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Provincial Wesleyan.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1874.

THE TURNING OF THE TIDE.

Our people have, for many years, been leaving these Provinces for other countries, principally the United States. The exodus has not yet fully ceased. In common with thousands from Europe and Asia, our Provincials have looked toward the neighboring Republic as an unfailing resort. They always carried with them a good reputation. To be a Nova Scotian (all the Maritime Provinces are known there, among the common classes, as Nova Scotia) was to be industrious, frugal and honest. Here and there they formed Communities. In Boston we knew of two Churches composed of a large extent of Provincials, and prosperous Churches they are. Only in rare instances have our young people thus removed from us, relinquishing their allegiance to our Government by qualifying themselves publicly for citizenship in the United States. But they usually grew enamoured of social conditions and habits as there presented, and when they returned to us at all, which was only to spend a holiday, their sentiments were not always the most complimentary to the land of their birth.

It has been very gratifying to notice recently a gradual but certain indication that the tide of emigration has been checked. Not only this, there is surely a change in the current. Any one who reads the Passenger Lists—taking one season with another (for it is not merely the rush of dog-days we refer to)—will find it as we have stated. Early owing to the overflow of population yonder, and not a little because of mechanical and commercial encouragement among ourselves, our young people are seeking our own shores, while not a few Americans come to share in the general prosperity. It has always been to us a marvel that confidence in the resources of this country should have been allowed to wax so very feeble. Nature and Providence were as true to us years ago as today, and had we always been faithful to ourselves, success would long ago have dawned upon British America. The same industry and genius which have been carried so freely across the line, would have transformed these Provinces into gardens and hives of industry. We have helped to build up cities and amassed fortunes for others; our own fields meantime running to waste.

What elements exist in the Republic which we have not? There are sources of wealth which any country must possess to render it prosperous. The material for manufacture are lying everywhere around us. Coal in unlimited area; wood in abundance and of the best; minerals by no means to be despised; in the track of the great commerce in iron—in short the wealth of nature, to a great extent, we possess in ample supply. Besides, we have young men of extraordinary aptitude for mechanical pursuits especially. Their versatility cannot but strike an observer, accustomed only to the habits of workmen in Britain, where each trade is jealously fenced against all the familiarities of students outside.

Coming to natural advantages, one cannot but look on with pride. With fruit so excellent that it carries off prizes in the competition of the world, and so abundant that it now creates a very liberal traffic; with immense areas of marsh and alluvial soil which need, in the language of an Irish patriot "only to be tickled with a spade;" our seas teeming with fish and our climate laden with healthfulness—what more do we covet?

A SUGGESTIVE CIRCULAR.

Coming in the ordinary business way, a publisher's trade announcement calls attention to a new "Life of Christ." As a caterer for public literary tastes, there is nothing very extraordinary to us in this intimation. That it is prepared by a man celebrated for learning, and especially qualified by prolonged stay in the country of our Lord's marvelous life and ministry, may mean simply that the Book will sell,—that in the familiar phrase of commercial men, "there is money in it." The subject has not been treated from almost every possible standpoint, and, so far as popularity goes, with uniform success. Fleetwood's simple, unadorned narrative made passed through many editions. Later came philosophical, sceptical lives of Jesus from abstract Neologists and brilliant Atheists on the European continent, followed by the meretricious "Ecce Homo" and its splendid antidote—"Ecce Deus," from the vicinity of Oxford. The great American preacher must lead to the theme the charm of his versatile eloquence; and now the best combination of gifts which can be found in a single individual is called into requisition for the portrayal of a character which hitherto, by general confession, all master painters, merely human, have left incomplete.

That the human mind is whimsical, all history testifies. Authors, like other workmen, have not unfrequently slid into the same groove and moved in pursuit of a single object. When Byron opened a new channel of poetry, a multitude of admirers and imitators spread their sails and floated down with the same current. Names have been redeemed too from obloquy and contempt by some bold adventurer first

committing himself to a defence of his hero and then persuading others to imitate his style. Cromwell thus, was years ago, a tyrant; to-day many have come to regard him as a reformer. So much for the power of certain advocates to make for themselves disciples.

There is an impulse underlying this modern treatment of a great subject, however, which cannot be explained by any reference to history, or illustration from mental philosophy. Christ receives attention. The world is not allowed to cease thinking of Him. Into every class of society, His name, His works, His precepts, are introduced. As a prodigy of wisdom are to be learned, He, the son of a carpenter, will suggest a thousand enquiries. As the Son of God to the devout, He will continue to present new aspects of character. And as He gains attention He will gain also ascendancy. "He must increase," "I when I am lifted up will draw all men unto me." "He must reign till he hath put all enemies under his feet." It is but one of the methods employed to express the cry of admiration and homage—"Behold the Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world." Years ago we trembled at men's presumption in dealing familiarly with a theme which had employed the pens of evangelists under the agency of the Spirit of God. To-day we rather hail every new author as another trumpet of Christ's greatness and a herald of His ultimate universal sway.

Why are not Buddha and Mohammed perpetually agitating the public mind? One was a myth; the other an impostor—that is the simple, truthful reply. Why is Christ uppermost and foremost in all human contemplations? Because his character is the grandest and holiest object, and his life the greatest verity with which we have any acquaintance.

SUNDAY TRAINS.—The Railway authorities, like other public functionaries, have their problems, which are not always easy to be solved. How the public interests are to be served and public prejudices throughout to be respected, is one of these. For some time a very general demand has been made for night Trains, and to meet this necessity, a Time Table was prepared which necessitated the arrival of Trains at least on Sunday mornings. Devout persons along the line of travel,—not only because they were themselves disturbed by unusual commotion on the Lord's day, but also because they were grieved by the employment of so many Railway section men, Conductors, Baggage-masters, Engineers, &c., &c.—began loudly to complain. The secular papers immediately responded and denounced this as unreasonable, pointing out the inconsistency of a request for special Trains, and yet an unwillingness to allow them the same hours as in other countries.

But this is not the only violation of the Fourth Commandment of which Railway authorities have been guilty. Freight Trains, with their consequences of agitation all along the lines of travel, have been kept moving on the Sabbath. While some abatement of this evil was expected, it was natural that an outbreak upon the Sabbath's quiet in another direction, should cause indignation. We believe the authorities will see the reasonableness of this opposition. If the Christian religion be true, there can be no advantage to any enterprise in invading the sanctity of God's Holy Day; while for Christians to witness such conduct and make no complaint would be a sign of degeneracy and moral supineness which all friends of order and happiness might well weep over.

"The Wesleyan" is in grief because the railway authorities have abolished the half-fare tickets to clergymen. "Family tickets, honorary passes to editors and representatives men of a few other professions, have, in turn, been cancelled," says our contemporary. Well, we fail to see much cause of complaint so which need, in the language of an Irish patriot "only to be tickled with a spade;" our seas teeming with fish and our climate laden with healthfulness—what more do we covet?

No, sir! The "Wesleyan" is not in grief. It does not complain. The city Papers copied only a part of our article on the subject, in which there was no word of regret expressed. Had the *Chronicle* writer read the entire article, he would have discovered that clergymen—with whom the *Chronicle* has no sympathy at any time—are independent and grateful, without being obsequious. In its ambition to act as champion for its favorites, the *Chronicle* should suppress this propensity to lead the public astray, and cast reproach on its contemporaries. If the *Chronicle* represents the class it styles as "independent journalists" it will value integrity in its own columns quite as much as in the management of Railways.

Correspondence.

GENERAL CONFERENCE COLLECTION.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—I have to call the attention of the members of the "New Brunswick and P. E. Island Conference," to the following extract from the Minutes of the late Conference.

On motion it was resolved:—

1. That the collection for the General Conference Travelling Expenses Fund be made not later than the first Sabbath in September.
2. That each Superintendent shall report and remit the amount collected to the Treasurer immediately after the collection shall have been made.
3. That I have to request that, in any case the taking of this collection be deferred until the latest Sabbath allowed by the above regulation, the money be remitted the very next day thereafter, as it must reach me by the 9th September in order to its being reported.

JOSEPH HART,
Treasurer.

Sackville, Aug. 6, 1874.

MINISTERIAL GRAVITATION.

To the Editor of the Provincial Wesleyan.

DEAR SIR,—I am gravitating to this delightful centre, Supernumeraries and Ministers promise to found in Windsor quite a colony.

I copy the above from an Editorial in your recent issue. It was rather a singular coincidence, that I had myself used nearly the same language in referring to the progress and condition of Methodism in this locality. Substituting the word *Horton* for *Windsor* in the extract, we have an accurate and exact description of the state of things in this circuit, or rather, the "colony" may be said to be already formed in Horton, and not to be in prospective.

For those of your numerous readers who are not acquainted with the circumstances of the case, I may particularize and explain. Let me premise however, that as I am not a Methodist, I may not always employ the proper phraseology, but I hope that I shall at least be understood.

Mr. Heats, the Superintendent of the Circuit, resides at Grand Bay, which is, I suppose, regarded as the headquarters and centre of operations of the Society in this place. He has two coadjutors, Mr. W. Johnson stationed at Greenwood, and Mr. D. Johnson who resides in Wolfville. It will be seen therefore that Horton can boast of possessing three regular *Wesleyan Missionaries*, which will admit, is a very fair nucleus for a "Colony." But it is only the nucleus that is thus constituted, for there are surrounding them, three Supernumeraries, and then, three local preachers. This is said to be a lucky number, but, what then must there be three to? To return, the Supernumeraries are Dr. DeWolfe, Mr. Tuttle and Mr. G. Johnson; the local preachers, Mr. Rousefield, Mr. Elder and Mr. Patterson.

I do not know how numerous the "Colony" in Windsor is, but if the list given in the WESLEYAN is complete, it must yield the palm to ours of Horton.

Nor will I pretend to compare the resources and effective strength of the respective "Colonies." It is easy to say that in preaching talent, and talent in general, as well as in devotedness to the cause of Methodism and of religion, we have nothing to desire, that we do not wish the term of office shorter, or the allocation of incumbency to be of more frequent occurrence, and that we are pleased to know that not even the power of the Conference can remove from us the Rev. Mr. Johnson. I hope this sentiment will not be considered as savouring too much of independency.

In the Editorial quoted from, there is a strategic disposition of the generals of the Windsor army, for the writer changes the figure in the course of his remarks, which disposition is altogether a novel view to defence, or as it is happily expressed, "to guard the fine old town from all assaults." They were stationed if I remember rightly, as at the angles of a bastion, which will all admit, was admirably contrived for securing the subject of the disposition of our officers is materially different, all of them being arranged in a straight line, and thus supporting one another on the right hand and on the left. The line is one of considerable length, extending from Grand Bay on the East to Greenwood on the West. Not being a military man, I shall not attempt to decide upon the respective merits of these two arrangements, but if one may judge from reports, ours cannot be very faulty. (It is open, we should say, to a flank movement from both sides—land and water!)

Or may we explain matters in this way? The Windsor troops were disposed with reference to defence, that is avowed, ours were arranged with a view to active campaigning. Hence the larger victories in this region, that is, the statistics will show that they have been larger.

It is a source of gratification and of excusable pride, that among all the beautiful and attractive villages and settlements, for which our Province is famed, Horton was considered by gentlemen of such good taste and judgment, as to be the most desirable in their selection of a permanent residence and home. They must have regarded it to quote again from the language of the *Editorial*—as a "delightful centre," from which a subtle and powerful influence was felt to emanate, and to cause them to incline, or rather to gravitate, so unmistakably towards it. May the force of this attraction never be less, nor cease to operate till it has given us others still of like spirit and worth.

It will be noticed that, in the above important sketch, I have followed the example of the *Editorial* which I have taken the liberty of making my text, referring only to the leaders of this corps of a very peaceful army. I might have digressed, and treated of the accessions to the ranks, and told how many of our noble and able contingents are only those of obscure and insignificant rank, who will wish it success and large victories, and more signal triumphs. In this warfare all Christian people have quite enough to do without spending their time in jealousies and rivalries, much less in wasting their strength in endeavouring to frustrate and mar the work of each other. What a shame and reproach it is that this was not always admitted and acted upon, and how much has been lost by such inconsistent and sinful folly, to the cause of our Redeemer and Lord! As churches which have not yet been established, and whose numbers are being constantly increased, we are not lost! If you bite and devour each other, take heed lest ye be consumed one of the other." And how much have we not lost as individuals? "When Christ came upon earth peace was sung, when he left it, peace was bequeathed." What have we done with the blessed inheritance?

WOLFVILLE, Aug. 5, 1874.
(To all of which the Editor responds—Amen!)

NEWF'D. CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Notwithstanding the fact that we now exist as a separate Conference, I am sure any items of news regarding the extension of our common and beloved Methodism in Newfoundland will be interesting to your readers.

On Monday, July 27, under the most auspicious circumstances the corner-stone of a new church was graciously and suc-

MISCELLANEOUS.

A PROSPECTIVE SISTER COLONY.

Notwithstanding all the declarations that have been made that Britain was to annex no more territory, that process seems destined still to proceed, as if it were her unavoidable destiny. Lord Carnarvon, the Colonial Secretary, lately announced in the House of Lords that he declines the proffered cession of the Fiji Islands to the British Crown, and therefore, if they do not decline, they accept. He examined various alternative ways in which the Islands might be disposed of short of annexation, and he finally decided in favour of the cession to the Australian colonies to be governed, but these colonies had seemed to do to mind their own affairs it seems. There was no help for it, therefore, but to constitute the Islands a Crown colony of "a somewhat severe type." In the present department at home it was impossible to leave the Islands to themselves. There were too many English capitals invested in them, for that and civil war was only prevented by the presence of a vessel of the British navy. The Imperial Government, however, would insist upon stringent conditions, such as the ownership of the Crown lands, the right of pre-emption in regard to all others. There is a debt of £87,000 on the Islands, and they must have full power to deal with the revenue in view thereof. Mr. Thomson, the so-called Prime Minister of Fiji, had specified seventeen conditions on which the cession was to be made, among which were stipulations, to secure certain hereditary rights in matters of administration and government, by the appointment of certain members of the Council and the Executive Council, by Her Majesty's Government, without enquiry, of the existing liabilities of Fiji. These conditions were all declared impracticable, as they would make impossible the governing the Islands efficiently, and they were all conditions that would be accepted by an unconditional one. With this view Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of New South Wales, was to conduct further negotiations and lay the case fairly before the people of the Islands. Some objection was taken to the proposed form of government as being too despotic, but Lord Carnarvon showed that in any other form it would be impossible to hold the balance even between the natives—who, with the exception of some interior tribes, are now of a mild and gentle disposition, and the whites, generally, of an adventurous class, that have settled here, and whose numbers are being constantly increased.

Many will be glad that our old motherland, which has achieved such wonderful success in the colonial business, has not yet retired from a work in which she has never been equalled. Canada, Australia and New Zealand are well off her hands, and she can easily afford to take a few more orders in the colonizing line.—*Mont. Wit.*

Another poor fanatic has fallen a victim to this terrible delusion to fill which has been characteristic of the human race for ages past. His performances were to commence at Cremorne-gardens, a resort which has long been distinguished for the nuisance it causes to the whole neighborhood. The victim styled himself the "Flying Man," and it was announced that he would perform the astounding feat of flying through the air a distance of 5,000 feet. He did not, however, even profess to be able to ascend, but simply to descend from a height at an angle. The experiment was tried. The Flying Man ascended to a balloon, and it was announced that he would successfully descend from a great height; but on attempting the feat a second time he fell headlong through the air and was dashed on to the pavement of a street in Chelsea. It is very strange that the only performances which attract crowds to such places as Cremorne-gardens are those in which life is endangered, and the greater the risk run—that is to say, the greater the probability that the acrobat will lose his life—the greater is the relish of the audience. In the present case no good could possibly have resulted, even if the so-called Flying Man had succeeded. A balloon was necessary in order to accomplish his feat, so that his machine could never be of the slightest practical use. It is a question whether such exhibitions should be permitted to continue on the morbid taste of this kind of thing, and so long as they are permitted to take place, there will not be wanting men who are foolish enough to risk their lives in this manner. The shortest method of putting an end to these disgraceful and degrading performances is to close places of the Cremorne-gardens class altogether.—*London Rec.*

A New Life of Christ, in two volumes, by Frederic W. Farrar, D.D., F. R. S., Master of Marlborough College, has just been published in London, and is not unlikely, we should say, to be reprinted in this country. It bears the imprint of the Messrs. Cassell, who initiated the general plan of the work, and selected Doctor Farrar as the fittest man to execute it. Accepting the traditional interpretation of Christ's personality and work, the author seeks from this point of view to illustrate by the light of his own recent acquisitions in history, philology and antiquities. The *London Times*, in reviewing the work, informs us that Dr. Farrar's qualifications thereto are of the highest. As a distinguished linguist, he is of an appreciating as few men can, the results of textual criticism; as an accomplished scholar, he is familiar with all the illustrations which literary knowledge can bring to bear on the subject; while, as an earnest divine, he is keenly alive to the spiritual significance of the work and deeds he is narrating. He has done his utmost to set these qualifications to account. After he had in some measure prepared himself for his task, he paid a visit to Palestine, and endeavored to familiarize himself with the scenes, customs, and local influences under which the life of Christ was passed. He also made himself thoroughly acquainted with all the literature of the subject, from the *Mischna* and the *Talmud* down to the latest German speculations. Such a work from one so eminent will not only command the attention of scholars, but of earnest-minded Christians wherever the English language is spoken.

Editorial Notes, &c.

REV. C. W. DITCHER has left for England in quest of health. May he succeed under the guidance of Providence.

GENERAL CONFERENCE travelling arrangements are under process of completion in the West. We hope to hear soon and shall publish results.

THE SOCIETY OF THE CARMARTHEN ST. (St. John) Sunday-school will be held at Grand Bay on the 19th inst. Expect a real good time.

THE EXECUTIVE BOOK COMMITTEE will meet on Thursday afternoon, 20th inst., in the Book Room at 3 o'clock.

SUCCESS!—The Ladies Academy at Sackville we understand will open with at least seventy students. The male side is equally hopeful.

REV. JOHN LATHEREN had a serious relapse after our note of last week was written. An operation, however, afforded him instant relief, since he has been doing well.

OUR ENGLISH LETTER is not forthcoming. "G. B." is at the seaside, or, was happy as a king, and breathing out pious wishes that his Editorial brethren could be in a similar condition. Well, we would have no objections, but—and there our readers will understand us.

THE SOCIETY OF THE BAY TRADING.—We have received a letter on this subject, relating most severely on the parties guilty of abusing Mr. Hatfield. As the case must surely come under the cognizance of the law—a human being having been deprived of life—we deem it but just to reserve all expressions of opinion until British justice shall have pronounced upon it.

BECH STREET MISSION SCHOOL.—The annual picnic in connection with the above will take place near the North West Arm on Thursday next. The children and friends wishing to accompany them will meet at the Bech St. Church at 10 a. m. sharp.—W. E. MISSIONARY.

NOTICE.—The ministers of the Nova Scotia Conference are respectfully reminded that the Collections for the General Conference should be forwarded to the Rev. A. W. Nichols, Book Storeward not later than 1st September next.

R. ALDER TEMPLE,
Secretary.

NOVA SCOTIA CONFERENCE.—Will the ministers in the Nova Scotia Conference, who are or will be claimants upon the Children's Fund, for the current year, report to me, without delay, through the Financial Secretaries of their respective Districts the names in full of their children and the exact dates of their birth.

A. D. MORTON,
Secy.

Aug. 10th 1874. iiii

THE FOURTH Sunday-School Convention of the Maritime Provinces will be held at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, commencing on Saturday, August 29th, at 2 1/2 o'clock, P. M.

Arrangements have been made for a reduction of fares on most of the lines of travel leading to Yarmouth, and starting on Saturday, August 29th, at 10 o'clock, P. M. Steamers Linda leaves St. John Friday, Aug. 28th, arriving in Yarmouth Saturday morning, S. S. Delegates by this steamer go and return for one fare.

All Sunday-Schools in the Maritime Provinces who have not yet forwarded names of their Delegates will please do so at once. Address all communications to Geo. E. LAVERES, Secy. to Managing Committee, Yarmouth, N. S.

CONFERENCE MINUTES 1874.

By the kind and valuable assistance of D. Henry Starr, Esq., the Minutes are through the Press some weeks earlier than usual.

Among so many names and numerals some slight inaccuracies may have crept in through faulty manuscript or misprint.

On page 12, for MATLAND Circuit, read MILTONS Circuit.

The Newfoundland Minutes will be published in copies reserved for that Conference; and for the information of others, in the *PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN*, as soon as they come to hand.

Miltons, 9th August.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

NOVA SCOTIA.—In the YARMOUTH RAILWAY.—The "Herald" says: "A locomotive for the line has been contracted for in Portland, Me. Maine and will be in the shipyard in about five weeks. Twenty freight cars for the line are being manufactured in this town."

THE FISHERIES.—The schr. "Thea," of LaHave, arrived yesterday from North Bay, with a full load of codfish. Her captain reports fish very plentiful, and that the season has been in company with the schr. "Malinda Ann," of LaHave, and the "Rivendale," of Mahone Bay, with full loads of fish from Labrador, bound home. The captain also reports the Labrador fishery good. *Chron.*

FATAL ACCIDENT AT MATLAND.—On Friday last a man named Thomas Faulkner was killed while engaged in rigging a new vessel at F. Putnam's yard, on the wharf, when one of the cross-trees looking after a spar which was being hoisted when some of the hoisting gear gave out. The spar fell, and striking Faulkner, caused him to fall to the deck, a distance of 58 feet. When he struck the deck his arms were driven up into his body. His legs were also broken by the fall. He only lived a few minutes after he fell. The deceased was a widower, and leaves a child at Noel, where he belonged. A coroner's inquest was held, and a verdict given in accordance with the facts.

A BOY DROWNED IN THE SHUBENACADIE.—A boy named Richard Forrestal, aged 15 years, eldest son of Edward Forrestal, while engaged fishing in the Shubenacadie River, reported being unable to swim, was drowned before help could reach him. His body was found on Monday night, on the beach, in front of his father's residence, after drifting down the river and back with the returning tide.

THE CROSS.—In Yarmouth.—The weather for the last eight or nine days has been almost unintermittently clear, dry and warm, there being scarcely any fog in the day time until Thursday afternoon, when it began to roll in with the southwest wind, followed the following morning by a heavy rain storm. A large amount of hay has been got in within the past week in excellent condition. The crop is a good one generally.

In Cape Breton.—The past three weeks of fine summer weather, alternating sunshine with warm showers, have done much to restore the drooping spirits of our farmers by the impulse given to growing crops of every kind. By enquiry from different sections of the Island, we learn that hay will yield at least a good average crop. Potatoes and oats are bounding ahead, the field, sickly low and slender stalks of three weeks ago being replaced by vivid, living, green and sturdy branching stalks that promise to produce large crops and tall ears.—*North Sydney Herald.*

THE ROSS abduction mystery is still densely dark as ever. The detectives are being steadily rated by the papers, and it really would seem that their efforts have been wholly futile, and it may be doubted if they have judiciously sought success. The New York "Tribune" correspondent says that they have not traced the buggy with the kidnapers a single square beyond the street corners where the elder Ross boy was put down. To feed and fan the sensation, many of the newspapers have spread before the public daily a mass of corner loafers' gossip, old women's stories, and reporters' speculations which have served admirably to obscure the case. A New York illustrated paper published a portrait of Walter Ross, the brother, as that of Charley, the stolen boy. Several papers have printed rough woodcuts of Charley, made from a photograph taken when he was two years old. The cut does not look like the photograph, and the photo-graph bears only a slight resemblance to the boy, as he looks now at four years and a half. These pictures naturally led the robbers to escape, instead of aiding in their detection. The Allen town clue is now relied on by the police. According to their story worked up by the reporters in Allen town, a man brought a child into that city on the train from Harrisburg, about a week after the abduction took place, purchased a suit of clothes for the boy in a furnishing store, and had his hair cut in a barber's shop. This is all that has yet transpired from Allen town, and it is not a likelihood of the child from his finished his task, and impressions of it have been hawked on the streets at five cents each.

TEMPERANCE, or rather total abstinence, principles are spreading wide. The report of the Select Committee of the Senate on the Prohibitory Liquor Law, recently issued in the shape of a thin blue book, states that the number of signatures attached to petitions in favour of the law, is ten times as great as in the previous year, but beyond considering "that the time has arrived when the earnest attention of the Government and the Legislature should be given to this important subject, with the view of discovering and applying the best remedy for the gigantic evil that affects so seriously the peace and prosperity of the Dominion," the Committee does not recommend any immediate legislative action.

In Montreal the City Council, on the motion of Alderman Nelson, has adopted a resolution forbidding the introduction and use of intoxicating drinks within the City Hall, and of course this is hailed with delight by the "Witness," who do not sanction the annual feast at the opening of the civic year, or the other rejoicings on the appointments of the acting Mayors. There was never a complaint that the Aldermen or their guests, on these occasions, indulged more than they ought to have done, but it was considered, and rightly, that the example was not such as City Fathers ought to set. The civic feasts will hereafter be to be celebrated with lemonade and ginger pop, when the "intoxicating drinks" banished.—*Chron.*

MISS KAYE Stanton, of Rhode Island, the well-known lecturer, is spending the summer abroad. Here is an extract from one of her letters to a friend: "On Sunday evening last I heard Joseph Arch preach. He seems to me to go deeper down into the real character of Christ and practice his precepts better than any preacher I have ever heard. His sermon was earnest, simple, and full of pure eloquence. His doctrine is humanity and love. 'Never condemn, but convince people of their errors,' in his method of moral discipline. There was a thread of gold running throughout his discourse. My friend Mr. Lucas (sister of John Bright) and I were afterwards introduced to him. He gave us a cordial welcome. Surely he is leading the laboring classes out of bondage—and is a grand, noble character." Of spurgeon she says: "I have heard Spurgeon once. He is somewhat of the little type, but not so fine. His intellect is a little above the average. He is intensely earnest, has fire, and a voice which resembles that of Bishop Clark, of N. I., rich and sonorous. He controls his audiences by his earnestness and magnetism."

ALEXANDER Clark, Methodist, (Protestant) Church, editor of the *Recorder* was at the Round Lake Pan-Methodist camp-meeting, and now declares that such preaching, from first to last, we never heard before, and never expect to hear again. Some of the sermons were overwhelming in power; for the Spirit was in the world. Scenes were witnessed which for beauty and impressiveness cannot be repeated this side of heaven itself. Memories of the great meeting will linger as well as some meditations forever, and the influences of gospel love and saving power as here manifested sternly can measure."

The Congregationalist says:—"The Methodists in New York look after their editors. Thus was Dr. Curry prayed for at the recent Central Conference: 'O Lord Thou knowest that Dr. Curry, is called an 'old foggy' by many, but we thank Thee that Thou didst ever raise him to become editor of the N. Y. *Journal and Advocate*. We thank Thee for many bold and learned editorials penned by him, and sent forth to educate and encourage the Church; but we do pray Thee, O Lord, that Thou wilt forgive him for ever having written that heretical editorial on the Resurrection!'"

Barnum's big sea lion, weighing some 4,000 pounds, and valued at \$4,000 died on Thursday while being taken in a caravan from the Hippodrome to Central Park. It was one of the kind known as the heaving sort, and neither stuffing it with food or any thing else would stop its slightly habit of yelling and keeping everybody awake for a mile around. The remains will probably be preserved and presented to the Smithsonian Institute.

The convention of Universalists in Maine have passed resolutions forbidding their committee to exclude women from their ministry, and ordering them to accept candidates who are duly qualified, without any distinction of sex. The Unitarian denomination have not passed any resolutions upon the subject, yet they have accepted the ministry of women, and enrolled their names, in some cases, upon the official list of their clergy.

A lumbermen's convention has just been held at Williamsport, Penn., at which both Canada and the United States were represented. A complete series of statistics is to be established; a uniform system of inspection; and the whole method of handling lumber systematized generally. If the purpose of the convention be accurately carried out, the number of pine trees cut down annually, and the decrease of the pine forests will be known.

GIVING TO THE LORD.—The coin which we cast into the Lord's treasury is weighed in scales not adjusted to our standard. In the balances of the sanctuary spirit has weight, and a grain of grace is heavier than pounds of gold.

EDITORIAL NOTES, &c.

REV. C. W. DITCHER has left for England in quest of health. May he succeed under the guidance of Providence.

GENERAL CONFERENCE travelling arrangements are under process of completion in the West. We hope to hear soon and shall publish results.

THE SOCIETY OF THE CARMARTHEN ST. (St. John) Sunday-school will be held at Grand Bay on the 19th inst. Expect a real good time.

THE EXECUTIVE BOOK COMMITTEE will meet on Thursday afternoon, 20th inst., in the Book Room at 3 o'clock.

SUCCESS!—The Ladies Academy at Sackville we understand will open with at least seventy students. The male side is equally hopeful.

REV. JOHN LATHEREN had a serious relapse after our note of last week was written. An operation, however, afforded him instant relief, since he has been doing well.

OUR ENGLISH LETTER is not forthcoming. "G. B." is at the seaside, or, was happy as a king, and breathing out pious wishes that his Editorial brethren could be in a similar condition. Well, we would have no objections, but—

THE SOCIETY OF THE BAY TRADING.—We have received a letter on this subject, relating most severely on the parties guilty of abusing Mr. Hatfield. As the case must surely come under the cognizance of the law—a human being having been deprived of life—we deem it but just to reserve all expressions of opinion until British justice shall have pronounced upon it.

BECH STREET MISSION SCHOOL.—The annual picnic in connection with the above will take place near the North West Arm on Thursday next. The children and friends wishing to accompany them will meet at the Bech St. Church at 10 a. m. sharp.—W. E. MISSIONARY.

NOTICE.—The ministers of the Nova Scotia Conference are respectfully reminded that the Collections for the General Conference should be forwarded to the Rev. A. W. Nichols, Book Storeward not later than 1st September next.

R. ALDER TEMPLE,
Secretary.

NOVA SCOTIA CONFERENCE.—Will the ministers in the Nova Scotia Conference, who are or will be claimants upon the Children's Fund, for the current year, report to me, without delay, through the Financial Secretaries of their respective Districts the names in full of their children and the exact dates of their birth.

A. D. MORTON,
Secy.

Aug. 10th 1874. iiii

THE FOURTH Sunday-School Convention of the Maritime Provinces will be held at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, commencing on Saturday, August 29th, at 2 1/2 o'clock, P. M.

Arrangements have been made for a reduction of fares on most of the lines of travel leading to Yarmouth, and starting on Saturday, August 29th, at 10 o'clock, P. M. Steamers Linda leaves St. John Friday, Aug. 28th, arriving in Yarmouth Saturday morning, S. S. Delegates by this steamer go and return for one fare.

All Sunday-Schools in the Maritime Provinces who have not yet forwarded names of their Delegates will please do so at once. Address all communications to Geo. E. LAVERES, Secy. to Managing Committee, Yarmouth, N. S.

CONFERENCE MINUTES 1874.

By the kind and valuable assistance of D. Henry Starr, Esq., the Minutes are through the Press some weeks earlier than usual.

Among so many names and numerals some slight inaccuracies may have crept in through faulty manuscript or misprint.

On page 12, for MATLAND Circuit, read MILTONS Circuit.

The Newfoundland Minutes will be published in copies reserved for that Conference; and for the information of others, in the *PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN*, as soon as they come to hand.

Miltons, 9th August.