

THE WESLEYAN.

FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1880.

TRANSFERS.

Mr. Editor.—In a recent editorial in the Wesleyan on the subject of Transfers you spoke of the existing provisions of the Discipline on that subject as being defective. Will you please suggest what, in your judgment, would be an improvement on the present system. X. Y. Z.

REPLY.—The arrangements made by the first General Conference for Transfers upon being subjected to trial were found to be entirely unsatisfactory. The second General Conference, recognizing defects in the Discipline of 1874 in reference to its regulations for Transfers, made some slight alterations in the new Discipline in reference to that subject. The new regulations, however, have not been found to be any improvement upon the former system. One strong objection urged against the Confederation of Canadian Methodism was that such a consummation would confine the ministry within comparatively narrow Confessional limits, and contract the field from which supplies for our circuits could be drawn. On the other hand it was earnestly and confidently urged that such an objection need not be feared, because, it was supposed, a practical plan would be devised by the General Conference for the Transfers of ministers, when desirable, throughout all the work. The needed disciplinary regulations have not yet been provided. Transfers have been desired by some of the ministers, and by some of our Quarterly Official Meetings, but the difficulties in several instances have been insurmountable. The General Missionary Committee doubtless has felt the advisability of having the Eastern Annual Conferences represented in its Western Mission fields, but the difficulty of obtaining transfers has been in the way.

The Transfer Committee of 1880 has just terminated its session and work for the year. It has accomplished as much probably as, under the circumstances could fairly be expected of it, and yet the result is that the Committee has transferred four supernumerary ministers, one supernumerary, and seven ministers whose transfer has been made necessary by the claims of the mission work.

To meet our necessities in this direction we would suggest the following, as an improvement upon the existing regulations of the Discipline, and as a substitute for them, namely:

GENERAL TRANSFER COMMITTEE.

1. The President of the General Conference, and the Presidents of the Annual Conferences, shall be a Committee for the transfer of Ministers, and Probationers for the Ministry, from the Eastern Section to the Western Section, and from the Western Section to the Eastern Section.

2. All communications from Presidents of Annual Conferences, in relation to transfers from one section to another, should be sent to the President of the General Conference not later than the 31st day of March in each year.

3. The President of the General Conference shall notify the President of each Annual Conference of all proposed or desired transfers to, or from, his Conference, not later than the fifth day of April, in each year; and the President shall immediately notify any member of his Conference affected by such proposed transfer.

4. A proposal to transfer a minister, or probationer, from one section to another, who has not requested it, may be made by any member of the General Transfer Committee; provided, that in every case, notice of such proposal to transfer shall be given to the person concerned, at least one month before the meeting of said committee. Provided, also, that he shall have the right to state his case in writing, and the President of the General Conference shall lay such statement before the said Committee.

5. The General Transfer Committee shall have authority to transfer ministers from one section to another for a definite term of six or nine years, such ministers to have the right of returning at the end of the period, to the Conference from which they were transferred, should they so desire. This regulation shall not apply to those who are transferred at their own request.

EASTERN SECTION TRANSFER COMMITTEE.

6. The President of the Nova Scotia Conference, the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Conference, and the Newfoundland Conference, and two other ministers, elected each year by each of the said Annual Conferences, shall be the Eastern Section Transfer Committee, for the transfer of ministers, and probationers, from one of the said Annual Conferences to another, according to the following regulations.

7. The Eastern Section Transfer Committee shall transfer, in each year, not less than two ministers, or probationers, (not including supernumeraries), from the Nova Scotia Conference to the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Conference, and a like number from the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Conference to the Nova Scotia Conference.

8. The Eastern Section Transfer Committee shall transfer, in each year, not less than one minister, or probationer, (not including supernumeraries), from either the Nova Scotia Conference or the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Conference, to the Newfoundland Conference, and a like number from the Newfoundland Conference to either of the other said Conferences.

WESTERN SECTION TRANSFER COMMITTEE.

9. The Presidents of the Toronto Conference, the London Conference and the Montreal Conference, and two other ministers, elected each year by each of the said Annual Conferences, shall be the Western Section Transfer Committee, for the transfer of ministers, and probationers, from one of the Annual Conferences to another, according to the following regulations.

10. The Western Section Transfer Committee shall transfer, in each year, not less than four ministers or probationers (not including supernumeraries, or supernumerary ministers from each of the Western Annual Conferences, as follows: from the Toronto Conference to the London Conference, not less than two; and from the Toronto Conference to the Montreal Conference not less than two; and from the London Conference to the Toronto Conference not less than two; and from the Montreal Conference to the Toronto Conference not less than two; and from the Montreal Conference to the London Conference not less than two.

to the Toronto Conference not less than two; and from the Montreal Conference to the London Conference not less than two.

11. Whenever a Circuit requests the appointment of a minister from another Conference, the Quarterly Official Meeting of such Circuit shall pay the moving expenses. Ministers transferred at their own request shall pay their own moving expenses. Those transferred at the request of the Missionary authorities shall receive their moving expenses from the Mission Fund.

12. The Transfer Committee shall have authority to fix the date at which the transfers shall take effect.

13. Each minister or probationer transferred shall be subject to the action of the Stationing Committee of the Conference to which he is transferred.

14. The ultimate financial claims of any minister shall not be affected by such transfer.

15. The Secretary of each Transfer Committee shall, immediately after the rising of the Committee, report to the Secretary of each Annual Conference affected, all transfers to and from such Conference, and the date at which such transfers shall take effect.

16. The decisions of the Committee in all cases of transfer shall be final.

17. The Annual Meeting of the General Transfer Committee shall be held, not later than the tenth day of May in each year, on the day and at the place which the President of the General Conference may appoint.

18. The Annual meeting of the Eastern Section of the Transfer Committee, and of the Western Section of the Transfer Committee, shall be held not later than ten days after the date appointed for the meeting of the General Transfer Committee and on the day, and at the place, which the President of the General Conference may appoint.

One of the peculiar features of this proposed substitute is, that it is made compulsory upon both sections to transfer each year, a certain number of men. The Discipline makes it compulsory for the Stationing Committee, each year, in all the Conferences, to remove the ministers who have been three years on a circuit. Those removals are made by the Stationing Committee, because the Discipline requires it. Transfers will be made, each year, and without any friction, when the Discipline requires it, and not, we think, to any considerable extent, until it is so demanded by the Discipline.

We have purposely put the minimum number to be transferred, at a small rate per annum. The regular exchanges between the Conferences of even so small a number of ministers each year, will amount to a considerable number in every decade. The tendency of such a system of transfers will be to prevent the development of sectionalism in the Conferences, and to promote that broad connexionism that, we assume, all should cherish.

We have not suggested that it should be made compulsory for the General Transfer Committee to make transfers each year. To do so would involve a serious financial question; and on that account, chiefly, we, at least for the present, would not propose such a change.

The suggestions for transfers within the limits of each of the two sections do not, necessarily involve so serious a financial burden as existed previous to the union. Several removals each year, from one Conference to another might be effected, at less cost than a like number of removals are now, sometimes, accomplished within the limits of a Conference. No great financial skill will be needed to overcome any such difficulties as the proposed changes will involve.

We have indicated that each Conference in both sections, should be represented on the Committee by its President, and two ministers chosen annually. In this way the responsibility would fall upon a sufficient number of ministers. The expense of travelling need not amount to any considerable sum, except when members of the Committee from Newfoundland should choose to attend; and they, generally, might be represented on the Committee, by correspondence, if they so preferred.

HYMN AND TUNE BOOK.

A very general expectation has been awakened, we believe, throughout the bounds of the Eastern Conferences that the introduction of a new hymn book would be accompanied by the publication, in convenient form for congregational worship, of a volume with hymns and tunes. We regret that there has been any abandonment of that design; and that, in preference there has been a proposal for the preparation of a collection of tunes singly. The compilation of a tune-book, merely, would add the more to those already in existence, and its use would be at the option of choirs. But the adoption of a Hymn and Tune Book, recommended and sanctioned by the several Conferences would doubtless constitute a new era in the history of congregational worship. In the Wesleyan Church in England and in the Methodism of the United States, in which the hymns for public and social worship have been revised and enriched by selections from accumulated treasuries of ancient and modern song, in the reception of which there has been an almost unbounded enthusiasm, the compilation and general use of the volume of hymns and tunes has formed the crowning success of the movement. We cannot lose sight of the fact that in almost all our churches, at the present time, congregational worship has been facilitated and promoted by the general use of hymn and tune books. The facility thus afforded

has doubtless contributed to the enormous sale of "hymns ancient and modern," and the almost universal introduction of that book for purposes of social and family worship and song. The extensive circulation of the Moody and Sankey melodies and sacred songs may be accounted for in much the same way. It should not be forgotten that in regard to congregational song, there has been a marked transition. A quarter of a century ago, there were few musical instruments in families; but the singing school attended by a large proportion of the young people, flourished in almost every community. We cannot have for congregational worship the training afforded by the "singing school." But in order to utilize the musical knowledge, acquaintance with the notes and practice of instrumental music, we need to have the tunes in immediate connection with hymns. Such a volume would be welcomed to the family and the training of sacred song would be available for sanctuary service. The question for the Methodist Church of Canada, is one of vast moment. There was a time when the congregational singing of a Methodist chapel was grander and more inspiring than that of the cathedral choir. But in apparatus and equipment, at the present time, many churches are in advance of our own. We appreciate the incomparable hymnody of our church, we anticipate with much satisfaction the publication of the new hymn book in which the best hymns of the Christian centuries have been added to the matchless lyrics of Charles Wesley. But we should deeply regret any oblation by the course marked out at the General Conference committee—in which the grouping and distribution of hymns have had constant reference to the tunes.

THE NEW BISHOPS.

The election of Bishops by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, is always an occasion of great interest and importance. The Bishops are the most prominent ministers of the church. They are brought into contact with leading men, of different political parties, and of all grades of culture, in every part of the land. They are not elected for a brief year, or even for a quadrennium. They are elected for life. Their office, and its work, with their inevitable surroundings and associations, develop in the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a breadth and a depth of manhood, unto which, under other circumstances, they would never attain. No limit of State lines, no confessional boundaries, contracts their minds or their powers. They travel over broad latitudes, and longitudes, and almost necessarily, take broad views of every question with which they have to do. They mingle among the people of every part of their nation, and they become national in mind and in heart. No men are better acquainted with the state of that country, so far as all its material interests are concerned, than those Bishops; and none wield a more potent or grander influence than they. It is no marvel, then, that not only should the Methodist people of the United States feel a deep interest in the election of Bishops of their church, but that we, also, of the Methodist Church of Canada, should participate with them in the feeling which so important an occasion inspires.

The Revs. Henry W. Warren, of Philadelphia; John F. Hurst, D. D., of Madison, N. J.; Cyrus D. Foss, D. D., of Middletown; and E. O. Haven, D. D., of Syracuse, have just been elected to that high office.

Bishop Henry W. Warren, was born in Williamsburg, Mass., in 1831. He joined the New England Conference in 1855. He is now serving a second term as pastor of the Arch-street Church of Philadelphia. He is the author of a volume entitled "Sights and Insights." He is exceedingly popular, and is singularly gifted as a pulpit orator.

Bishop John F. Hurst, was born in Maryland in 1834. He studied theology at Halle and Heidelberg, and returned to the United States in 1858, when he entered the Newark Conference. He is the author of several popular works.

Bishop Cyrus W. Foss, was born in New York State in 1834. He joined the New York State in 1854. He is now President of the Wesleyan University at Middletown, Connecticut.

Bishop Erasmus O. Haven, was born in Boston, in 1820. He has held important positions in several educational institutions. He was for a short time editor of "Zion's Herald." His published works are, "Young Men Advised," "Pillars of Truth," and a text-book of Rhetoric.

A GOLDEN WEDDING.

We publish in another column a notice of Rev. JAMES G. HENNINGAR, of Canning. A half century will have passed away, on the 26th of this month, since Father Hennigar and Mrs. Hennigar

were united in marriage, in this city. Through a long life of ministerial toil, and vicar Mr. Hennigar has served his generation well. He has fought a good fight. He has kept the faith. He has not laboured in vain. We are glad that some of our leading people, of the Canning circuit, are making an effort to celebrate, in an appropriate way, the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage. We understand that the residence of Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Hennigar will be open, on the afternoon and evening, of the 26th inst., and that they will be "at home" for the reception of visitors on that occasion. Those of their many friends, who can not avail themselves of the opportunity of being present, in person, at that time, can express their congratulations by letter, addressed either to Rev. Mr. Hennigar, or to Rev. James Strothard, pastor of the circuit, or to Stephen Sheffield, Esq., Recording Steward, Canning, N. S. A life given, as theirs has been, to noble purposes, and that has been so productive of good, deserves, at such a juncture as is now at hand, golden congratulations, from many of their friends, of the present time, and of former years.

We have a considerable amount of correspondence, and of obituary notices, on hand, which will appear at as early a date as possible.

REV. JAMES STROTHERD, of Canning, delivered his popular lecture on "Self Culture" in the Cobourg Road Methodist Church on Monday evening last. The lecture was replete with good advice, eloquently delivered, and was well received by an appreciative audience.

THE REV. S. F. HURSTIS was the recipient, a few days ago, of a purse containing about one hundred dollars, from friends of the Brunswick St. congregation, Halifax.

THE PLAIN DEALER, a new, four-page, weekly newspaper, has made its appearance. Each page has seven columns. It is published by Mr. William D. Stewart, at New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, at \$1.25 a year. Its motto is: "Hew to the line; let the chips fall where they will." We hope this enterprise will prove successful.

A Practical Treatise on Sea-sickness: its symptoms, nature, and treatment. By George M. Beard, A.M., M.D., is just issued from the publishing house of E. B. Treat, 757 Broadway, New York.

This treatise represents extensive experiments of the author, and much experience at sea, on long and short voyages, and in different climates. Sea-sickness is regarded by the author as a functional disease of the central nervous system. The treatment proposed is in harmony with the philosophy, and has been tested by the author, and other medical observers, with most satisfactory results. Price 50 cents.

TOWN GEOLOGY, by Charles Kingsley. Card manila cover, price 15 cents. No. 25 STANDARD SERIES, I. K. Funk & Co. New York. This book is calculated to give more practical knowledge of geology to the masses than any other we know of. It shows how to study geology. The charming style of Canon Kingsley makes any subject interesting. The following contents will indicate the character of the book: I. The Soil of the Fields; II. The Pebbles in the Street; III. The Stones in the Wall; IV. The coal in the Fire; V. The Lime in the Mortar; VI. The Slates on the Roof. This instructive and charmingly-written book has been selling at \$1.50. It is now offered at the price of a good cigar—15 cents. Young men, buy this book and read it, and discuss it in your clubs and literary societies and social gatherings.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.—The numbers of *The Living Age* for the weeks ending May 1st and 8th respectively, contain the following articles: The Deep Sea and its Contents, by Dr. Wm. B. Carpenter, and Agnosticism and Women, *Nineteenth Century*; Metempsychosis, *Contemporary*; a continuation of "Bush-Life in Queensland," *Blackwood*; Backsheesh, and Adam Sedgwick, *Macmillan*; The Begicides of this Century, *Cornhill*; A Swiss Novelist, *Fraser*; Artificial Diamonds, *Popular Science Review*; Civil Code of the Jews, *Pall Mall*; The Jesuits and the Civil Power, and out of it, *Saturday Review*; Temperature of the Soil During Winter, and Musical Pitch, *Nature*; with instalments of Mrs. Oliphant's story, "He that Will Not When He May," and "The Crookit Meg," and the usual amount of poetry.

For fifty-two numbers of sixty-four large pages each (or more than 3,300 pages a year), the subscription price (\$3) is low; while for \$10.50 the publishers offer to send any one of the American \$4 monthlies or weeklies with *The Living Age* for a year, including the extra numbers of the latter, both postpaid. Littell & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

THE CANADIAN METHODIST MAGAZINE for May. William Briggs, Toronto, Publisher. \$2 a year; \$1 for six months.

The current number contains several specially noteworthy articles. Dr. Ryerson records the origin of the Clergy Reserve Controversy, which made such a sensation in its day, and which so greatly affected the history of Canada. Dr. Scadding contributes a charming paper on English Chimes in Canada. W. Kerby, Esq., author of the *Chien d'Or*, the best Canadian story yet written, has a beautiful "Canadian Idyl" on the heroic fight at Stony Creek. Among the illustrated articles is one on Mountain Travel in the Old Dominion, and a life sketch,

with portrait, of the Rev. Dr. Sanderson. The story of Barbara Heck recounts that grand episode in Canadian history, the fifth and last siege of Quebec. The Editor gives a graphic account of his visit to Berne, Basle, the Black Forest, Straßburg, Worms, and Heidelberg; and discusses Ingersollism and the English Elections. The grand story of Jerome and Huanan concluded.

The May number of THE PREACHER AND MOMENTARY MONTHLY contains the following:—Sermonic: "The Sign of David," by Rev. Canon Farrar; "God Repudiated," by J. L. Burrows; D. D.; "Our Knowledge of God," by Bishop R. S. Foster; "Gethsemane," by Rev. Joseph Elliot; "Property in Souls," by C. B. Crane, D. D.; "Complete in Christ," by A. S. Hunt, D. D.; "Aim in Life," by Rev. Prof. E. B. Coo; "The Church a Spiritual, not a Social Power," by J. M. Ludlow, D. D.; "Fruits of Conflict," by Rev. Chalmers Easton; "Cross-Bearing," by Rev. W. C. Easton; Ph. D.; "Christ the First-fruit," by Hugh S. Carpenter, D. D.; "The Daily Cross," by J. B. Thomas, D. D.; "Romanism and the Republic," by Rev. D. J. Starr; "Godliness Profitable," by J. J. Carruthers, D. D.; "The Gospel of the Pentateuch God's Sema for Sin," by T. W. Chambers, D. D.; Communion Service: "Sacramental Thoughts," by Joseph Parker, D. D. With this number we have the first of a series of papers by Dr. Crosby on "Light upon Important Texts." Dr. Oayler continues his excellent papers on "Brotherly Talks with Young Ministers." Beside, we have "Studies in the Book of Revelation," by Rev. D. C. Hughes; the "Prayers Meeting Service," by Rev. Lewis O. Thompson; much under the headings, "Preachers Exchanging Views," "Sermonic Criticism," etc. This MONTHLY must prove of great interest to clergymen, and all other students of the Bible. Subscription, per year, \$2.50; single number, 25 cents. I. K. FUNK & CO., 10 and 12 Dey Street, New York.

HISTORY OF ENGLAND, by Charles Knight. Vol. 6, card manila cover, price, 30 cents. STANDARD SERIES edition, I. K. Funk & Co., New York. This marvellously cheap edition of this great work is approaching completion—but two volumes yet remain, including the extensive index. These will be ready in less than a fortnight. It is doubtful whether so extensive a publication has ever before been pushed to completion in so short a time, the whole occupying not more than forty days. Few people realize the vast labor and care required in printing a great work like this. Knight's History contains almost as much matter (printer's measure) as Hume's and Macaulay's great histories combined. To set up the type required the handling of over forty millions of pieces of type by the compositors and the typesetting and distributing machinery employed on this work. For a man to count forty millions would take nearly three years' time, he counting 100 per minute eight hours each day. But the setting of the type is only part of the herculean task. The proofs have to be read and corrected three and four times most carefully, so that the slightest misplacement of any one of these millions of pieces of type may be detected; then the electrotypers, the pressmen and the binders have their turn. This edition of this great work has not been cheapened by any omissions or condensation of the reading matter, nor is it common in the production of low-priced books, by resort being had to second-hand and defective plates, which are often purchasable for a trifle. As now a perfect copy of "Knight's History of England" is within easy reach of every man's purse, let all buy it.

The second volume of Knight's History of England, being No. 13 of the Standard Series, has come to hand; price 30 cents. The Life, Anecdotes, Sermons, etc., of Rev. Rowland Hill, is also received. This is another of the well-printed and low-priced volumes of the Standard Series. Price 10 cents. They are published by I. K. Funk & Co., 10 and 12 Dey Street, New York, and are for sale at Wesleyan Book Room, Halifax.

POSTAL CARDS.

HEBRON, May 11, 1880.

We are getting well through with a solid year. On every part of this mission, religiously, we are in good condition. Our distinctive polity and doctrine find congenial soil, and are taking a firm hold upon the people. As a community of worshippers, we are assuming very considerable proportions. The venerable Father Sutcliffe has been exceedingly kind to me in rendering invaluable pulpit services, for which people and parson are alike thankful. Our lay friend, Joseph Barrett, Esq., known as an earnest temperance worker, has also cheerfully helped me through some tight places in Christian work. His sympathies are broad, nature emotional, and addresses clear, earnest, and practical. When I take in the whole situation, I congratulate myself on being permitted to live with such an excellent people. In such an atmosphere work is thoroughly enjoyable, and I am led to regard myself, for the most part, as about the happiest single man I know of.

G. F. J.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PRESENTATION AT WINDSOR.

Mr. Editor.—An earlier intimation ought to have been communicated to your columns, of a pleasant surprise given to Rev. Mr. Brecken and lady, by members of the Methodist Church in Windsor. In anticipation of the near approach of their removal from this charge, it was felt to be desirable that some tangible expression should be given of the high esteem in which Mr. and Mrs. Brecken are held among us. The matter was taken in hand by some energetic ladies, and carried through successfully.

At the close of the evening prayer-meeting on Friday, the 30th ult., the Rev.

Steward, Mr. requested the people to read an appropriate prayer for the congregation, and to Mrs. Brecken and to Mrs. Brecken. These are but feeble expressions of our remembrance of the Methodists of Windsor, May 17.

NEWS.

Mr. Editor.—Do has graciously blessed of his soul-converting occasions we have been giving evidence of in them by the word. To four of these we ornament of baptism did.

"The gift unspeakable And bless the earth Last Sabbath it was ege to join with those longer period in church remembered the suff Christ in his own at hearts were moved, w concerted plan, the filled with those who partook of the emble blood of our Divine thus remembered Hi had not forgotten us. How long the seed what hand, we know prayers answered in have been in the gold tell; others have lab into their labors. the vitality of the prayer. Through all look up to Him as Him that is able to antly above all that according to the power unto Him be the glo Yours, F

METHODIST BO.

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REPORT OF JO

CALL FOR

The undersigned co and by the authority thodist bodies with ed, and which we ha represent, recommend Ecumenical Conferer City Road Chapel, L of August, 1881.

In respect to such ence, we make the and suggestions:—

1. The conference purposes, for it will isolate. It is not for sies, for Methodism ences. It is not t monize the various p the several branches thodist family, for M striven for unity, rat It is not, in a word, for co operation. I means for prosecuting eign work as will te economy and efficien nity, to increase the power of a commu secure the more spec world.

2. A Methodist E might properly con these:

The duty of Met Popeny, paganism, p intemperance, and lation of Methodist means of evangeliz cy, ministry, traini tian workers, both a Sunday-schools, and special classes; Met ary movement, the r foreign work, and th ing waste an rival instead thereof sution between differ cupping the same or fields; the use of the of Christian knowl power; the resourc numbers, wealth, c and revival agencies ing responsibility; Methodism, and the maintenance and i fest it to the world topics.

3. The Ecumenical composed of four i which two hundred ish and continental their affiliated con fields, and two h ferences and church in conference shall be as possible of an eq and lay delegates. British and Contine be distributed amon dist bodies of that Methodists, on con pondence may agre signed to the church and Canada, shall be lows: The Methodi eighty; the Method South; the Method theist Episcopal Ch thodist Episcopal C Colored Methodist Amer, six; the tion, six; the Union Episcopal Church, rican Protestant Chu diat Protestant Chu can Wesleyan Chu Methodist Church, t Methodist Church, tional Methodist Ch diat Church of Can opal Church of Can