

Temperance.

The Old Pensioner.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO TEETOTALERS.

This is an interesting case, and fraught with much encouragement to temperance advocates, whom we hope it will stimulate to further and increased exertion. Should no present success appear, let them rest assured their labours will never be wholly in vain.

On a fine summer's morning, a few weeks since, I was busy calling upon my customers in the ancient town of Collumpton. The shuttle was heard busy in almost every house in the street through which I was passing; at the further end stood the fine old church, with its dial as if ready to confront every idler, yet there were many in the street. On the sunny side were gathered old people some on crutches, some with sticks, talking over the events of other days, and here and there were seen the shop-keepers leaning against the posts of their shop doors for want of customers. I heard my name called, and turning round recognized a face I had seen before, a woman, about sixty years of age, clean and neat, but upon the countenance could be traced marks of sleeplessness and care. "My husband wishes to speak with you," said she, "and will not detain you many minutes." I followed her, she led me half way down a street, and then turned thro' a narrow passage into a little open space where stood a few small houses, with little gardens before them. The house was clean, and at first sight I saw that it was not the abode of the drunkard. "My husband is very ill, sir, up stairs, and will you be kind enough to go up?" I went up and there he sat in an arm chair supported by pillows. He was a tall man, about the age of sixty, but wasting disease had reduced him almost to skin and bone. He had about his mouth much of the determination of the soldier, and, for one of his class, had acquired a considerable amount of information. His disease had brought him to the brink of the grave, and for him to speak much was a painful effort, sometimes in the midst of a sentence he was obliged to stop, and take a long breath. His eyes were sunk deep beneath his prominent forehead, but still they had not lost their fire, and his long black hair fell loosely over his forehead, which erect, had borne the helmet on many a field, for he had been a soldier. When I entered he stretched out his long and slender arm, that arm which had wielded the sword—the sleeve fell back and showed the cords and veins beneath the skin upon the bone. He grasped my hand, his felt cold and trembling. He drew me towards him and sat with my hand in his. "I have sent for you," (said he) "to ask you to grant a dying man a favour, I know you will oblige me." "If it be in my power, I will, was my answer. "You know that for many years I was a great drunkard, (and he added in a slow and solemn tone,) a very great drunkard, and I feel that I am now suffering from a disease brought on by my drunken habits, but about three years ago, you came and held a meeting at Collumpton. I then signed the pledge—Oh, happy night—if I had signed the pledge twenty years ago, I should have saved my poor wife and myself years of trouble and untold misery—then he paused as if thinking of the past and heaved a deep sigh. Now, the Queen (he continued) has been pleased to send me a medal with many clasps for serving my country in the wars, and it is customary to lay them on the coffin at death. I feel I shall soon die—my time is short, but there is a medal which I should like to leave to commemorate the great victory over that dreadful curse drunkenness; so that when I am dead my teetotal medal may be upon my heart." And here he turned his face towards the wall and wiped away the falling tear. You shall have one said I. And what other request have you to make. "We soldiers (said he) are generally carried to our graves by our old companions in arms. I have a great regard for them, for we have had many a weary march, and I fought many a hard battle together, but I should like to be borne to my last resting place by my teetotal brethren, for I do not wish that any of that drink which did me so much harm should be drunk at my funeral; for when I die I shall die blessing the good society that made me a sober man, and prepared me to attend to religion, which enables me to look forward to the other world without fear." I promised him to do my best to fulfil his request. I shook him by the hand, perhaps for ever, and descended again to the street with a thankful heart that I was a member of the teetotal society. Men of religion, indulge your appetites as you may, I envy not your pleasures, one such a scene as this outweighs them all. WILLIAM H. DUNS.

6, North-st., Exeter, Oct. 12, 1850.

The Temperance Press.

There are two instrumentalities for carrying forward the temperance cause—the speaker and the press. The former of these would be all potent if every one could be brought to hear, but, unfortunately, there are thousands who have never heard the matter discussed, some from inability, and a large portion from want of will.—With this latter class, we must act according to

the wisdom of Mahomet, who, when he found that he could not make the mountain come to him, went to the mountain.

The great mass of country towns cannot afford to employ a lecturer more than three or four times a year, while the door of the grog-shop is ever open inviting all to enter and partake. If, then, men will not, or cannot, come to temperance lectures, we must send temperance lecturers to them; and in this lies the efficacy of the Press.

The silent messenger, filled with thought, goes to thousands of firesides, and rouses the apathetic, or gives fresh ardour to those already stirring.—It seizes the man when he is most open to conviction, when the claims of duty, of family, are strongest; and we can readily credit the statement made by one of our agents, in the earlier days of our paper, that he did not know of a case in which a reformed man had returned to drinking who continued to subscribe for and read his paper. It is the weekly monitor which, in many cases, must make the place of the speaker good by its weekly appeals, its arguments, its illustrations, its facts—and we ask all good temperance men what they are doing to sustain the temperance press?—*New Englander.*

Correspondence.

For the Wesleyan.

Woodstock Circuit.

DEAR BROTHER,—I wrote you a few weeks since giving you some information relative to the work of God in this Circuit; we are still witnessing the manifestation of the Divine Power in the conviction and conversion of souls. On Sabbath last I formed a new class at Richmond Corner when nine persons, nearly all of whom were heads of families, agreed to meet together weekly to counsel and encourage each other in "working out their salvation." About five miles from this place at South Richmond the Lord is also pouring out his Spirit upon the people; several have been awakened, and a few have given satisfactory evidence of conversion. The members of our Society in that place have been much encouraged and quickened, and some who had wandered have been restored. We give God the glory and take courage in His blessed work. The "harvest is great" here "but the labourers are few."—There are indeed professed labourers who ridicule scriptural conversion and who zealously denounce experimental religion as enthusiasm; these oppose us in our work, but God is with us and the evidences of his working are so manifest and convincing that this opposition is scarcely felt. My prayer is that God may more generally visit his Church with the dew of his blessing in my native Province, as well as in this land of my present sojourning. Yours in Christ, J. A.

Woodstock, N. B., Nov. 25th, 1850.

THE WESLEYAN.

Halifax, Saturday Morning, December 14, 1850.

WESLEYAN ACADEMY, SACKVILLE, N. B.

We have withdrawn our leading Editorial this week to make room for the following important and interesting communication from the Reverend PRINCIPAL of the Wesleyan Academy, to which we would direct the attention of all parties concerned, and request for it that careful perusal, and consideration, of which it is so eminently worthy. We are exceedingly gratified at witnessing such a meritorious anxiety, on the part of the Professors, as that to which the writer gives expression, to render the Institution as efficient as possible in carrying out the objects for which it has been established, and to make it, as a seat of learning, all that its estimable and benevolent Founder, and its warmest friends, can desire. We may remain, ere long, refer to the subject more at large. In the mean time, we hope that those who are friendly to the Institution will feel it a duty to render it all the support in their power.

MY DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Our semi-annual Examination is to commence on Monday Morning, and to end on Tuesday afternoon, the 15th and 16th inst. About thirty Classes will be presented for examination in a range of studies, embracing among other branches, English Grammar, Geography, Arithmetic, Geometry, Plane and Spherical Trigonometry, Chemistry, Scientific Agriculture, Rhetoric, Intellectual Philosophy, Evidences of Christianity, and the French, Latin and Greek Languages and Literature. We hope to satisfy all our friends, who may favour us with their presence on the occasion, that both Teachers and pupils have been diligently and successfully engaged in the discharge of their relative duties during the period of their associated labour. Certain we are that the present has been satisfactory to the Teachers in a degree somewhat beyond the average of our Terms.—For although the number of students has not been so much larger than that of the corresponding Term of the preceding year, as some of us had hoped,

from the apparent improvement in the times, it might be, yet as we have upwards of fifty names on our school lists;—and an unusually large proportion of our students are old enough to understand and feel the importance of making progress as rapidly as possible in the course of education, and the impossibility of doing so without determined and persevering application of mind on their own part;—and as good health has prevailed throughout our academical community with scarcely the exception of an hour's indisposition to any individual;—and as we have not been troubled with the presence of a single person so disposed to act disorderly as to require any special effort to maintain order; they have been allowed to devote themselves to their appropriate work of instruction under encouraging circumstances, free from any distressing or discouraging interruptions.

Most of the more important classes in the higher departments are quite large. One,—that in SCIENTIFIC AGRICULTURE—is, I believe, quite a novelty in the history of scholastic institutions in these Provinces.—It consists of thirteen youth and young men, who are, with much apparent interest, pursuing such a course of study and investigation in relation to the business to which they are expecting to devote more or less time and attention hereafter, as must make them more intelligent men and better farmers.

Another thing may be mentioned which will be peculiarly pleasing to the readers of *The Wesleyan*, it is, that there is a greater number of truly pious young men in attendance now than there has ever been before. Several of these are of considerable promise, and it is understood that they are seeking, in a course of educational training, augmentation of mental force, impelled by a holy ambition to become better prepared for usefulness in any position, which may be hereafter providentially assigned to them.

We are particularly gratified to see young men resorting to the Institution resolved to obtain intellectual discipline and strength.—Such almost invariably make excellent students. So that, while we promise Parents and Guardians of youth to give a hearty welcome to any boys they may entrust to our care, and pledge ourselves to watch incessantly, and to labour faithfully for their comfort, safety, and improvement, we assure young men who, though advanced beyond the period usually considered appropriate to school life, are wisely determined yet to employ some period of time, longer or shorter, in a search after knowledge, that we sympathise with them in their aspirations, and that a greeting the most cordial we can give, awaits any one of their number who may make arrangements to connect himself with the Academy.

THE NEXT TERM will begin on Thursday the 9th January, 1851.

Arrangements can then be made for the comfortable accommodation and thorough instruction of from twenty to fifty new Students.

Cannot the friends of the country, and of the youth, and young men, that are in it, who have confidence in the Institution, so exert themselves as to crowd our Halls and Lecture Rooms with Students? Or we should rather ask will they not so exert themselves? Unquestionably they might and would if they could be induced to form a right estimate of the importance of a good education to those for whose future well-doing in life they are anxious.

Under the influence of no selfish or sinister motives, I would urge upon every young man the expediency of investing a few pounds of any means he may be able to command, in additional intellectual capital, before devoting himself fully to the business of life; and I would also say to him in all modesty, but with all confidence, that he may find in the Wesleyan Academy all desirable facilities for effecting such an investment.

I would also affectionately and most respectfully remind parents, that the most secure provision they can make, to advance the well-being and well-doing of their children in the world, is to afford them the best education they can command.—Thus they may give them an imperishable endowment,—one not liable to the fluctuations which affect so disastrously the ordinary accumulations unwisely made by parents for their children. And any parents, who are prudently resolving to make provision in this way to aid their sons, are invited to enquire into the regulations of the Mount Allison educational establishment, which has been founded, planned, and managed in all its departments with the design of ensuring to all its inmates domestic comfort, moral safety, and intellectual progress.

But Mr. Editor, I had no design, when I began writing, of trespassing so far, at this time, either upon your columns, or the patience of your readers—and now hasten to subscribe myself as your and their

Most obedient servant,

H. PICKARD.

Wesleyan Academy,
Mount Allison Sackville, N. B., Dec. 5, 1850.

AN OUTRAGEOUS ACT.

The *True Presbyterian* states, that "some time since, two Wesleyan Ministers, Rev. Jesse McBride and Rev. A. Crooks, were arrested and held to bail in Greensboro, N. C., on the charge of circulating incendiary publications. Their offence consisted in giving a tract to a little girl, showing slavery to be a violation of the ten commandments. Their trial recently took place. Mr. Crooks was acquitted. Mr. McBride was convicted and sentenced to one year's imprisonment, to stand in the pillory one hour, and to receive twenty lashes." Such is the beautiful working of the demon-system—slavery! Language, sufficiently condemnatory, cannot be found to denounce the injustice, tyranny, and cold-hearted cruelty, of this monster of iniquities. The wrong, so wantonly inflicted on the innocent, will yet recoil with fearful violence on the guilty perpetrators. The Southern Slavery-men even now stand in a pillory of their own construction, as a gazing stock to an indignant world, and are justly lashed with the scorpion thongs of outraged public opinion. By such despotic acts as the one above related, they are precipitating their own downfall. Religion and humanity cannot much longer tolerate the worse than abominable animosities, but shortly, as the already dark catalogue of crimes and cruelties increases in foulness and malignity, will arise in majesty and power, and sweep the last vestige of the God-dishonouring and inhuman system from the face of the country. The free spirit of the North, one would suppose, had been already sufficiently aroused—the sentence of the Rev. Mr. McBride will add to its intensity—it will speak in tones of thunder, and demand the abolition of slavery in terms that cannot be resisted, and which will cause the hard but coward heart of the South to quail, and sink like a stone into the deep. We sincerely sympathise with the Reverend sufferer, and hope the friends of freedom will not fail him in the time of need.

LITERARY NOTICE.

Twenty-Fourth Annual Report of the Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Auxiliary Society for the New Brunswick District, &c. 1850. Fredericton, N.B., Printed by James Hogg, Reporter Office.

In this Report, which has been kindly forwarded to our Office, we can very plainly see the exhibition of the cultivated intellect and rich and exuberant imagination of the Reverend Secretary. These *Missionary Annuals* are deserving of more than a hasty glance, as they contain a mass of the most interesting matter on the all-important subject of Christian Missions. The present one we have no doubt has already been read by thousands with interest and profit; and if an enlarged spirit of liberality in the support of the cause of God among the heathen has been excited, it will be no more than a legitimate fruit of christian principle, and only what might have been anticipated as a result of the prayerful consideration of the heart-stirring topics and faithful appeals so powerfully stated and enforced in the Report before us. We rejoice that Wesleyan Methodism in the Provinces still numbers among its adherents men of ardent piety, sterling principle, enlarged liberality, and possessing a true missionary spirit; who, having themselves proved the value of the Word of God and the advantages of the Christian Ministry, are disposed to extend these treasures to the destitute parts of the earth, as well as to sustain the religious agencies already introduced into portions of the pagan world. The sum raised by the New Brunswick Auxiliary the last year was £599 7s. 13d., which shows a gratifying increase on that of the preceding year of £132 13s. 8d.

Mechanics' Institute.

On Wednesday evening last an introductory Lecture on Chemistry, with experiments, was delivered at the Mechanics' Institute by Mr. Outram Senior. The attendance was not so large as the claims which the Institute has on public attention and the benefits it is calculated to impart, would have lead one to anticipate. We hope in this respect there will be an im-