caravan route, extending to Moscow, and was distributed all over Northern and Western Russia, whence it was conveyed to Berlin and Hamburg and over to London. After it had prevailed in England and Ireland it was carried over to Canada in 1832 by emigrant ships, and one regiment in Quebec lost 200 men in a week. From Canada it was distributed to all the national posts and forts in the West, and from there was carried down the Mississippi to New Orleans, where 6,000 persons died out of a population of 55,000. The next epidemic commenced in lower Berber in 1841 and advanced over India. It was eventually carried to Holland and England and thence to Havre. It was also

again brought to New Orleans and spread to St. Louis, Cincinnati and San Francisco. The last great twelve-yearly epidemic commenced in India in 1865. The pestilence was carried to France and finally reached New York, and from there was distributed in 1866 in every direction over the United States west as far as Kansas.

A few weeks ago, on the motion of Sir Alexander Gordon, copies of the Canadian "Act respecting the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors and the Issue of Licenses therefor" were issued to the members of the British House of Commons. The English Methodist does not expect this to be "more successful than the hundreds of Acts which the British Parliament has passed for the same purpose."

While replying to the addresses of several Wesleyan ministers present at the recent English Primitive Methodist Conference, the Rev. Dr. Antliff made some reference to Methodist union: "You Wesleyans," he remarked, "have too little of the laymen, and we Primitives a little too much. Our danger is with them; but, said he, it is from an excess of kindness on their part. If at any time a question of moral delinquency were to arise, or a question of orthodoxy on some theological subject, it would be sure to be a layman who would shield the delinquent."

Certain radical changes, such as are suggested by Judge Pitman in a thoughtful article upon "Juries and Jurymen" in the North American Review for the present month, are only what intelligent observers of our jury system have for some time felt to be a growing necessity. Newfoundland furnishes a sad case in point. That month spent in the trial of a number of Roman Catholic prisoners for the murder of Orangemen in December, at Carboneau, will be regarded by many as little better than an eternity. The acquittal of the men accused of bloodshed was regarded by numbers as a foregone conclusion when name after name was challenged and set aside till only twelve ignorant Roman Catholics remained. The papers have had rumors of Orange outrages in the colony. We doubt their truth, and under no circumstances could we sanction their commission, but when law becomes a farce, private revenge will follow as a matter of course. The recent Cincinnati riots were a terrible illustration of the inevitable result of laws without teeth.

We have not felt warranted in publishing some statements that have been forwarded to us in reference to a picnic held at Entfeld on Dominion day, under Roman Catholic auspices. If liquors were sold, and to the extent stated, and that too in a county where the Scott Act is supposed to be in force, the scenes said to have been witnessed involve a serious reflection upon the law-abiding disposition of the patrons of the picnic.

The Methodist ladies of the city and Dartmouth are bound to make the most of the strawberry season. The "Reapers" Mission Band will have a festival on Tuesday evening next in the school-room of the Brunswick street church. Thursday next is the day selected for a festival, fancy sale and tea by the Methodist ladies of Dartmouth, to be held in the basement of their church. They aim a blow at the church debt, and solicit the aid of city friends. We understand that the festival in aid of the Coburg road church, which was fixed for Tuesday next, will be postponed for a day or two.

As we write, numbers of delegates to the National Division of the Sons of Temperance are arriving, and the first meeting of that important body is in session in the Legislative Council Chamber, Provincial building. In reply to a remark that this was probably the first time that that building had been used for a temperance gathering, the Rev. Dr. McMurray informs us that so far back as 1834 he had attended a temperance meeting in the Assembly room, at which powerful addresses were delivered by Rev. Dr. Crawley and others. The delegates just arrived received marked attention from the temperance workers of St. John, N. B. The public meetings held here, with the presence of men of such note as Gen. Carey and Edward Carswell, could not be other than interesting. We go to press too early to give particulars. It is twenty-one years since the National Division met last in this city. There has been a net gain during the year 1883 of 10,707 members. The Rev. D. D. Currie, who is present, is the only minister in New Brunswick entitled to a seat.

On Wednesday of last week Governor Richey laid the foundation of the new building for the Home for Aged Ladies, the Rev. Dr. Hill conducting devotional exercises. Mr. R. J. Sweet gave an historical sketch of the institution, which was established in 1869, to provide a comfortable home for persons above the necessity of receiving direct charity, yet of means too limited to enable them to live in that condition of life to which they had been accustomed. The late William Murdoch gave \$4000 for this object, and further amounts were given by others, including \$1000 from Miss Isabella Cogswell. Enlargement has for some years been required. The new building costs \$12,000. The charge for board has been raised from \$40 to \$60. The invested funds amount to \$17,000. Mr. Farquhar will gladly receive donations for the Building Fund of this useful institution.

The members of the International Lesson Committee, chosen at the recent Convention at Louisville to select the Sunday-school lessons for the next seven years, are as follows: The Rev. J. H. Vincent, D. D., Conn., chairman; the Rev. John Hall, D. D., New York; the Rev. Warren Randolph, D. D., R. I.; Hon. S. H. Blake, Ontario; B. F. Jacobs, Ill.; the Rev. Dr. M. D. Hodge, Richmond, Va.; the Rev. Dr. W. E. C. Cunningham, Tenn.; the Rev. Dr. J. A. Broadus, Louisville; Prof. H. Lewis Baugher, D. D., Pa.; the Rev. John Potts, D. D., Canada; the Rev. A. E. Dunning, Mass.; Prof. J. I. D. Hines, Tennessee; the Rev. Isaac Errett, Cincinnati; and the Rev. D. Burger, D. D., Ohio. The convention requested its committee to arrange for one Temperance Lesson every quarter. Of this most able committee three are Methodist—Drs. Vincent, Cunningham, and Potts.

The Central Christian Advocate remarks "that the Salvation Army in India, as far as one can see, shows a degree of enthusiasm that quite outstrips the eccentricities of the English department."

It has not only adopted the native costume, but the Bombay Guardian announces that Major Tucker "has attained to barefootedness." Our brother, W. J. Gladwin, once a fellow-worker here in Missouri, has joined the Army, and is laboring with his wife, an Eurasian, in Ceylon. He writes to the India Methodist Watchman, of which he was formerly the editor: "Mrs. Gladwin enjoys her Singhalese garb more than the finest dress she ever donned to sing in a Bombay choir; and the old parson's boots are finer than the finest kid leather—rather tender at first, but getting toughened by use in the streets." We cannot doubt Bro. Gladwin's sincerity and devotion, but suspect that his zeal has carried him away from safe moorings.

We therefore request that Mr. Lathern's friends will kindly forward donations for this purpose to the committee as soon as possible. The committee will acknowledge all donations from time to time, and publish the result when the event is over.

The Nashville Advocate, in speaking of the success in Southern Methodist colleges and schools, cannot dismiss the subject without a "but." It says in reference to the "niggardly policy of the Church" which drives a good teacher to the wall or forces a cultivated, earnest and able educator to abandon a calling for which he is eminently qualified, and to which he had fondly hoped to devote the energies of his life:

The martyrdom of such noble spirits seems to be a part of the price to be paid for our permanent educational foundations. And though there will be notable exceptions, let us comfort ourselves with the hope that the fittest will survive. But these exceptions! The lives of the men and women who have been crippled or crushed by the burdens they have been left to carry in their endeavor to furnish a half-awake people with Christian education would make a book whose pages would melt any heart not utterly frozen by the icy touch of covetousness.

The Christian Advocate says that the Revs. R. N. Young and S. Whitehead, the English Wesleyan delegates to the General Conference, "made the happiest impression everywhere. Men of dignified, yet unpretentious bearing, they were so sympathetic and so observant toward American life and Methodism, and yet so loyal to their own land and order, that those who met them knew not which most to admire—the intelligence with which they mastered our denominational peculiarities or the just conservatism of their opinions. They performed the duties assigned them with so much grace, ability and ardor, that they constitute a new bond between the Methodism of England and that of America." These ministers, with the Rev. Dr. Buckley, the editor of the Christian Advocate, have reached Britain in safety.

We have just seen the first six pages of the Methodist Hymn and Tune Book, now in course of publication at our Toronto Book-room. The work has been prepared by the Eastern Section of the Hymn Tune Book Committee, by whom it is submitted to the Western Section of the committee. The judgment of the gentlemen engaged in its preparation is so much to be depended upon that the work of the Western members must be very light. The type is very clear and distinct, and the size of the book will be quite convenient.

We have a note from Windsor to say that on Sunday evening, June 29th, an ordination service was held in the Methodist church of that town. The Rev. J. B. Butterick was ordained for special work in Bermuda. The President of the Conference, the Rev. J. A. Rogers, was assisted on that occasion by the Superintendent of the District, by the Revs. Dr. McMurray and Roland Morton. The President's sermon and charge were both eloquent and impressive.

REV. J. LATHERN, D. D.

The following notice, forwarded by the committee, is inserted with pleasure. Dr. Lathern's devotion to the Church of which he is a minister, has been thorough, and his labors by tongue and pen have most successfully aided her interests:

Windsor, July 5, 1884. It is intended to observe the twenty-fifth anniversary of Rev. Dr. Lathern's wedding-day (the 20th July next) as a silver wedding. We need scarcely remind the Church that Mr. Lathern has claims on Methodism beside those of his relation as pastor to several important circuits. In certain departments of official work—notably in compiling the new Methodist Hymn Book—he has done the Church great service.

In this regard Mr. Lathern as a connexional man, we have thought it well not to confine this opportunity to one particular circuit, but to make it extend to the several circuits where he has labored.

We suggest that the contributions be either in cash, or such silver articles as the judgment and taste of the donor would dictate. A cash will be converted into silver coin by the committee.

We therefore request that Mr. Lathern's friends will kindly forward donations for this purpose to the committee as soon as possible. The committee will acknowledge all donations from time to time, and publish the result when the event is over.