Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 1873.

THE CONFERENCE.

Before the PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN this week reaches the hands of the major portion of its readers, Conference, it is to be presumed, will have nearly, if not quite, finished its task, but at the moment of writing it has only fairly begun its work. We are not therefore yet in a position to remark at large upon its proceedings, or in any way to appreciate the character of its performances. While we write the leading questions upon which Conference will be called upon to pronounce, have not come before it for discussion. The members of Conference present generally wear a healthful appearance, though a few look somewhat enfeebled and will rest to recuperate But then, several ministers who last year, under the pressure of affliction, withdrew from the active work of the ministry, this year with health recruited re-enter it. Several young brethren who have completed their probation, are to be received into full connexion and ordained, and some twelve young men who believe they are drawn to the good work by Divine influence, are just about to enter upon their probationary course for the ministry.

If we cannot at this date say much about the work of the Conference, we are in a position to state that the proceedings of the Preparatory Committees and the results arrived at by them, have been of an interesting character. The Stationing Committee, of course, has been busily at work, and in the first draft of the Station Sheet we have had a glimpse of the result of the Committee's earlier deliberations. All we have to say about it is that many of the appointments are as judicious as any uninspired body could possibly make, some of them are as just and reasonable as the Committee knew how to make, some are as suitable as the Committee was able to make, a few of them will doubtless be altered for the better. When the Committee shall have concluded its labours, we trust both ministers and people will accept them as the best that could be done under the circumstances. We need scarcely say that the Itinerant system is upon the whole a most efficient one, but that it necessarily involves in its working, many hardships to ministers and their families, and occasional sacrifice of preferences on the part of the people. But if the hardship is borne Christianly and the sacrifice made unmurmuringly, the Divine blessing may be confidently anticipated by those who bear the one and make the other.

The investigations of the Book Room Committee disclose some pleasing results. The financial condition of the Book Room establishment was found to have still further improved during the year, so much so as to warrant the belief that in a couple of years, all its encumbrances will be removed. The proceedings of the Contingent Fund Committee have a somewhat painful interest attached to them, as they are connected with the discovery that the resources of the Contingent Fund are too scanty by at least $900, to meet the requirements of the special cases of affliction recommended by the various District Committees to the consideration of its administrators. It is sad, and very regrettable that such should be the fact.

The Home Mission Fund Committee brought to light circumstances of a most grateful character. It ascertained that the income of this exceedingly important Fund for the year just ended, reached the respectable figure of $10,000, showing an increase beyond the income of the preceding year of $1,400. This is an extremely gratifying result. It shows that the object which the Home Mission Fund was established to promote, lies near the heart, and commends itself to the judgment of our people. The same conclusion was suggested, we might almost say proved, by the enthusiastic utterances in behalf of this Fund by certain Lay members of this Committee present at its session, the brethren, Rogerson of Newfoundland, Dawson of Charlottetown, and Hay of Woodstock, for no doubt they rightly interpreted on that occasion, the thought and feeling of the moral, intelligent, and warm hearted among our congregation.

The Supernumerary Fund Committee had also a pleasing task to perform. It had to elicit the fact that the income of the Fund during the year was in a condition to meet all the claims upon it, and to permit, after having done so, some $2,000 to be added to its capital. This circumstance will not only be pleasing to those disabled members of Conference, who would gladly press again to the front of the battle, were they only discharged cured from the Supernumerary Hospital, but also re-assuring to many, who in the effective ministerial ranks, are strenuously engaged in the high places of the field, not knowing at what moment some shaft from fate's full quiver may lay them low.

Up to the moment of writing, the Conference weather has been all that could be desired, dry and warm, without being overpoweringly hot. Fredericton, too, and its surroundings have been looking their best. The verdure of the rich-carpeted fields refreshes the very soul of the gazer, who for long months has been shut up, amid the dry, hard brick and stone of the city. The drapery of the many-leafed trees that cast cool flickering shadows across and along the streets, is fresh and beautiful. The gardens are unfolding their wealth of floral lovliness. The slightly rippled river flows noiselessly by. The resting brethren, unvexed with appointment troubles, are radiant with satisfaction in this most restful place. The sweet air seems pervaded by the spirit of kindness, and all goes well.

J. R. N.

A wise man will desire no more than what he may get justly, use soberly, distribute cheerfully, and live upon contentedly.

ENGLISH CORRESPONDENCE.

The Permissive Bill—Mr. Miall's Resolutions on Disestablishment—The Tichborne trial—M. Theirs' fall, and parties in France—Spain and Italy.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Sir Wilfrid Lawson's Permissive Bill has again been discussed in our Imperial Parliament, and rejected by an overwhelming majority. This has been its fate for several years in succession, yet its treatment by the Commons this session is most significant. It commanded less support than usual and the tone of its assailants was more contemptious and bitter than ever. The chief reason assigned for this display of zeal on behalf of the liquor traffic is the near approach of the dissolution of the present House of Commons, and the consequent appearance of honorable members before their constitutents. It is well known what a compact and formidable power that of the publican is during a general election, and what resources are within their reach. Many of our Legislators are indebted for their seats to this tremendous influence, and very many more shrink from any act or vote which would place them under the ban of the Licensed Victuallers. Alas! for consistency and principle—members who on previous divisions had voted for this moderate instalment of Legislative control of a wicked and defiant trade, went over to the side of the majority, and others were absent from their places altogether.

The promoters of the measure are not at all inclined to abate their efforts or abandon the enterprise. They can now fully estimate the mighty influences which are arrayed against them, and have occasion to rejoice with other kindred associations; at the steady increase of help financial and personal, which flows in from the Church of God, and earnest thoughtful workers in all departments of social reform. The great cause is making real and solid progress.

Mr. Miall's motion for the Disestablishment of the English Church met with but scant courtesy from the compact and formidable majority arrayed against it. There was an evident intention to repress discussion and force the matter to an early division. The result was a largely diminished vote in favor of Mr. Mial, and loud has been the rejoicing of the victorious party. It is plain that the impending elections have largely influenced this vote, and led to a line of conduct which may possibly procure favor in the day of trial. Despite this apparent reverse, the movement loses no real help, nor are its promoters at all discouraged. Events within the Church are rapidly gathering force quite as powerful as that without, and the question cannot be shelved.

The hearts of many are pained at the increased audacity of the Romanizing party in the Church, and there is no effective remedy either at the hands of the Bishops or from the Ecclesiastical Courts. Quite recently over 400 400 clergymen petitioned for the establisment of licensed Confessors in the Church, and the sanctioning of services in honor of the Virgin Mary, and prayers for the spirits of the departed. On every hand, in our smallest village churches, and in the magnificent Cathedrals these pestilent errors have found a lodgment. The National Church of England is rapidly becoming a vast hotbed of dangerous error and practice.

There is not much else to report upon the proceedings of the Imperial Parliament. No measure of great importance has been passed, and business progresses very slowly. The Whitsuntide holidays are now being duly observed by our Legislators, including a day extra to enable them to attend the great Derby race at Epsom Downs.

The Tichborne trial claims its full share of public interest. It drags its slow length along in much the same fashion as at the first and bids fair to occupy months ere the end is reached. An effort is being made to prove the claimant, who yet styles himself "Sir Roger Tichborne;" to be Arthur Orton of Wapping, London. Witness after witness positively swear to his identity with the Ortons, but we hear of hundreds on the other side who are prepared to declare this mysterious fellow is none other than the missing Baronet, and the heir to the splendid estates which are the cause of all the contention.

The fall of M. Theirs, and the sudden elevation of Marshal Macmahon as President of the French Republic, is proof of the ficklessness of the nation, and the extreme difficulty of determining the future of that singular people. The late President has conferred immense benefits upon his country and laid them under heavy obligations. His administration has been marked with distinguished ability, and he has rescued France from great depths of shame and embarrassment. It is not likely that any of the contending Imperial or Monarchical factions will derive much advantage from the change. The nation is more Republican than its Assembly, and such it will remain, unless another revolution sweeps over the fair country, and changes the aspect of affairs.

Spain remains terribly disturbed, and is very far from settling down peaceably under the new Republican regime.

Italy is moving on in releasing itself from Papal control, to the grief of the venerable Pope, and as it is asserted to the endangering of his health and life. "B."

June 2, 1873.

The celebration of the Whitsuntide holidays—The movement among Agricultural Laborers—The destruction of the Alexandra Palace The Shah of Persia in Europe—The return of Dr. Punshon, and his first service in City Road Chapel.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—The late Whitsuntide holidays have been thoroughly enjoyed by all classes of the people. The weather was beautifully fine, and that is a most important matter in this most fickle climate. The spring has been very cold, and very little fine weather has gladdened our pleasure-seekers. On Whit-Monday the workmen of London turned out in great strength, and proceeded, in well-arranged processions from far and near, to Hyde Park, in order to discuss their grievances, and impress upon Parliament and the British nation in general, the necessity of redressing their wrongs. It is evident there is nothing very flagrant in the laws under which these well-dressed and able-bodied men are called to live, and in the presence of very high wages and very short hours, it was hard work for their excited orators to produce a real grievance.

Pleasanter, far, were the gatherings of tens of thousands of happy children belonging to the Sabbath Schools of the various churches. In London, Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield, and other places, whole days of the festive week were consecrated to these youthful festivals; and admiring parents and friends in immense numbers thronged to see and hear the doings of the children. Then in other centres the Temperance fraternity, and particularly the Good Templars in their brilliant regalia, held their anniversaries; parading the streets, and by out-door as well as in-door meetings, urging the claims of their movement, and the benefits accruing from an adoption of their principles. Lodges, Clubs, Benefit Societies, and all kinds of organizations, appeared in public, and for the greater part of the week the working population of England participated in an almost universal holiday. Many, alas! ran to a sad excess of riot and dissipation; but yet, on the whole, it was a grateful relief to toiling millions; and after all, there are not many seasons of holiday during the rolling year.

The imprisonment of a number of women, and some of them with infants in their arms, for an act of intimidation which only merited censure and cautioning against repetition, has called forth a loud burst of honest indignation. The sentencing magistrates were clergymen, and the punishment awarded was the severest in their power to inflict. Their conduct is under enquiry by the Government, and it is hoped that these stern and unrelenting Justices of the Peace will be relieved by the Lord Chancellor from further duties of this nature, and be left at liberty to attend to their proper functions as preachers of the Gospel. This affair at Chipping, Norton, affords an index of the intensely bitter feeling with which the movement in the midst of the agricultural labourers, is regarded by the landlords and upper classes in general. The poor fellows have combined for self-protection and to better their condition. It is, of course, a new thing under the sun, and has called forth intense opposition from the masters, and severest punishment whenever they may have been under the reach of the law as it is administered by local magistrates. It is all in vain, as the movement is daily gathering fresh power and breadth. In many counties wages have been raised, families have been assisted to remove to neighborhoods where their labor is well remunerated, and large schemes of emigration have been carried out.

The Alexandra Palace, which was intended to be for the North of London, what the famous Crystal Palace is to the South, has been unfortunately totally destroyed by fire. It was erected some years ago, but failed to interest the public or prove remunerative to its projectors, until quite recently—under a new management—it has proved a great attraction, and began to pay well. On Whit Monday upwards of 50,000 people visited the beautiful palace and grounds. The fire has not only destroyed the whole of the building, but many costly and precious things have perished in the general ruin. The splendid organ—costing some £30,000, and said to have been the finest in Europe, shared the lot of the building, and its destruction is very much regretted. The loss is over half a million sterling. It is determined to rebuild with as little delay as possible, and in the meantime the beautiful Gardens and Park will attract many of the London folk.

The Shah of Persia, Nasser-Eddin—to give to your readers his exact name, has been visiting Germany and Belgium and is now on his way to our shores The visit of this Oriental Prince to Europe is making a great sensation, and from all accounts he is travelling in style befitting the famous land of romance, and pomp over which he reigns. He appears a quiet intelligent Prince, intent on observing all he possibly can, and learning what western civilization might possibly do for him and his people in their far away home.

But to us, as Wesleyan Methodists, a greater than the Shah of Persia has landed on our shores, and returned to his own proper sphere of labor. The arrival of Dr. Punshon in safety and good health, has been hailed with immense pleasure. We rejoice in all the good his labors has conferred on Canada, and now we welcome him back joyously to our Conferential ranks and honors. Right worthily has he entered upon his English work by preaching in the City Road Chapel, one day last week, to a crowded and most enthusiastic audience, on behalf of the Westminster College Chapel, and with a view of the final extinction of its debt. The admirable arrangements for this service had been made by the Rev. Gervase Smith, and his amazing tact, together with the power and popularity of Dr. Punshon, secured as the financial results of this service the sum unprecedented in Methodist Collections of £2,025, and meeting all the requirements of the case.

"B"

June 14, 1873.

CONFERENCE CORRESPONDENCE.

Fredericton, famed for the picturesqueness of its scenery, the ease with which by railway or steamboat, it can be reached, and the hospitality of its inhabitants has more than ordinary claims to the distinction of a Conference town.

The abounding hospitality of the Methodist community has this year, we believe, been subjected, by the large number of ministers to be entertained, to a more than ordinary tax. It is understood, however, that it has more than stood the test. To the tact and skill of the genial superintendent of the Circuit, the Rev. Leonard Gaetz, the Conference is largely indebted for this result and it will doubtless acknowledge its obligation in due time.

The arrival of the several boats and railway trains on Tudesday the 24th inst. furnished evidence in the unusual number of black-coats and white neck-ties landed, that the time for the annual convocation of Methodist ministers had arrived. To an observer in the neighborhood of the Methodist-Church on Tuesday morning, this fact would have been still more apparent as the Chairmen and Representatives of the several Districts, gathered around the door, and exchanged, after, in many cases, a separation of twelve months, their fraternal greetings before entering upon the duties assigned to them as members of the

STATIONING COMMITTEE—

the first of the preparatory Committees of 1873.

At 2½ p. m. the Book Room Committee entered upon its work and the review of the year was the most satisfactory that this committee has been allowed to take for many years. The Report of the Book Steward showed that the improvement since it 1869, at which time he took charge of the concern, was to the extent of $7227, 51, and also that another year or two of similar prosperity would serve to lift the establishment out of all financial embarrassment.

Thirteen young men, as candidates for Probation, appeared before the Committee for examination of Candidates at the same hour at which the Book Committee met. Four others were reported from Newfoundland, but on account of distance were excused from attendance.

The meetings of the Contingent Fund, and Home Mission Fund Committees, were attended more largely this year by lay members of our Church, than on any former occasion in the history of our Conference. Among the gentlemen present we noticed Hon. J. G. Rogerson of St. John's, Newfoundland, W. E. Davison, Esq, of Charlottetown P. E. Island; M. Trueman, Esq, of Point de Bute; D. Henry Starr, Esq, of Halifax; and C. W. Wetmore, and W. Clawson, Esquires of St. John His Honor, Governor Wilmot, was also present for a short time.

The receipts of Contingent Fund were in advance of previous years, but the ordinary claims were so many and so large that when the special cases were presented it was found that to meet about $1000. the Treasurer had only some $29!

This fact it was thought by the lay members of the Committee, was not very creditable to our Church, and ought to be known throughout the bounds of the Conference.

The receipts of the Home Mission Fund were found to be nearly double those of the previous year being $10,703.71 or an increase of $1681.28 over last year.

The Foreign Mission Fund Committee met at 7 p m.

It was found that the receipts of this Fund had decreased during the year some two hundred dollars. By Resolution it was decided to call the attention of Conference to the Circuits in which this falling off had taken place.

Supernumerary Fund Committee and Parsonage aid Fund and Sabbath-School Committees meet to-morrow, of which reports will be presented to Conference and reported for PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN.

D.

Fredericton, N. B., 25th June 1873.

(Specially reported for the Provincial Wesleyan.)

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.

First Day.—The Nineteenth Annual Conference of Eastern British America was opened on Thursday, 26th June, 1873, at 9, a. m., by the President, the Rev. J. G. Hennigar who gave out the 478th Hymn commencing "And are we yet alive," &c., after which the Secretary Rev. D. D. Currie, read the 10th Chapter of the 1st Epistle to the Corinthians, and two of the aged ministers, the Rev. Thomas H. Davies and Henry Daniel, offered earnest prayer.

The President said he would not take up time by referring at any great length to the year past. It was, however, matter of infinite gratification that God had spared their lives, although one aged minister had, during the year, been called away. God throughout the year had been blessing us as a Church. On some sections of our work God had abundantly poured out his spirit, and although some of our people had been called home to Heaven, yet it would be found that there had been a pleasing accession to our numbers. Thankful that God had spared him to resign the trust committed to him last year, he would now call upon the Secretary of Conference to read that part of the address of the British Conference which related to the officers of this Conference for the present year.

The portion read contained the consent of the British Conference to the appointment of Dr. Stewart to the office of *President*, and of the Rev. Elias Brettle, as *Co-Delegate*. The retiring President then introduced Dr Stewart expressing the great pleasure he had in doing so, and his gratitude to God who had called him (Dr. S.) to this high position, and the delight he had in responding to the prayer presented in his behalf at the opening of Conference.

After a few moments spent in silent prayer, the President, Dr. Stewart, said:—

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren,—I accept with unfeigned self-abasement, the trust which your kindness, and the action of the British Conference, has this day devolved upon me. That God should have blessed me with a truly Christian parentage, and have called me, while yet a youth, out of darkness into His marvellous light; that He should have counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, and have led me by His providence to this hour and this place, excites my gratitude towards Him, and demands the engagement of my best service towards you.

The duties of this chair must, to me at least, be sufficiently onerous; and while I am conscious, of an ardent desire, and an honest purpose by the grace of God to fulfil them with the strictest impartiality, the utmost kindness, and the most constant reference to the Divine will, I must in order to success, cast myself upon your sympathies, your patience and your prayers. The confidence which you have already reposed in me enables me to feel that I may unhesitatingly do so.

As we have more work, and of greater magnitude to do at this Conference than is usually the case, let me remind you of the necessity of punctuality in our attendance, of concentration of thought upon the question before us, and of such brevity of remark as may be consistent with a full and careful consideration of it. I am anxious, indeed, that we should make haste, but efficiently, satisfactorily, and therefore, slowly.

We are ministers of Christ, and the interests which we are here to conserve and promote are *His* interests. To us, therefore, and to all thus gathered together in his name, is the assurance given, "there am I in the midst." Let this assurance deeply solemnize, let it cheer and animate us. Head of the Church! Breathe again, upon these thy disciples, and say, Receive the Holy Ghost!

One of the most memorable events in the Apostolic age—the designation by the Divine Spirit of certain men for a special course of ministerial toil, privation, suffering, and success; the inauguration, so to speak, of Missions to the heathen, was brought about in the Church at Antioch, while the teachers of that Church "ministered to the Lord and fasted." Prayer and fasting, too, on the part of the members of the Church attended the going forth of these servants of God. May we not follow so excellent an example? Our fathers did so, and we know how God blessed them. May I suggest observance of a day of fasting and prayer in this Conference, with special reference to the promotion of the work of God in our own hearts, and among our people everywhere?

One other thing. Many of our younger brethren will not be so pressed with work as some of the others will be. Might they not then gather together for a prayer meeting for half an hour before the morning session? As soon as half a dozen come together let one of them begin. This will help to secure a good attendance at the commencement of the session; and it will bring upon us the power from on high. And this is our great want, *the power* from on high!

The Co-Delegate, the Rev. Elias Brettle, having been called upon by the President, spoke substantially as follows:—

Dearly beloved Brethren.—In taking the position for which you named me more than a year ago, and which has been confirmed by the British Conference, I may say, first, that I am profoundly grateful to God that on the day of the month on which I attained to the 16th year of my age it pleased God to reveal his Son in me. During the 40 years that I have sojourned in the wilderness since that time, the good hand of God has been upon me for good. I am deeply humbled that I have not been more faithful. I am thankful, however, for his love in my heart to-day, and for that form of Christianity called Methodism. I am thankful also for Methodist parentage. I have an increased sense of my insufficiency, yet am confident that my sufficiency is of God. I will endeavor to discharge the duties of my position with regard to claims of God and the interests of this Conference. I endorse the suggestion to spend an hour before commencing business of Conference each day in prayer. My heart's desire and prayer is that God would command his blessing upon Zion even life for evermore.

The names of the Ministers who compose the Conference were then called, after which the

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

took place, resulting in that of Rev. James Taylor, as *Secretary* of Conference, and of Rev. Robert A Temple as *Journal Secretary*. The Conference hounds were fixed and the hours of session named viz., from 9. a. m till 1 p. m.

The Conference prayer-meeting, was a season of grace and sweet delight. Portions of hymns 469, 257, 330 and 265 were sung and prayers offered by Revs. Dr. Pickard, Thos. Harris, H. Pope Jr. J. England, M. Pickles, R. Weddal, J. Hart, and J. Gaetz.

On motion of the Secretary, Revs. C. Jost, J. Rogers, and A. Morton, were appointed sub-Secretaries.

The Rev. J. Pike was appointed assistant Journal Secretary. On motion of Dr. Pickard, Rev. J. G. Angwin was appointed assistant Fin. Agent of Conference and Rev. Robert Duncan to report proceedings of Conference for PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN.

Rev. G. S. Milligan and Howard Sprague were requested to act as Conference letter writers, and Revs. J. Hart, and W. C. Brown to prepare the pastoral address.

Revs. Paul Prestwood and Robert Wilson were designated to the work of receiving and disbursing the Conference Collections.

On motion of Rev. H. Pope, Jr., seconded by Rev. Dr. Pickard, the thanks of the Conference were presented to the Ex-President, Rev. J. G Hennigar, for the efficient and satisfactory manner in which he had discharged the duties of his office as President during the past year. The President, Rev. Dr. Stewart in presenting the thanks to the ex-President said it afforded him much pleasure, as one of his, the ex-President's, young men of other years to do so.

Mr. Hennigar said that he had received this expression from his brethren gratefully. For, as he had said last year, next to the favor of God he valued the esteem and confidence of his brethren. Assisted by the prayers of the Conference he had been enabled to discharge the duties assigned to him. Soon after Conference he repaired to Newfoundland and was received there with great cordiality. He saw many changes and improvements since he labored in that island—a new church had been erected in the metropolis, and now another was in course of erection. In that city our cause is flourishing. He visited several towns in the bay and in these he had the same reception and as a token of their respect to him, as the President of this Conference, the friends said he must not return in an ordinary vessel but in a steamer and if it had been possible to have sent him in one of Her Majesty's Ships they would have done it. He had great pleasure in resigning the Chair of Conference to so excellent a brother as the President, Dr. Stewart, as the oldest man now in our active work, he (Ex-President), only wished to live his life over again, that it might be more fully consecrated to God and his cause. Forty-nine years ago he came up this River St. John as a boy-preacher, and to-day he stood as a monument of the love and grace of that Saviour whom we all serve.

The Rev. J. McMurray moved, and the Rev. H. Daniel seconded a vote of thanks to the Co-Delegate of last year, Rev. Dr. Stewart, which was carried with acclamation. Thanks of Conference were also presented to Secretary of Conference and Journal Secretary, with their assistants, for last year, and duly acknowledged. Rev. J. A. Clark and Rev. C. Comben, were appointed to prepare a letter to Missionary Committee, London.

In answer to question "Who are now admitted into full Connexion, &c.? the names of R. A. Daniel and R. Weddall were presented. On motion a Committee was appointed to examine these young brethren.

The next question, relating to the young men continued on trial, was answered by the Chairmen of the several Districts.

Question III. was then taken up, and it was found that *seventeen* young men—thirteen of whom were present for examination—were candidates this year for the work of the ministry.

Five honored brethren are compelled, through age and failing health, to become Supernumeraries, viz: Revs. J. G. Hennigar, (Ex-President,) Wm Sargent, J. B. Hemmeon, J. V. Jost, and Ingham Sutcliffe.

Six ministers, after a longer or shorter period of rest, find themselves sufficiently recuperated to enter the full work.

After sundry announcements in regard to meetings of Committees, &c., the first session of the Fredericton Conference of 1873, was closed. D.

(For the Provincial Wesleyan.)

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—It is my painful duty to furnish you with some particulars respecting the severe and protracted affliction and the recent and lamented decease of my highly esteemed colleague, Rev. Henry L Cranford When our dear brother embarked for England, last December, by the recommendation of his physicians, and I may add through the generosity of his many friends who provided the means, in hope his valuable life be might be spared to his family and the Church, many accompanied him to the steamship, and not a few sorrowed much fearing they would see his face no more. The sad event has flooded with sorrow the hearts of his brethren in the ministry by whom he was greatly beloved, and of thousands of our people in Newfoundland in whose admiration and affection he deservedly stood very highly. On his arrival in Liverpool he was so ill for a few days as to be unable to proceed to Smedley's Institution, and though recovering somewhat from the fatigue of the voyage in a little while, when he reached that famous Hydropathic establishment, he was found to suffer from chronic affection of the kidneys and liver, and to be so much the subject of dropsy that his case was deemed well nigh hopeless, and he would not have been admitted as a patient but for his having come so far for the purpose. He remained here for about two months receiving the kindest and most skilful attention, but without any improvement whatever; after which it was deemed best for him to remove to Dartmouth, where in the necessary absence of his wife, he would have the gratifying presence of a devoted mother and two fond sisters to soothe his sufferings and to minister to his necessities. Here everything, it is not too much to say, that human skill could devise or love suggest to effect a remedy or alleviate his extreme distress was done; so that all whose supplications ascended on his behalf will learn with satisfaction, that all was done that could be, if it had pleased God, to save; and then to spare, so far as possible, the last days and hours of one whose kind words and sympathetic looks had imparted comfort and inspired joy to many weary ones, longing for the wings of a dove to fly away and be far ever at rest.

During his absence from St. John's he was too much indisposed to be able to write more than a few lines at a time, and that usually with a pencil supported in bed. One extract from a letter to his wife, breathes so much of holy affection and elevated Christian experience, and reveals so fully the riches of his naturally vigorous and well cultured mind, that although never intended for the public eye, I will transcribe it, that your readers may become somewhat acquainted with the loveliness of his spirit, and wealth of his imagination and intellect, now that he has been taken from us while his eye was not dim and his natural force not abated:

"I love," said he, "to think of heaven, my dear! How fondly I cling to the hope, my belief, that there will be joyful recognitions and reunions in heaven—when the tear of bereavement will never dim the eye, and the dull tramp of the funeral crowd be heard no more. I cannot believe that the grave will efface the memorials of the past or destroy our personal identity. I rather imagine or picture to myself, frequently, groups of the redeemed who have known one another on earth, hushing the music of the universal song and retiring to hold sweet fellowship beside the still waters—then refreshing their spirits with the memories of time; and after the hallowed recitals, returning again to the host before the throne, to resume with deeper cadence the lofty anthem. What a heart-bounding thought, that our friendships there will be expanded and will embrace all the great and good of whom we have so often read! We have traced their "footsteps on the sands of time," and I often wonder, if we have (as we often have,) so thoroughly enjoyed that tracing, what it will be to stand face to face with them on the banks of the "glassy sea," and together sing "the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb!" I often think of our loved ones crowding the vales of glory, eager to welcome us who are left behind to buffet the wilderness storms, waiting to lead us hand in hand on our arrival up the golden street. May we, love, and ours, be ever found setting on our nest, pluming ourselves for flight so that when death comes we with wings like a dove (the celestial plumage of faith, hope, and love) may soar upwards to the Sabbath of our God and be at rest for ever."

That Bro. Cranford has entered upon the full and eternal enjoyment of what he had here such sweet anticipations, though but then seeing through a glass darkly, we have the fullest warrant to believe from the clear scriptural testimony he gave us of his personal experience, confirmed by his earnest and devoted life, and by his peaceful and triumphant death. His immediate family circle (whom may God sustain in their sad bereavement!) mourn the great loss of one whose memory in all the relationships of life is precious, the St. John's Church and congregation grieve over the removal of one whose sound and able expositions they had earnestly hoped to enjoy, and from whose pastoral faithfulness they had expected to profit. His brethren in the ministry lament the departure from the ranks of one who was jealous of everything affecting their happiness or honour, and yet by his example and influence, a staunch advocate of a holy and consistent ministry, and the Wesleyans of those circuits on which he has travelled bewail the early fall at his post, of one of the most efficient ministers of the District.

His mortal remains sleep in the quiet cemetery of Dartmouth, England, where they were committed with the tears of sorrowing relatives and friends assembled to pay the last tribute of respect for one whose health had been prematurely blighted by his exhaustive labours and frequent exposure while a Missionary in Newfoundland. By arrangement of District Meeting a memorial sermon was preached at St. John's on Sabbath evening 8th inst., by the superintendent of the circuit, and a paper read which had been prepared by the chairman of the District Rev. Thomas Harris, to an audience which thronged our church, and comprised representatives from other religious bodies, who were anxious to show their esteem for departed worth by being present. Deep and solemn feeling pervaded the assembly; and it is hoped that from the many promising young men present, some one at least will arise, to put on the harness and wield successfully the sword, now in the scabbard, worn by him who being dead yet speaketh, summoning to battle and to victory.

The following is the substance of the above paper, which I have pleasure in submitting:

Henry L. Cranford was born in Wales, Dec. 13th, 1842, and died at Dartmouth England, May 13th, 1873. In youth he consecrated his heart and life to Christ and his church. Obedient to the divine call, he offered himself as a missionary candidate and was accepted by the British Conference, by whose direction he enjoyed the great advantage of a Theological training, under the Rev. Andrew Kessen, LL.D. In the autumn of 1864, he received his appointment to Newfoundland, where he arrived in November, and immediately proceeded to the Hants Harbor Circuit. Subsequently he spent five years of devoted and successful labor in Green Bay, where, as the result of excessive toil and exposure, whilst traveling in open boats, he doubtless contracted the disease which laid the foundation of his mortal illness.

At the last Conference he was appointed to the St. John's Circuit, in compliance with the unanimous request of the Quarterly meeting, and entered upon the onerous and responsible duties of his new sphere with bright hope and unreserved devotion. The single purpose of his soul was to witness the prosperity and advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom. During the few months in which he was permitted to labour, his ability in the pulpit as an earnest expositor of the sacred word and a faithful ambassador of Christ, his deep interest in everything pertaining to the polity of Methodism, his diligence as a pastor up to the full measure of his strength, and the affection and suavity of his demeanor, secured for him the esteem and love of those over whom he had spiritual oversight.

Soon, however, it became apparent that insidious disease was exerting its debilitating influence, and grave fears were entertained that his ministerial career would speedily terminate. The ablest physicians were consulted, who peremptorily insisted upon the entire abandonment of physical and mental effort, and recommended that he should immediately proceed to England. Early in December he bade adieu to his family and friends, leaving as he said, "the result in the hand of Him who has hitherto cared for me and mine." The benefits anticipated by change of air and scene and further medical skill, were not realized. God whom he equally loved and faithfully served, and to whom so many supplications were presented on his behalf, saw fit in his inscrutable Providence, to remove the labourer to his reward and rest in heaven. The sublime truths of the Gospel which he had so delighted to proclaim to others, were a source of sweet solace and support to him during his protracted and painful affliction. In great patience he possessed his soul in the midst of very extraordinary sufferings until his change came, sweetly acquiescing in the will of God. On Monday, May 12th, he told the loved ones who incessantly watched by his bedside, that he had the day before a sharp conflict with Satan, but that he had come off more than conqueror. He was very restless in body and needed to be often turned over; and looking into a devoted sister's face, he exclaimed, "I am very tired my dear, but I shall soon be at rest." He added, "I shall not go home to-day but I shall to-morrow;" and so he did, for he sweetly fell asleep in Christ on the following morning at a quarter before 4 o'clock.

His last words were, "the struggle is sharp but it will not be long. Father, dear father, I am coming." The telegram announcing his departure was received by his brethren while assembled in District session. By them he had been greatly prized and loved, and their hearts were struck with grief as they learned they should see his face no more in the flesh.

Of Brother Cranford it can with truth be said, his mind was richly stored with varied knowledge, and his constant aim was to add to his acquirements, and thus show himself "approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." For him to live was Christ, and to die was gain."

GEORGE S. MILLIGAN.

Circuit Intelligence

CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I., JUNE 24, '73.

Dear Mr. Editor,—The annual session of the P. E. I District was brought to a pleasant and successful termination on the afternoon of Thursday the 19th inst. Its various sittings were of the most delightful and harmonious character, and it truly seemed as if with common consent the brethren were agreed that all their deliberations should be carried out in the spirit of that charity that "seeketh not her own," but rather desires the glory and honour of the Master. When the spiritual state of the District was under consideration, and it was seen, that notwithstanding many encouraging signs, "very much land remained to be possessed," we were united at once to renew the dedication of ourselves to God, and to the ministry of His word, with ardent prayers for a richer baptism of the spirit. It was truly an impressive season as God's servants thus intreated that they might be clothed with righteousness.—to the end that the saints might shout aloud for joy.

On Tuesday and Wednesday evenings respectively, Bros. Phinney and Johnson preached in the basement to large and interested congregations. The attendance on Thursday evening exceeded the two previous services; the exercises on that occasion were those of a fellowship meeting, and a gracious unction rested as a cloud of glory upon the congregation. One specially interesting feature was a short account given by each of the six young men,—probationers in the island, who related with much pathos, their conversion and call to the ministry.

Nor yet may it be deemed improper to state, that in recognition of his sterling worth, and of the kind and impartial manner in which he had discharged the duties of his position, especially noticeable in the tact displayed during examination exercises, we presented our esteemed chairman, the Reverend James Taylor, with a tangible expression of our affection on the forenoon of Friday. We might also mention that the presence and counsel of Bro. Pascoe, on his way to Conference from Newfoundland, greatly cheered and encouraged us. So ended the happiest District Meeting perhaps, that has been held within our Conferential bounds this year.

Yours very truly,

R. McA.

Miscellaneous.

(From Zion's Herald.)

REPORT OF EDUCATIONAL MEETING AT WORCESTER MASS.

The Convention met in Grace Church, Wednesday, June 11, at half past nine o'clock, and organized by the choice of Rev. Joseph Cummings, LL. D., president of Wesleyan University, for chairman, and Rev. A. McKeown and William A. Braman for secretaries. Prayer was offered by Rev. N. Fellows.

President Cummings, on taking the chair addressed the Convention on the difficulty of awakening an interest on a subject like Education, whose claims all admit—the importance of the Christian ministry being foremost in promoting an interest on the subject among the people—the fact that a smaller proportion of educated men was to be found among our people in proportion to their numbers, than among other denominations, while there should be more—and of the unexcelled character of our own semineries and colleges, and of the importance of our students attending institutions conducted under our own auspices.

Rev. E. O. Haven, of New York, Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church, addressed the Convention on the "Educational Work of the Church," taking the ground that the purpose of the Church was to educate in the fullest sense, and is itself the great educator, its founder being the "Great Teacher," and its commission condensed into "go teach." Its educative power is so marvelous, so sublime, that it would literally educate the whole world, for the Church has led in all special education; and the great universities of Europe owe their existence to Church action.

The study of the subject of education in connection with the history of Methodism was interesting, as one of the questions asked at the very first Conference of Wesleyan ministers, was, Shall we provide for the education of our preachers?

We, in this country had been even more earnestly in favor of popular education from the very beginning of our history as a Church. The question of a college occupied the thoughts of Dr. Coke more than any other. Asbury thought we needed rather academies, and they were built, and flourished early in our history; and all along, in Maryland, Georgia, North Carolina, and Kentucky, from 1781 to 1817, when Newmarket and Wilbraham were founded. It needed Yankee skill to give practical effect to our educational schemes, but they were never remitted. An academy for each Conference was soon thought necessary, and the colleges naturally sprang from the academies.

The duty of the Church in regard to academies in New England, where educational