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REALITIES, HEROIC SIDES OF HUMAN LIFE,

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The Wesleyan.

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No. 34

Letter from Rev. J. Latham.

HALTWHISTLE, ENG., August 5, 1879.

MR. EDITOR.—Though not much in a 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...

As compared with a former visit, my opportunities for judging of the men and movements of the Conference, were not altogether favourable.

At the Bradford Conference, I was favoured with a capital seat on the centre of the Conference platform; but at Birmingham, Bro. Heartz and myself, not presenting our credentials until leaving for London, took a seat up on the gallery...

When I last looked upon it, there were venerable men upon the Conference platform—men whose names had been familiar to me from very early life.

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

It reminds us that while "God buries his workmen, He carries on His work;" but the full force of the chisel 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...

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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 beauties of earth, air, and sea, are not all that yield content in our new home. We have found a people here—like that from whom we lately parted—with warm hearts, open hands, and who are loyal to Methodism.

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 minister, choir and congregation.

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.

From my place in one of the foremast 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...

We had the great pleasure, last Monday, of an interview with our honoured 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.

MR. EDITOR.—I can assure Rev. Mr. Brown that I am as little disposed as he is to occupy the columns of the WESLEYAN, with anything like a controversy with him.

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 satisfactory.

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.

Yours, &c., J. GAETZ.

Aylesford, August 9, 1879.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD.

The Sackville Methodist Sabbath School has undertaken to contribute one hundred dollars a year for the support of a native missionary in Japan.

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.

The mother of the deceased Gami Kawamura, of whose history I believe you know something, began to inquire about the blessed Gospel, and the death of her son, which ended in her conversion.

One brother by the name of M. Kimura is to be mentioned. He is now about 27 years old. His parents were rather wealthy, but he was very idle and prodigal...

The Gospel had more direct and effective influence upon them than anything else, and lo! he is a changed man. He now perfectly abhors his wine and former sins.

One more I might mention. Our young brother M. was a zealous believer, converted and baptized a year ago by Mr. Cochran, he was earnest and happy, but from a few weeks ago he became a drawback.

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.

Yours in Christ sincerely, T. HIRAIWA.

Post Office Inspector's Office, Halifax, 12th July, 1879. } 31 August 1

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