

ORGANIC CHANGES

IN THE CONSTITUTION OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOON TO BE ACCOMPLISHED OR BEING SUGGESTED. In a few months' time the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States will assemble at Brooklyn, New York.

large the districts of which they take the oversight, and change the character of some of the duties devolved upon them. But we must close here with the remark that the signs of movement and progression and of the prevalence of a desire that the Methodist Episcopal Church should be maintained in the highest possible state of efficiency, are numerous and manifest in the recognized organs of Methodist thought in the United States.

ENGLISH CORRESPONDENCE.

Deaths of Sir John Burgoyne—Sir R. Murchison, and Mr. Babbage—The shutting up of Cremona, and the United Kingdom Alliance—The health of the Queen—Mr. Gladstone at Greenwich, and his supporters in Parliament.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—Three distinguished men have recently been removed by death and amid many stirring events now transpiring, the press has found ample space for fitting tributes of respect to their memory and deeds. Sir John Burgoyne died at a very advanced age, and full of honor. His services in the army date far back, and into the earlier part of the present century.

Mr. Charles Babbage a distinguished mathematician, has also recently passed away. This able and laborious scholar has lived many years in comparative isolation and obscurity. His studies and discoveries were of great value, but were not easily popularized and certainly did not lead up to widespread renown and honor.

The Licensing question is again under discussion, and receives attention from many quarters. The magistrates of Middlesex have recently exercised their power and withheld licenses in a few cases, but there is one which has excited all London and called forth much indignation. The license has been refused for Cremona Gardens, and this place of resort for promenade, gaiety, drink and sin, is necessarily closed.

Three other questions connected with the Episcopate are likely to come under the consideration of the General Conference. One of these has regard to the source from which the Bishops derive their pecuniary support. At present they are sustained out of the profits of the Denominational Book Room.

It is not only in connection with the constitution and usage of their church in relation to its Bishops that changes are called for or suggested by eminent American Methodists. Alterations in the composition and character of the presiding Eldership are much talked of. Some would abolish the Institution altogether. Others would diminish the number of its occupants, en-

side of the House of Commons who is at all likely to supplant him as the leader of the party of progress and reform.

Nov. 6th, 1871.

MOUNT ALLISON EXAMINATION.

MR. EDITOR.—The first term of '71 '72 has gone smoothly and rapidly by. Some account of the examinations and public exercises connected with these exercises may not be uninteresting to your numerous readers, and will surely be acceptable to yourself. If the complexion of the two terms yet to come may be ascertained from that of the one just past, satisfactory indeed will be the retrospect at the "commencement" in May.

After the usual review, the work of examination began at the College and was continued during Thursday and Friday, the 9th and 10th of November. From nine in the morning till five in the afternoon, the undergraduates were tested both orally and by written papers, and with marked success. In Constitutional History under President Allison, in Metaphysics and Hebrew under Dr. Stewart, in French and Rhetoric under Principal Inch, in Mathematics and Natural Sciences under Prof. Burwash, and in Greek and Latin under Prof. Smith, the number of those who failed in fully mastering their term's work was agreeably small.

Saturday morning was devoted to the examination of the Divinity Students. Wesley, Watson, and Augustine were forwarded them their theological *prolegomena* for the term, and well have they thriven on it. If they fail to go forth from the careful and conscientious discipline of their tutor, trained and faithful workmen, the fault will be theirs and their alone.

Monday was occupied with the examinations in both branches of the Academic Department. The work in each reflected great credit on teachers and taught, the greater, because the motives which impel older students, to application, exist not perfectly in the case of the younger scholars who form the important part of the various classes. Classes were examined in English Grammar and History, Arithmetic and Algebra, Geography, French and the Classics.

On Tuesday, the closing term was finally relegated to the regions of the past but not forgotten. At two o'clock the educational population of the institutions assembled in Lingley Hall where was gathered together a speaking audience from St. John's and the original essays. The Collegiate department was represented on the stage by Messrs. Chappell, Lawrence, Johnson and Bond, who declaimed select pieces of prose and poetry, and Messrs. Doull and Baker, who held a disputation on the thesis, "Is Man the Architect of his own Fortune."

A part of the exercises, by no means the least pleasing to all present in the Hall, fraught too, with vital interest to the students in the various classes, was the reading of the average standings for the term. This made known with sufficiently great precision the status of each student in his work during the term. The President, Mr. Allison, read the original essays. The Collegiate department was represented on the stage by Messrs. Chappell, Lawrence, Johnson and Bond, who declaimed select pieces of prose and poetry, and Messrs. Doull and Baker, who held a disputation on the thesis, "Is Man the Architect of his own Fortune."

The Home Missionary Meetings were held on this Circuit on the evenings of the 26th and 27th ult. The attendance was very good, and the people seem to be in sympathy with this enterprise of our church. The deputation, Revs. A. S. DesBrisay and C. H. Paisley, A. M., rendered us good service by the lucid manner in which they explained our financial condition, and their earnest appeals on behalf of the struggling Churches.

MOUNT ALLISON COLLEGE AND ACADEMIES.

MR. EDITOR.—Your correspondent has lately been permitted to witness a portion of the examinations and the closing exercises of the first term of the Academic year. From personal observation and from the testimony of thoroughly competent witnesses it would appear that the past term's work has been successful in all the departments.

The reports of Mr. President Allison, Principal Inch and their excellent co-adjutors showed a total attendance of one hundred and thirty six students of these fifty four were in connection with the classes of each of the Academies, and twenty eight in the College. These gentlemen further state that the labors of the term have been eminently pleasant, and the intercourse between officers and students unmarred by any serious demand for disciplinary action.

The closing exercises of the term, which took place on the afternoon of Tuesday last, were as usual highly interesting. The music consisting of a chorus adapted to female voices and two Hymns solo by the Misses Stewart and Laura Treuman showed great taste in selection and skill in execution. The essays of the young ladies embracing the following themes—"Mountains," "Beacons," "Epithetically," "Elms" were carefully and thoughtfully prepared, and were read with great clearness of enunciation and propriety of emphasis.

As merely scholastic institutions these stand on an equality with any of their grade in the Dominion. While in many respects they have a decided superiority. The close and home-like associations which prevail—the increased facilities for comfortable residence—the careful moral supervision should have their proper weight with the parents and guardians of our Methodist youth and others. A careful examination of the character of the institutions, coupled with a desire to give the greatest possible advantages to the youth under their care could not but induce our friends throughout the conference to fill these halls with earnest students. Those in charge are looking and hoping for large accessions during the first few weeks of the second term.

Through the persevering efforts of my predecessor, and the commendable liberality of the people we have a respectable Parsonage; not stylish, but comfortable; not elegantly but tolerably well furnished. Indeed, we consider that our people have done nobly, considering their numbers and means. It would be well if some Circuits would go and do likewise; and not shamefully allow their ministers, and ministers' families to suffer for want of a comfortable home. We have also ten acres of land, and about forty fruit trees; a very useful appendage to the Mission property.

Best of all we have been cheered by tokens of the Divine presence. One precious soul has found salvation; and more are enquiring the way. This Circuit is already endeared to us by the grave of our little boy who died shortly after our arrival; it may be endeared to us by the spiritual birth of many precious souls.

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addressed the audience and the proceeds of the Anniversary exceeded, I believe, any previous year, being nearly \$240.

I should have said that the meeting was presided over by C. R. Ayre, Esq. Missionary Meetings are about to be held on the Circuit in Conception and Trinity Bays.

Yours Truly, JAMES DOVE.

DALHOUSIE COLLEGE CIRCULAR.

MR. EDITOR.—A Circular has been issued by the Governors of Dalhousie College, signed by the Secretary of the Board, appealing for aid to that Institution to the extent of \$1,000 annually for five years.

Every enlightened and well-regulated mind will rejoice in any just and rightly-directed means employed for the advancement of the cause of higher education, and whatever may serve as an incentive and aid to our rising youth, in their aim to occupy a position in respect to College training, creditable to themselves and to their native country, will be hailed with gladness by the intelligent people of these Provinces.

It is to be feared that the importance of these institutions and their facilities for imparting a sound and liberal education are greatly underrated by many. Were this not the case, the College and both the Academies would be crowded to a far greater extent than they are.

In conclusion allow me to remind your readers that there are now in attendance upon the teachings of our honored and laborious Theological professor not less than ten young men who have been duly received as candidates for our ministerial work. These brethren with their tutor need the prayers and sympathies of every Christian. More than this, it should be borne in mind, that as the Church has accepted these as her future pastors, and has indicated to them her pleasure that they should make special preparation for their life work, she is in honour bound to make, at the very least, a partial provision for their sustentation in their present position.

There is one ground of recommendation put forth in this Circular to which exception must be taken, viz., that the basis on which Dalhousie College was reconstructed, eight years since, was "unsectarian." The agitation on this question at that period, is well remembered, as well as the amount of indignation then evoked, by what was felt to be a most unrighteous appropriation of Provincial public funds for denominational purposes, under the avowment that the College was unsectarian.

The strongest convictions are still entertained on this subject, and may thus be stated:—That to commend Dalhousie College on the ground of its being non-denominational, is to pour oil on the fire of a controversy which has been kept alive by the denomination which embraced the opportunity of availing itself of public funds for the advancement of its "Cause." A justification of this act of spoliation has been attempted on the ground, that other denominations were at liberty to endow chairs in Dalhousie, and to participate in its advantages.

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while, yet in the long run it will be found that "honesty is the best policy." The success of Dalhousie need not be viewed under these circumstances. We hope there may yet come another opportunity for reconstruction that will result in the just appropriation of Provincial funds by the establishment of a Provincial University, on an equitable foundation, embracing all our Colleges. Until then, we advise the present incumbents of Dalhousie to avow their College to be, what it really is, a Presbyterian Institution; and no longer to claim public sentiment by sailing under false colors—flaunting in the face of an injured public that Dalhousie is not a denominational College. We affirm most positively and without any fear of successful contradiction, that Dalhousie is a denominational Institution, performing denominational interests, quite as much as any Protestant College of the Lower Provinces; and that Presbyterianism, in sustaining this its own Institution, and accomplishing therein its own proper work, has not only a large amount of funds belonging to the whole people of Nova Scotia.

SHOMA. King's Co., N. S., Nov. 17, 1871.

Miscellaneous.

THE PROVINCIAL BUILDING SOCIETY OF SAINT JOHN, N. B.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN.—Having said that you will greatly oblige by placing the following remarks in the columns of your interesting Paper, I feel assured many of your readers will be greatly interested to know that the progress this Society is making is so very satisfactory.

Every enlightened and well-regulated mind will rejoice in any just and rightly-directed means employed for the advancement of the cause of higher education, and whatever may serve as an incentive and aid to our rising youth, in their aim to occupy a position in respect to College training, creditable to themselves and to their native country, will be hailed with gladness by the intelligent people of these Provinces.

It is to be feared that the importance of these institutions and their facilities for imparting a sound and liberal education are greatly underrated by many. Were this not the case, the College and both the Academies would be crowded to a far greater extent than they are.

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Garris for Nova Scotia, and W. H. Tuck, Esq. for the Dominion, the Arbitrators, looking at the wide scope granted them, under the above authority from Sir Francis Hincks, to take into consideration a large and general view of the financial position of the Provincial Building, have preferred to ignore the claim made for sixty-six thousand three hundred and eighty-five dollars, and the willful amount of subsidy, and to base their decision on the claim for joint ownership, and occupation of the building, as well for other claims, which have been presented; and it has been clearly shown that a portion of the building was intended for Departments connected with the Local Government, and a Provincial Museum, &c., they are therefore of opinion that allowance should be made for this portion of the building, as though it had been a separate and distinct, (on which case it would have been handed over to the Local Government without question) and they therefore adjudge that the Dominion Government pay to the Local Government the sum of seventy thousand dollars, and the value of such portion of the building, as far as the sum of ten thousand dollars, for interest on the same to date, and that this be in full of all demands of the Local Government upon the Dominion Government for the Provincial Building so called.

The Arbitrators indulge the hope that the harmony and good feeling, which prevailed in all their deliberations, may be extended throughout the entire Province, and that the settlement of this dispute will lead to a harmonious working of the Governments, both Local and General.

The least to follow the award. Dated in Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 15th day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one.

Of Harper's Weekly for the present week 300,000 copies have been ordered. One house—the American News Company—ordered considerably over 50,000 copies; the American News Company—ordered considerably over 40,000 copies; the New England News Company, whose place of business is Chicago, ordered from the ruins of their office 30,000 copies. Thus these three houses alone ordered over 120,000.

To produce in time this extraordinary edition the forms or pages which contain illustrations are electrotyped, and four different casts are taken of them, to be worked on as many rapid steam-power presses, which are kept going night and day during five days. The plan sides are printed on other and more rapid presses. It is probable that no other house in the country, could print, in the required time, such an edition, which is really equal, the Supplement being reckoned, to 450,000 copies of the paper.

For some time past the circulation of Harper's Weekly has been steadily and rapidly increasing; that the publishers have been unable to keep up with the demand, and on a number of occasions have not been able to fill the actual orders received for it.

This success of Harper's Weekly is an evidence of the manner in which the American people appreciate true courage and independence in a journal. The Weekly has made incessant war upon the Tammany Ring, regardless of the fact that its course procured its publishers the enmity of the corrupt leaders among the Democrats, who took their revenge, not only in this city, but in California and elsewhere, by excluding the excellent school-books of Messrs. Harper from the common schools. But that which displeased the corruptionists has won for Harper's Weekly the confidence of the great public, and has been one of the features which has brought the paper to its present extraordinary circulation.

Harper's Magazine is only second in its circulation to Harper's Weekly. Its regular monthly sales now reach over 150,000 copies.

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