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Weslenan.

Rev. H. PICKARD, D.D., Publisher. Rev. DUNCAN D. CURRIE, Editor.

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Letter from Rev. J. Lathern.

HALTWHISTLE, ENG., August 5, 1879.

MR. EDITOR, -Though not much ina mood for correspondence, I cannot forget the obligation involved in a sort of promise that your readers should hear from me while at the British Conference. From the fact that I did not reach the Conference until after the open session, and the reception of the principal deputations from Nonconformist Churches, the chief elements of interest will necessarily be wanting in my communication. The Rev. Mr. Coley, Canadian representative, in consequence of illness, was unable to attend Conference, and consequently there was no report from our work in the Dominion. Dr. Panshon said afterwards that they would have been especially glad to hear from the Montreal General Conference, and of our work generally, and regretted that none of us were on the ground at the time. It was quite evident, from the nature of the inquiries made, by several prominent members of the British Conference, that they have received generally a very favourable impression of our work, were deeply interested in our movements, and have great expectations in regard to the future extension of our Conference.

opportunities for judging of the men and movements of the Conference, were but this has never been the case since not altogether favourable. At that I came to England. Dr. Rigg is a powtime, my attendance through the Con- er outside of Methodism, and evidently ference, from opening until the close, the charge, which was effectively delivwas uninterrupted; but at Birmingham | ered, and produced a profound impress-I have not been able to afford the time, ion upon the audience, was designed to except for occasional visits.

At the Bradford Conference, I was favoured with a capital seat on the cen- ed the ministerial office, as fet forth in tre of the Conference platform; but the New Testament, and showed that at Birmingham, Bro. Heartz and my- ministers, by whatever name designatil leaving for London, took a seat up- the servants of the church, were not half mile further up town. But perhaps on the gallery, where, from the acous- only called to preach, but under obli- we will accomplish the work without his tic defects of the Conference Chapel, it gation to consecrate all their strength aid. I do remember that on a certain ocwas often difficult to understand a of body and mind to the work of sav- casion Jehoshaphat placed at the head of large proportion of the speakers.

The first thing that struck me on entering the Birmingham Conference, the great controverted subjects of the of moving our church, is fully competent was the great change in the personell of time, to matters of practical import- to sing us to victory, if artistic merit conthe platform. The seats upon the right of the President are occupied by exmere purveyers of illustrations and re- of aim are able to secure that result. Presidents—a venerable body of men. tailers of poetic scraps. On the right On the left are the secretaries and let- of Dr. Rigg, sits another famous exter-writers. Just behind the President, President, Dr. George Osborn—a great the representatives of some of the most important departments have their places. The rear seats of the platform are mainly occupied by representatives istration. There is one other ex-Preand visitors. The great power of the sideut, John Bedford, who may be re-Conference centres upon the platform; and the speeches worth listening to are mostly from these great leaders of the to rank with Dr. Osborn; but then the

ence platform-men whose names had been familiar to me from very early life. There were Thomas Jackson and preeminently a man of lofty and bril- rate and exhaustive speeches. One liant mind -- the finest specimens of a grand and beautiful old age that I ever have looked upon. There was John Scott pressed me at the time as one of the -wary and sagacious, and with, perhaps just a shade of ambition to grasp the broken sceptre of Conference power, which Dr. Bunting, by virtue of rare and unrivalled qualities, had long wielded. There was the venerable W. W. Stamp -who had been Chairman of the Newcastle District when, as a candidate, I I presented myself there for theological examination. Charles Prest-the pioneer of the great Home Mission movement, of granite strength and robustness. Dr. S. Waddy-who still maintained the prestige of extraordinary power in debate. There were younger men of great influence; such as Perks -who read a most beautiful pastoral address; the Rev. Wm. Lockwood Thornton-who occupied, with conspicuous ability, the Conference chair; the Rev. Luke H. Wiseman-whose hospitality I was priviledged oftener than once to enjoy-all then in golden

From the hands of these Christian has fallen; but, thank God, it has been taken up by others, equally gifted, and of the same consecrated purpose.

I was much interested at Westminster Abbey, in looking upon the monumental marble tablet in honour of the Eastern Provinces. John and Charles Wesley. It appro-

priately reminds us that while "God buries his workmen, He carries on His work;" but the full force of the chiselled record was more keenly realized at Birmingham than at Westminster.

In the chair of the Conference-ably, and with consummate skill, directing its deliberations—there sits a man of no common order. The great qualities by which he is distinguished—mental power, scholarly culture, and great saintliness of character—are apparent at a glance; and, notwithstanding the modesty and sensitiveness of temperament, which threatened to prove an insuperable difficulty to his occupancy of that honourable position, it is a matter for gratulation that British Methodism and the British Conference has such a man for presidential responsibility as the Conference chair, we have the ex- der. President, Dr. Rigg-a typical Englishmost influential in the literary circles of the land. Dr. Rigg takes a very prominent part in Conference business. and always with commanding power. When roused he wields a power that is simply tremendous, and, like the blows of a sledge-hammer, his words and fall upon an opponent with confusing and crushing effect. The best effort of all, was Dr. Rigg's ordination charge. I have frequently listened to the Dr., As compared with a former visit, my and especially during his Trans-atlantic visit with somewhat of disappointment; challenge attention beyond the limits of his own denomination. He sketch. self, not presenting our credentials un- ted, evangelists, pastors, teachers, were church. At one point, turning from ance, he denounced, most severely, the master of Methodist law and love-a perfect cyclopedia of Methodist fact and history, and all the minutia of admingarded, in questions of purely legal, constitutional, and technical character. Doctor excels in the range and variety When I last looked upon it, there of his knowledge, and is moreover a were venerable men upon the Confer- consummate debator. Had there been a successor to Dr. Bunting, unquestionably George Osborn would have been the man. The pressure of routine work | gin. Not a ripple marred the mirror-like Dr. Dixon, the one eminent for sound, is of such a character as utterly, except sturdy practical sense, and the other in a very few cases, to preclude elabosuch I remember from Dr. Osborn at

ances, especially at the close of those unique speeches, constitutes a remarkable feature. they had admitted sixty thousand people to church membership. That was surely a sign that God was with them-evidence of spiritual vitality. What they needed to consider was the question of leakage. It will be impossible however for me even to summarize speeches: Some of the best no doubt will be reported in extenso in the connexional papers, and from these may be transferred to your columns. Before passing away from the name of Dr. Osborn I may warriors, stiffened in death, the banner say that the memory of his kindness to me when accepted as a probationer for the British Conference has been retained. It was he who accompanied me to Liverpool when about to embark for

the Bradford Conference; which im-

most extraordinary efforts of the kind

to which I hadever listened. This year

again, when the work of God was un-

der review, Dr. Osborn gave what

might be regarded as the speech of the

Conference. Feebler men discussed de-

tails, but he dealt with great principles

and living, burning questions. The in-

tense emotion of Dr. Osborn's utter-

(Conclusion next week.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

SYDNEY, August 20, 1879. MR. EDITOR,-The isolation of our position in this distant field of labour, as regards association with ministerial brethren, presents a strong contrast to the Halifax District-a contrast, which, for the present, at least, is a severe strain upon the grace of contentment. But the strong, bracing air, and delightful scenery of this "home by the sea," have a peculiar charm about them, which is not possessed by some localities; and, with all its drawbacks, we are increasingly satisfied of the equality of the ways of this wise system of itinerancy, which is so beneficent in its operation upon all depart-Benjamin Gregory. To the right of ments of our ministerial and church or-

But beauties of earth, air, and sea, are man, and, perhaps, on the whole, one not all that yield content, in our new of the strongest men in Cenference, and home. We have found a people herelike that from whom we lately partedwith warm hearts, open hands, and who are loyal to Methodism. As it was on the evening of our first arrival in dear old Horton, so here also-rain descended copiously; but it was not permitted to tones, of apparently deliberate severity, dampen the kind ardour of the friends, who watched and waited to welcome us to their midst, and who, with wise forc-Conference, to my mind, taking it all in thought, had provided so generously to

establish us in housekeeping. We find close by our door, a very neat church edifice, in the interior of which extensive improvements have recently been made, greatly to the comfort of mintion of the edifice is bowever a most un- the hearts of some of my "friends," by congregation, being at the very extreme pain to either party, should the period of north of the town, the sp. ad of which is their severance draw near. Bro. Brown's gentleman who caused the removal of now. If he had occupied a little of it on Cleopatra's Needle to London, would confer a much greater benefit upon the whole stead of trying to make it appear that we One more I might mention word, if he would place our church a were dissatisfied with present preaching ing souls, and of building up the his army as it moved to battle his sweetest singers; and I think that we have here a choir that, as regards the project trolled and inspired by true spirituality

Last week we had our annual Sabbath School Pic-Nic, on the grounds of our esteemed friend Mr. Howie, at the "Forks." head of Sydney Harbor. A number of boats were procured; which were filled with our school, and such members of the congregation as could join us; and all being taken in tow by a small steam tug, we were thus conveyed to the locality named. There, we were joined by some of our congregation at that place; and all enjoyed a converse. In the early evening we started for home in the same order. The scene was, to me, most novel and pleasing. Before us lay about seven miles of the narrow Serpentine river, the greater portion of which is wooded almost to the mar- week. surface of the water, while around and above all nature shone in the quiet golden glory of the most beautiful of summer evenings. From my place in one of the foremost boats, I watched the chain of little craft, as, drawn by our tiny steamer, they swung in graceful curve around jetting point, or skirted the quiet wooded shore, or reached across the miniature bay; the while the shadow settled down around us; and amidst them. floated upward the incense of the holy song, as heart and voice found utterance in the sweet strains of "Abide With Me," or "The Evergreen Shore," or in the solemn and stirring monitions of " Work. for the Night is Coming, and as I listened. an inexpressible yearning filled my heart, that our dear Lord would give me wisdom and zeal and fidelity and tender love, and make me rich in the unction of He stated that during the past year the Holy One; so that I may be a blessing to the precious charge, the oversight of which is thus committed to my care. May the Divine power come into the consecrated heart of every minister, and rest upon each circuit throughout our whole work; and may we, at the close of this year of battle for Jesus, rest in the valley of Berachah, and bless the Lord!

day, of an interview with our honoured ness.

General President, Dr. Douglas; who, together with Mrs. Douglas, and Rev. Bro. Allen. of Montreal Conference, were en route to Newfoundland, per steamer Napoleon, from Montreal. Our beloved President overflows with cheerfulness, ardour and faith. He visits Newfoundland for health, and promoting the "Relief has become a quite different person. She is now testifying of the sweetness of Chrisprise he is most sanguine.

Jos. S. Coffin.

Mg. EDITOR.—I can assure Rev. Mr. Brown that I am as little disposed as he is, to occupy the columns of the WESLEYto misrepresent me, or to couple my name with incorrect statements, sent broadcast over the country, for a purpose best a feeble protest against them. Mr. Brown has acknowledged his error in one of the statements he made, and to which I took cuse himself by saying : " When writing that letter to the Messenger, I did not have the above cases before me, if I had. I should have referred to them," &c. would be some satisfaction to know where he had them. It does seem strange that he should have, in so short a time, places these facts so far behind him, as to leave no shadow of an impression on his mind. that he had not done what he said in the Messenger he had done Perhaps his quotation may now have a home application: " Evil is wrought from want of thought

As well as want of heart.' With reference to another statement questioned by me, concerning an attempt to prevent a Baptist minister preaching in a "certain school or meeting-house," Mr. Brown's explanation is not so satisfactminister, and the name of Mr. Brown's that charge with the silence it merits. Mr. Brown wants to know if some one did all in the opposite directica. The worthy time appears to be very valuable just the close communion house, divided arrangements at Paradise, it would have been more to the point.

I am profoundly thankful for the advice in the closing paragraph of his P.S., concerning the gun and ammunition, and shall govern myself accordingly. He, however, need not fear which end of the gun goes to his shoulder, when he discharges, for with the ammunition used, he and others will be perfectly safe.

Yours, &c.,
J. GAETZ.

Aylesford, August 9, '79.

FROM THE WISSION FIELD.

The Sackville Methodist Sabbath School has undertaken to contribute one hundred dollars a year for the support of a native refused persistingly, but I prevailed at season of romp or ramble, feasting or missionary in Japan. Rev. T. Hiraiwa has been appointed missionary in connection with the Sackville School. A letter was freely perdoned at his conversion; from him, recently received by the super- but as he became more and more enlightintendent, we give to our readers this ened by the light of the truth, and his

> Koishikawa, Tokio, Japan, June 13, 1879.

MR. C. A. BOWSER,-My Dear Sir: Your kind letter, dated April 17th, was received with welcome and even with tears of joy, on Sunday morning the 8th inst. I poured out my heart to the Lord and praised and thanked him that he has given you such a spirit as is manifested in the letter. It was, indeed, "the good news from a far country," and encouraged me a great deal. I read it to my brethren and the members of our church, all have appreciated your sympathy and generosity. I gladly consent to correspond with you henceforth, at least once a month, and tell you how we are working in this part of the Lord's field. I am very glad to know that many are praying for me on the other side of the deep, for nothing is more effectual in obtaining the mercy and help of our Father in heaven, which alone can sustain me amidst many trials and difficulties in the land where the old story of the Cross is so utterly new, than prayers of many faithful. As to the fruits of my mission, I dwindle at the thought, but I shall give you some of the instances of what our Lord has done to the souls of his re-We had the great pleasure, last Mon. deeming people, of which I am the wit-

anmra, of whose history I believe you be sure I remember them in my prayers. know something, began to inquire about the blessed Gospel, and the death of her son, which ended in her conversion. She was rather a selfish and passionate lady, and faith. He visits Newfoundland for noted among her family and relatives; the double purpose of recruiting his but since the Lord took hold of her, sae has become a quite different person. She Dear Sir, tian experience to all, and influencing her relatives pretty much.

One brother by the name of M. Kimura is to be mentioned. He is now about 27 years old. His parents were rather weal-thy, but he was very idle and prodigal, AN, with anything like a controversy from a youth of about 15 or 16 years he with him. I can, however, allow no man only knew how to waste money for wine, and not less for harlots! All reproofs and remonstrances of his parents and relatives had no effect upon his conduct; all arguments and advices of his friends and known to himself, without sending forth the aged had no influence upon his conscience; and even the pains of the penitentiary, into which he was sent by his relatives, more than once, had not changed his heart and habits since the conversion exception. He, however, attempts to ex. of Mrs. Kawanmra (the lady mentioned above), he was entrusted to her as his relatives knew her family very well, and they hoped he might be reclaimed through her), she prayed for him cornestly day and night, and also our Lord used my feeble voice, as well as other brothers mouths, to quicken his conscience. The Gospel had more direct and eff ct-

wal influence upon them than anything else, and lo! he is a changed man. He now perfectly abhors his wine und tormer sins. He came to Mrs. Kawanmra's family in the beginning of September, last year, and was baptized by Mr. Cochran. At the end of December, the same year, he was appointed an exhorter, just before Mr. Cochran's leaving. About two months ago, one Sunday, in the morning, I preached at Tsukiji, in the afternoon interpreted Mr. Meacham's sermon at Usluory. I asked for the name of the Bap'ist goin; towards the evening visited a dying wife (young and unconverted yet) of informant,-but Mr. Brown declines to one brother, exhorted her to repentance give either, so that I can afford to treat and faith, as well as comforted her, and prayed for her by the bedside. Having left her, I called at Mrs. Kawanmra's and not advise me not to deliver a lecture on had conversation for a while; then rebaptism at Paradise,-but to get some one turned to the Uslugoim chapel, when the else. "Did not some one advise you not service, conjucted by a brother worker. to do so!" Is that correctly quoted, Mr. | was just at the close, and the congrega-Brown? To your question, I answer, No. tion was going to offer special prayers for Is that emphatic enough? The endears the dying wife, whose husband being preister, choir and congregation. The situa- ing ties which have bound Bro. Brown to sent, had asked me to conduct the service. I addressed the congregation for a while, fortunate one for the growth of our what he is pleased to term his "expo- and all prayed, after which I asked those sure," will, I am thinking, cause little to come forward to the altar who felt to come forward to the altar who felt their need of conversion, if any such were present. Responding to this invitation, a young man arose and asked me to lead him to the Cross. I prayed with him, and all the brethren followed. Since that time

One more I might mention. Our young

verted and baptized a year ago by Mr. Cochran, he was earnest and happy, but from a few weeks ago he became a drawback. He withdrew himself from the services of the sanctuary. As he is dwelling far from my house, and is most of his time in week days in a government office. and moreover he shunned me as far as possible, so I could not see him; I sent him many letters, but to no effect, and other brethren had done the best they can, too, but all are in vain. A few days ago. I felt I must go and see him at his house at night; I went in the evening, and providentially met him on the way, as he was going to call his unbelieving friend and have a good time with him. Of course I took hold of him and walked along, up and down, persuading him to explain to me what was the matter with him. He last, and he confessed to me a particular sin, committed three years ago, while he was in the darkness, which, he believed, conscience more and more rectified, that old sin appeared again in more dreadful form, and even overpowered him so much as to separate him from the grace of God. He felt his sin was not pardoned after all, and was ashamed to appear before God, either in the sanctuary or prayers, and became desperate and tried to comfort his uneasy conscience as much as possible by pleasures, &c. After the confession, he wept and shed tears along the street. Then I took him to a quiet spot in the public garden near by, and it was already dark, there we sat and had a long conversation. I showed him God's pardoning love from Scriptural examples and promises, and applied Christ's atoning blood to his case. Then lo! the dark cloud of his heart vanished away, and the Sun of Righteousness began to shine in his full splendour again. We knelt down on the ground and prayed, and returned thanks to God together. I came back home jumping with the triumphant joy. Such are some of what our Lord has done here before my own eyes.

We thank you very much for having sent Mr. Cochran here, but we are all very sorry he was taken away from us too soon. He was loved by us all exceedinly. We miss him very much. 1 long to see Dr. McDonald with more impatience since I have received your letter.

Please give my very warm Christian salutation to all the officers, teachers, and The mother of the deceased Gami Kaw- scholars of the Sabbath School. You may

Please give my best regards to Mr. Sutherland, I often hear of him from Mr. Meacham, and other brethren from you. May the blessing of God be upon you all. Hoping to hear from you soon, I am.

> Yours in Christ sincerely. T. HIRAIWA.