

THE WESLEYAN.
The only Methodist Paper published in the Maritime Provinces.
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Having a large and increasing circulation in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Bermuda,
As an ADVERTISING MEDIUM IT HAS NO EQUAL in these Provinces.
Rev. S. ROSE, Methodist Book Room, Toronto, is Agent for this paper.
All Wesleyan Ministers are Agents.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1876.

THE TRANSFER COMMITTEE will probably be called together early in May. All correspondence on the subject, affecting ministers or circuits, ought to be forwarded at once to Dr. Ryerson, President of General Conference.

From our own judgment we advance the opinion last week that, in the absence of complicated circumstances, eastern delegates might avoid the journey west, by entering into mutual arrangements at once, and submitting their action afterwards to the General Transfer Committee. Since then we have obtained the opinion of an official whose knowledge of our economy constitutes him a sufficient authority upon connexional questions—a Western friend, moreover, who still takes a very deep interest in our Maritime affairs. His counsel is against the application of the special resolution reached in the Transfer Committee—regarding agreements between authorities of Annual Conferences—being applied to any other than Transfers made of necessity during the year. It would appear, therefore, that all members of Committee are obliged to attend. It would be an advantage certainly if all decisions of the Transfer Committee were published from time to time, so that there would be no liability to misconstruction of rules adopted for its guidance.

BAFFLED JUSTICE.—One of the most stupid mistakes which could possibly have been perpetrated has been recorded within a few days by our Provincial papers. The authorities of Cumberland County, having been goaded on by certain pointed allusions to that profound indifference which permitted a murderer to escape from justice—if indeed he ever left the County at all—gave themselves to an eager search for the criminal. Not at home, be it known, where evidence was likely to be obtained in regard to the criminal's movements, but the search was instituted among the newspapers! Every story—however incredible—was accepted, until a Cape Breton journal announced that the guilty man had been found on that Island. The photograph of this prisoner was forwarded to Cumberland, there recognized by several persons as that of the fugitive. Orders were issued for his removal West. The prisoner was, for a journey of five hundred miles, the object of observation and mingled wonder and horror. When he reached Amherst, and was consigned, with irons, to the County Jail, one after another, who ought to have been consulted, one would think, at an earlier period, looked in upon the prisoner, and could discover not a solitary trace of resemblance between him and the murderer. Then the officials awoke to a painful conviction; ordered the prisoner's chains to be removed, and, after examination, gave him his liberty. Meantime, what of the little bill of damages to which this much abused man shall be entitled? The English law does not smile very serenely upon the act of dragging an innocent man from his bed and carrying him for exhibition as a murderer through the country. Besides, while the pack have been off the spent, scouring through Cape Breton after imaginary game, what of the fine opportunity they have given the murderer to make good his escape? Altogether, this affair does not lessen the disgrace which has accompanied the circumstances of a deed most foul and daring.

OUR EASTERN ANNUAL CONFERENCES meet this year almost simultaneously, those of Newfoundland and Nova Scotia the same week, and that of New Brunswick and P. E. Island a week later. If any purpose were cherished of keeping up the fraternal relation which bound us of the sea-board so

closely together, surely this would be sufficient to destroy it. There is now absolutely no opportunity for interchange of visitors between even Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and as the Western Conferences meet about the same time, it follows that we are taking effectual measures for shutting off each Annual Conference to the cold regions of isolation. It would seem that a change, if made, must begin with Nova Scotia. New Brunswick believes it cannot meet at any later date, can Nova Scotia meet a week earlier?

CHALMERS is reported as having said once of his eloquent friend and associate leader in the Free Church—"Had there been nae sea, there would have been nae Tam Guthrie." It is certain that familiarity with ocean storms and scenes inspires men with imaginations to produce bold and striking imagery. Father Taylor's preaching resembled alternate tempest and tropical trade-winds. Brunswick Street congregation, Halifax, has been favoured on two occasions lately with addresses from Captain Dutton of the "Sardinian"—a magnificent steamer of the Allan Line. While speaking in the basement, a week ago last Sabbath night, several of his own sailors were present, their faces radiant with satisfaction. One of these prayed with great fervour. The "Sardinian" is a floating Bethel. Class-meetings, Bible-classes, singing-classes, prayer-meetings are regularly conducted on board, the Captain himself preaching twice on the Lord's day, when no regular ministers is among the passengers. A visit to this marvel of ship-mechanism will repay the trouble; but to our mind the most impressive feature of the Royal Mail Steamship's character, is her consecration to the two-fold purpose of religion and commerce. Captain Dutton's acquaintance with his Bible—which he always carries apparently—would shame many regular preachers of the Word. He possesses, certainly, a remarkable memory, which runs in the very commendable groove of Bible passages and illustrations.

A SUBSCRIBER TELLS A TALE.

The following is from a subscriber who represents a rather numerous class, and whose letters have borne similar testimony ever since we came into office. Collecting for church periodicals may not be pleasant work, and doubtless is not, to some ministers. At least so we sometimes found it during the days of our pastorate. Nevertheless, the duty we always carried with as much conscientiousness as others equally burdensome. Some of our ministers—the large majority indeed—do up this work well and carefully; of others a far different story could be related by both subscribers and manager. A few of the minority get through with the loss of a proportion of their list—a very similar proportion, by the way, on every circuit they visit; while occasionally one fairly slaughters his subscribers to a degree that betokens a sad fate to other circuit interests.

If the organ of the church belongs not to the publisher but the ministers and people at large; and if its aim, financially and morally, be to benefit the general brotherhood, it would appear but reasonable that the church lays obligations upon its ministers in regard to their paper, which none may lightly throw off without injuring men who do their duty in sustaining their several agencies.

We have never written thus before, and we promise not very soon to repeat the expression of a grievance which has been forcing itself upon us for some time. The paper prospers. We hope its friends will prosper also.

REV. A. W. NICOLSON.—Dear Sir:—In the absence of our minister I send you two dollars for to pay for the WESLEYAN. I cannot call it mine until it is paid for, nor could I feel at home without it, I have taken it so long that I look for it as regularly as my daily meals, and, I trust, receive encouragement therefrom to press on to the end. I have taken the WESLEYAN ever since it was first published, and do not recollect of ever having lost a single number, which, I consider remarkable in something like twenty seven years. I am sorry that some of our ministers do not take more interest in looking after it, as I know of one, if not two, that have been stopped, where the subscribers intended to continue had they been called on, but not having a chance to see the minister, and no other agent being mentioned in the WESLEYAN, they procrastinated until too late.

The public are still painfully startled by revelations of glaring dishonesty on the part of men professing the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ. The latest instance occurred in Halifax. Mr. Patterson, Inspector of Inland Revenue, a leading member of the Y. M. C. Association, and an active Sunday-school worker in connection with Fort Massey Presbyterian Church, is said to have absconded, after committing forgery and otherwise perpetrating the most serious mischief.

We sympathize with those immediately affected by this scandal. Their hearts will be sufficiently stricken by such considerations as must follow from their brother's iniquity. To those, however, who will use this instance for renewed charges against the cause of religion generally, we must hold different language. There are no apologies to be offered for crimes like this. Religious men do not wish to conceal the iniquities of even their brethren. The Apostles did not veil a single deformity of the brotherhood. We, at least, admit that good men may fall from grace. Christians will not, dare not, take license from examples of even leading Christians who live in sin while professing religion. The churches will give iniquity no countenance, nor offer for it the slightest apology. Hypocrisy and dishonesty are vile enough in any character; but in the lives of men taking a leading place in the fellowship of Christ's disciples, it is doubly disgraceful. Nevertheless, there is such a thing as religion; and bad Christians are the exception—not the rule.

Our Methodist brethren very frequently make use of the term baptize, and its cognates, in reference to other influence than that which will apply to the ordinance of baptism. The idea commonly conveyed by such application of these terms is not derived from the use of a small quantity of the element, whether of water, or fire, or divine influence, as they do in the act of baptism, but to an overwhelming influence equivalent to immersion—an all pervading controlling influence. To this we would offer no objection, but in the last number of THE WESLEYAN we find an instance of using the term "rebaptized," which is not easy to reach by any ordinary application of the figure. Our contemporary, referring to what had appeared in an Australian Methodist paper, in relation to Canadian affairs, says—

"Thus it happens that the motion of Dr. Douglass and Judge Wilmut, with their flaming eloquence, which rebaptized our Canadian Church, altogether escaped the notice of Australians."
How eloquence can "rebaptize" is a problem we shall not attempt to solve. We must leave it in the hands of our worthy brother.—*Christian Messenger.*

Dr. Douglas and Judge Wilmut rebaptized our Canadian Church by pouring upon it their eloquence, and giving it a new name.

We suppose we had no right to use the term, considering that it belongs by exclusive right to our Halifax neighbor.—*Ed. WES.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

MILTON MISQUOTED.

To the Editor of the Wesleyan.
REV. SIR.—Will the writer of "Conversations between a preacher and a believer," which appeared in the WESLEYAN of the 18th and 15th of March; and are headed—
"O thou who dost prefer before all temples,
The upright heart and pure, inspire my heart."
be so good as to inform your readers in what work of Milton, and in what part of it these lines may be found?
ENQUIREE.

(The Invocation of the poet in his immortal "Paradise Lost," is so sublime and impressive that the proof reader—whether our contributor erred or not—is scarcely to be excused for having suffered the garbled quotation to appear. The genuine lines read:

"And chiefly thou, O spirit, that dost prefer,
Before all temples the upright heart and pure,
Instruct me, for thou knowest."—*Ed. WES.*

MR. MACDOUGALL'S FATE.—In a letter from Toronto, dated March 24th, we have a paragraph or two which ought not to be withheld from our readers: "We have received no information at the Mission Rooms respecting Brother MacDougall's death, but the letters from other sources leave not a ray of hope of his being alive as thirteen days had passed from the time of his being missed. The occurrence is surrounded with mystery and sorrow.
Affectionately yours,
E. WOOD.

REV. A. W. NICOLSON,
President of Conference.
We had letters from him and John, dated Morleyville Dec. 23, 24, and 27th; they started for Fort McLeod on the 3rd of January, 1876.

Our English Letter.

DEATH OF LADY AUGUSTA STANLEY.

Great regret is felt in many circles of English society, at the death of this estimable and distinguished lady. She was the wife of the honored Dean Stanley, and filled her high position worthily, and in such a manner as to secure unbounded love from all who knew her. Her family occupies a foremost place in aristocratic circles, one of her brothers being Lord Elgin, so well known as Governor General of Canada. In early life Lady Augusta was in the household of the late Duchess of Kent, the mother of England's Queen, and for a long period there has been a strong attachment on the part of the Royal family towards the deceased. The Queen visited her twice during the last illness, and was present at the funeral. She was interred in the grand old abbey, and rests among the most illustrious of the departed. The Dean in the midst of his heavy sorrow has remained true to the liberal and brotherly principles for which he is so famous. The pall was borne by great and distinguished men, the Archbishop of Canterbury and others, but prominent in the midst of these, were Dr. Caird, an eminent Presbyterian, and the Rev. Dr. Stoughton, equally honored as a Congregationalist. Lady Augusta is deeply mourned by the poor and lowly. Her deeds of charity and personal ministrations will long be remembered, and will bear yet more precious fruit as time passes on.

THE QUEEN

has been winning good favor in the eyes of the people by her recent appearances in public. At the opening of Parliament, she was greeted by immense numbers of the people, and her presence gave great importance to the assembling of our representatives. A few days after, Her Majesty appeared at a popular concert in the Royal Albert Hall, and the result was a grand financial success for the funds of some institution requiring aid. Last week she proceeded with considerable display of state from Buckingham Palace, away to the far east of London to open a new wing of the London Hospital. On this occasion there was a great display of loyalty and enthusiasm. The kindly intent of the visit, and the interest manifested in the welfare of the poor sufferers for whom the hospital was provided has pleased the people in no ordinary degree. The Great Memorial in Hyde Park is now fully complete. The statue of the late Prince Consort has been placed under the magnificent canopy, and the whole forms a splendid trophy of skill and boundless wealth, in honor of, and sacred to the memory of the beloved husband of the Queen. It is the finest work of the kind in this or any other land, and is constructed so as to endure for ages.

THE QUEEN OR EMPRESS.

Mr. Disraeli's project of conferring an additional title upon the Sovereign of Great Britain, has occasioned a fierce controversy in the papers, and more than one important debate in the House of Commons. The objections raised to the title of "Empress" are numerous and formidable, and while there is ever a strong disposition on both sides of the House to unite on all questions affecting the Royal family, on this matter a minority of 200 members felt compelled to vote against the proposal. The second reading of the Bill was secured by a majority of about one hundred votes, and the addition to Her Majesty's title will be gained in a most ungracious manner, and by the sheer strength of the party in power. No recognition of the Dominion of Canada or other portions of the vast realm over which the power of England extends; has been intimated by Mr. Disraeli. India alone is to be named, and the title of Empress is the only one that he will propose. A strong feeling of repugnance is felt toward this new name, and a dread lest after a time it will take the place of that of "Queen"—now so much beloved and associated with all the records of England's greatness and glory. History has so many Emperors unpopular and bad, unscrupulous and despotic, and others of recent date so little and unworthy that there is nothing in the name to commend it to the English nation, and its adoption will add no fresh splendor to our Sovereign's present or future.

TEMPESTUOUS DAYS

have been the rule in England and fine weather quite exceptional. The bleak winds of March have been raging with unusual fury, at times rising to the strength of a tornado, driving before them storms of snow, sleet and rain. All around the coast serious damage to piers and embankments appears to have been wrought, and shipwrecks have been numerous. A new form of danger has appeared in the overthrowing of telegraph posts laden with large numbers of wires, encased in snow and ice. Trains were stopped by the wreck of the telegraph material, and in London three lives were lost by the breakage of wires. The winter has been of great spring-like severity, and a little fine spring-like weather would be eagerly welcomed.

A GRAND FESTIVAL

has just been held at Mr. Spurgeon's

Tabernacle. Its spacious rooms are often utilised for festive meetings, and on this occasion, at the call of Mr. Varley, about 1600 men were present to partake of a first-rate tea. They were all of one trade, and this gathering of butchers, working men and masters, was a season of much profit and enjoyment. Our Mr. McArthur presided, and a great part of the speaking was done by the men themselves, who had much to tell of what grace had wrought for them and their families. The work wrought by Mr. Varley has gone on from year to year, and he has been honored in no ordinary degree in his efforts to bless and help the working men of the metropolis. March 20, 1876. "B."

LIFE IN THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS, PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

Since last we wrote from this region, our hands have been full. Special services in our three churches lasting several weeks, educational sermons and meetings, the visitation of the sick, of whom there are many, owing to the mildness and variability of the winter; these and other matters have caused our brow to moisten, and our limbs to tire. We are still at it, thanking God and taking courage.

REVIVAL INFLUENCE.

Times of refreshment are general in this Province just now. Upon nearly all the missions adjacent to Melbourne showers of blessing have descended, causing great joy to the people of God. We have attended meetings of the Y. M. C. Association in the cities of Quebec and Sherbrooke. The places of meeting were crowded, even standing-room being filled, while the interest was deeply spiritual and sustained. One marked feature of these gatherings is the singing of the people. Every one seems to be provided with the Moody and Sankey hymns. Led by an organ, these inspiring melodies are caught up by old and young, male and female, rich and poor, with the most thrilling effect, leading one to think of the loftier music of the Christian's home. Evidently the Divine Spirit is moving powerfully upon the hearts of our population, and the time is most opportune. In a period of business stagnation and financial pressure, when the heart is sick and the mind discouraged, men are likely to think more of God and of the future; and if their reflections be stimulated by some special dispensation of grace, the effect is pretty certain to be beneficial and lasting. Doubtless the heavenly garner will be enriched with many a golden sheaf as the result of the present awakening.

RAILWAY EMBROGGLIO.

In Richmond village we see and hear a good deal of railway men, their projects, failures and successes. Besides the depot of the Grand Trunk line, generally, and particularly at night, a scene of busy life, we have the "Missisquoi and Black River Valley Railway Company," the theatre of whose operations is in Melbourne township, and whose road is intended to connect with the Vermont Central somewhere near the frontier. When this Company was formed the Melbourne town council passed a by-law giving \$25,000 to assist in building the road. Encouraged by this grant the Company gave contracts for making cuttings, ballasting, building bridges, &c. The contractors, supposing themselves safe, spent their own money in paying laborers, purchasing material, &c. &c., when the cautious representatives of the rate-payers resolved to set aside the by-law authorizing the grant, and to refuse all aid; alleging that it was a bogus company, unworthy of public confidence, and that the township would not receive value for any money invested. This decision of our grave, practical, keen town council caused quite a commotion. Stormy meetings were held, in which excited rate-payers protested in behalf of themselves and their children against the iniquitous by-law; while railway men as generously insisted upon the honorable discharge of an obligation voluntarily incurred. The case is now before the courts, the rate-payers having entered an action to set aside the by-law, and the company another to compel compliance with its provisions. The serious aspect of this business is that some estimable men have spent the saving of a life time upon the strength of the council's by-law, and will, perhaps, suffer loss, rendered all the more trying by what they regard as a piece of municipal sharp practice. A part of the company's grade ornaments the south bank of the River St. Francis, and a station-house, built in three days, a field in front of our church property. The whole undertaking is a case of beginning to build, and not being able to finish—at least this is the general impression.

TRAVELLING AGENTS.

In those parts of the earth remarkable for evenness of climate, luxuriance of vegetation, variety and lusciousness of fruit, and beauty of scenery; in a word, in those tropical lands "where every prospect pleases," there is something to counteract in the shape of earthquakes, malaria, venomous reptiles, &c. These eastern

townships are residence; but kind of banding agents. I have done with day when close when the god o beds woos you insist upon see their half positions. One which he "wo if you would s he would like work; "a mini ries great we see that clerg they will read help my sales." Starch Polish, "enabling any equal to a Chin for your inspec which go with chromos are y you the polish agent for a M is "prepared t gard to sample come, represe Yankee and g gins to medita These agents a of speech; na most lavish. their recommen til in despair through which your tormentor Countries of h laws for the pr animals. Wou our legislators for the prevent that are not du house is your yourself." No does. If this doors of priva public nuisance salutary.

Some time s ed into our hand the manus to publish, title written with a dition of the ag land, in which book would be Englishman, an suffering of th composition of attempt to ren striking at the ness. The tal Some extracts descriptive of s and, as pictures to the merits of can pass no opin of those of opu thor was on his the services of expected at an volume in the before leaving h of his publicat Jancy, or the K dian Tale." It countrymen, en sharper in the storekeepers. to "such of th Canada, as are take advantage and unapostolic ractors are Mr Giles Homespu wife Jancy. Su who cooks his Homespun, and nance of an h makes objection "My simple, I don't sure unde tern townships land. All thing you really must sixteen shilling pence. In some black almost r know, a year of light." The pamphlet at the unprincip cifully fleec (Albion, when la Atlantic. PROTESTANT Several bran been formed in Called into exist a Methodist chu Catholic mob, its expenditure of g the rights of im fore the author lation of civil a cently a branch A large meeting addressed by Al Montreal, and the speakers did n they thought of