

Religious and Missionary Intelligence.

BY THE REV. E. BARRASS, D.D.

THE METHODIST CHURCH.

The Western Conferences were all held in the month of June, except British Columbia, which met during the last week in May. The General Superintendent was present for a few days at six of the Conferences, and then proceeded eastward to attend those of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. Dr. Carman shows rare ability as chairman in expediting the business.

His addresses at the opening of the Conferences were well suited to the position of affairs and clearly proved how well he looks abroad to see what is doing in all the Churches. He is truly a master in Israel, and understands the signs of the times.

Besides presiding, Dr. Carman also preached the ordination sermon at two of the Conferences.

The following brethren were duly elected to the highest positions in their respective Conferences. Toronto: President, Dr. Galbraith, Secretary, A. Brown; London: W. W. Shepherd, S. J. Allen; Niagara: I. Tovell, J. Hazlewood; Guelph; J. McAllister, E. A. Chown; Bay of Quinte: S. J. Shorey, N. A. McDiarmid; Montreal: Dr. Ryckman, W. Philp; British Columbia: T. W. Hall, W. W. Baer; Manitoba: A. W. Ross, F. B. Stacey.

Toronto Conference met in the Metropolitan Church, and was visited by a great number of brethren from other Conferences, and ministers of the city churches.

Guelph Conference met in the town of Goderich. An unusual incident occurred at the ordination service, viz., Rev. Dr. Ure, Presbyterian minister in that town,

assisted in the ceremony of laying on of hands.

Peterborough was the place of meeting for Bay of Quinte Conference, and at the temperance meeting Father Murphy, of the Roman Catholic Church, joined his Protestant brethren in proclaiming eternal war against every form of intemperance. Temperance was a prominent subject at all the Conferences. One zealous Presbyterian clergyman declared his conviction that his Church, if united with the Methodist Church, could soon drive intemperance from the land.

Montreal Conference assembled in the old Limestone City of Kingston. Two deaths were reported in the ministerial ranks, one of which was Dr. Douglas, the Chrysostom of Methodism in Canada. He was truly "the old man eloquent," a prince and a great man in our Israel.

The past year has been one of great mortality in the ranks of the ministry; we believe the number is at least twelve. At the various Conferences an unusually large number of ministers felt compelled to retire from "the active work." The number of young men who came forward as candidates was larger than the demands of the work required, hence some were placed on the list of reserve. There are those who think that fewer young men should be taken out as candidates.

Niagara Conference met at Woodstock, London at Ridgeway, and British Columbia at the city of Vancouver.

A few probationers were discontinued from various causes. In two Conferences two members were deposed from the ministry on account