

THE WESLEYAN.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1879.

RELIEF AND EXTENSION FUND.

MR. EDITOR.—Resolution 5 of the Joint Committee for the Relief and Extension Fund reads: "That the special effort to raise this Fund be completed by the 15th of November of the present year, so as to avoid any interference with the usual Missionary meetings." Have the \$150,000 been raised?

ENQUIRER.

REPLY.—Three of the superintendents only of the Nova Scotia Conference have sent in their lists of subscribers to this Fund. Four of the superintendents only of the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Conference have reported by sending in lists. The superintendents in the other Conferences have not done very much better. The authorities in the Mission-Rooms at Toronto have received a great many intimations, of an indefinite character, as to what may be done for the Fund. They can not, however, report definitely as to the results of this movement until the lists are all received giving names and amounts. About \$56,000 is known, at the head office, Toronto, to have been, up to this date, pledged for the Fund. What showing, the lists to be received will give, remains to be seen. Further information on this subject will be found in another column.

MONCTON, N. B., Nov. 28, 79

DEAR BROTHER,—I have seen an occasional note in the WESLEYAN of the Royal Arcanum; and lately have had a fly-sheet placed in my hands criticising that institution. Can you give any information on this subject?

REPLY.—A fly-sheet, which, we presume, is similar to the one referred to, has been sent to our office. The name, of the individual, or of the company, that has prepared this document, and is circulating it throughout some parts of the country, does not appear on its face. It probably has been published in the interests of some Life-Insurance Company, and to be adverse to co-operative benefit associations in general, and to the Royal Arcanum in particular.

Every one who has carefully examined the basis upon which the Royal Arcanum rests, and who has read the fly-sheet, will see that it grossly misrepresents that organization. Criticism, however, even though it may be disingenuous, is not to be deplored. If there is any weak spot about this new and popular Order, it had better be discovered at the earliest possible moment. If its enemies can point out anything wrong in its fundamental principles, or anything vulnerable in its machinery, they will, by a revelation thereof, do the growing Order excellent service, and their mischievous intentions will therefore be productive of good results.

The Royal Arcanum is very similar in its fundamental principles to the New England Methodist Minister's Relief Association. The benefits of the latter association are confined to Methodist ministers and their families only; the benefits of the former may be participated in by persons in secular as well as in ministerial walks.

The objects of the Order are to unite persons within certain limits as regards age, health, and character for the purpose of giving to the members moral and material aid. A Benefit Fund is a peculiar feature, whereby, on the decease of any member, his widow or family shall be paid a benefit of three thousand dollars. The fees to be paid depend upon the age at which one becomes a member. Experience shows that the benefit of three thousand dollars may be secured at a cost equal to about thirty per cent. of what Insurance Companies demand to effect an insurance for the same amount.

PLEASANTBORO', Dec. 10, 1879.

MR. EDITOR.—For some time past our church has been closed, and we have not had our usual preaching and other services, from the fact that we have no fuel to warm the building, and no oil to give us light. It seems very strange to have our Sabbaths go by without a service for such reasons. Can you suggest a remedy?

A FRIEND.

REPLY.—If we were acquainted with your locality, and its people, we might be able, perhaps, to suggest a practicable remedy; but, as it is, we can only advise you in a somewhat general kind of way. In our younger days, we sometimes found, in certain localities, that it required an effort to secure an abundant supply of fuel, and light, and to obtain the services of a sexton. Sometimes we would get the principal attendants at our services to bring each a small portion of fuel, and each to bring a candle, for in those days, and in those places, candles were our sources of artificial light. Sometimes we would have a public meeting, and get

those persons who were present at the meeting to make the needed arrangements. On one circuit, where we had several preaching places, our largest chapel, and our largest congregation, was in a locality where we had only two members of our church, and both of them were women, and not able to render us much assistance. No one seemed, for a long time, to care anything for Methodism further than to come and hear the young minister preach. We had to get fuel as best we could. We carried our "burning fluid" in the wagon or the sleigh; filled the lamps, trimmed them, and lighted them; swept the floor, and warmed up the building. We never let a Sunday pass, when our appointment was at that church, no matter how stormy the weather, without a service. There were only sixty-two Sabbaths in a year. After about sixteen months the Lord revived his work. About thirty persons were converted and were received into membership. Always, after that, there were persons to bring fuel, and pay for the "burning fluid," and take care of the building. Perhaps our friends at Pleasantboro' need, more than anything else, an extensive revival of religion.

The ways and means for warming, and lighting, and taking care of a church, must depend upon circumstances. The expense involved in some places, and under some circumstances, will be light; in other places, and under other circumstances, it will be necessarily somewhat heavy. If the trustees of a church find that the needed expenditure is beyond their income, let a public meeting of the congregation be summoned; and surely, in such an assembly, there will be developed some practical way whereby the house of the Lord may be made ready and comfortable for the services of the Lord's day.

WINDSOR.

We had the pleasure of occupying the pulpit of our Windsor church on Sunday morning last, and of taking part in the Missionary Anniversary Meeting, in the same church, on the evening of that day. Brother McDougall preached in Avondale in the morning, and was the chief speaker in the Windsor meeting in the evening. The weather was unfavourable, as the wind was blowing with considerable energy, and the rain was coming down almost all the day. The collection for the Mission Fund in the evening amounted to nearly four hundred dollars. Amounts that will be contributed by friends not then present, will probably bring the total up to nearly five hundred dollars. This is in excess of last year, and indicates that the regular annual contribution for missions has not suffered because of the appeal for the Relief and Extension Fund. The Windsor circuit is not only one of the oldest stations in the Dominion, but also one of the most thoroughly Methodistic. Brother Brecken is greatly esteemed by our people there, and is happy in having as his Aaron and his Hur, the venerable supernumeraries—Revs. John McMurray and Roland Morton.

MUSQUODOBOIT HARBOR.

We had the pleasure of spending the fourth Sabbath of the last month on the Musquodoboit Harbor circuit, under the direction of its popular superintendent, Rev. Joseph Mayhew Fisher. The services of the day had special reference to the Relief and Extension Fund. The weather was very unfavorable, as the rain was falling abundantly, during almost the entire day. Our congregations, however, were good, and the financial results satisfactory. The parsonage, and the principal church, on this old circuit, are located amid a well developed supply of granite rocks, and at the head of a picturesque Atlantic harbor. The facilities for securing remunerative harvests by means of the plow, the hoe, the scythe, and the reaping hook, did not appear to us, on that stormy November day, to be very promising. The spiritual laborer, however, in Christ's vineyard has again and again gathered, in Musquodoboit Harbor circuit, valuable sheaves for the heavenly garner. It has already given to the ministry of our church several of our most able men. Why may not that sea-side mission yet do even grander things for the Master than it has hitherto done? The contributions for the annual Mission and the Relief and Extension Fund, on this circuit are good.

THE REV. JOHN BEDFORD, one of the most gifted and useful Methodist ministers of the English Conference, died recently in the forty-ninth year of his ministry, and in the eightieth year of his age. He was an earnest and vigorous worker, and did his full share in helping to make the Methodist history of the fatherland during the last half century. The London "Methodist" says of him:

"Mr. Bedford had a combative spirit, which was of immense value to him in his special duties. Men learnt to think too often of him as a mere fighter; therefore he was sometimes only respected

when he deserved to be loved. He was a man of war from his youth. Early in his ministry he fought hard and successfully against the priestly assumption of some foolish and obscure Anglicans, who, as is too often their wont, troubled our people."

"When the roll of the dead is called next year in the London Conference, men's souls will be deeply stirred as they hear the names of old friends and old colleagues; but there will be no name of all the list that will be heard with greater respect and regret than that of John Bedford, a "brother beloved," who will be remembered affectionately as of unsullied character, of indomitable zeal for God's cause, of self-denying devotion to the interests of Wesleyan Methodism, and a fine example of a Christian minister."

FROM THE MISSION ROOMS.

RELIEF AND EXTENSION—STATE OF THE FUND.

Some correspondents express dissatisfaction that there is not a weekly announcement of the amount subscribed to date. The Treasurers would be delighted to furnish this information if they only could obtain it; but in spite of repeated and urgent requests, reports come in slowly. The following shows the sum total of ministerial and general subscriptions, so far as the lists have reached us, to date. In regard to the ministerial lists, three districts—viz., British Columbia in the Toronto Conference, Ottawa in the Montreal Conference, and St. John in the New Brunswick Conference—are yet to be heard from. Newfoundland has not reported by districts. The numbers given include all the ministers, supernumerated and supernumerary, probationers, Japanese, etc.

MINISTERS' SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Circuits in Conference.	No. of Ministers in Conference.	No. who have subscribed.	Amount.
Toronto Conference	361	258	\$ 6,584
London "	331	280	7,488
Montreal "	225	151	5,126
N. Scotia "	109	84	2,907
N. Brunswick Conf	98	69	3,510
Newfoundland "	50	13	389
	1,174	861	\$25,014

GENERAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Circuits in Conference.	No. reported.	Amount.	Voluntary Ftd. last year.
Toronto Conference	255	\$7,665	\$10,435
London "	224	15,870	14,522
N. Scotia "	81	1,501	1,688
N. Brunswick Conf	76	1,084	142
Newfoundland "	41	1,840	1,509
	842	\$29,019	\$30,732
Cash receipts to Nov. 30, on both ministerial and General Lists			\$15,700

The 142 reported above are the circuits from which lists have been received; some fifteen or twenty others have reported gross amount by post card, but the lists furnish the only reliable data. Will the brethren kindly forward lists of promised subscriptions without delay? Not a few send only the lists of paid subscriptions, but nothing to indicate how much has been promised.

ADDITIONAL MINISTERS' SUBSCRIPTIONS.

HALIFAX DISTRICT.	Amount.
Previously acknowledged	\$840.00
George Johnson	12.00
Edmund Botterell	5.00
Total	\$857.00

CLOSING THE LISTS.

The Committee by whom the details of the scheme were drafted, adopted and published the following resolution:—"That the special effort to raise this fund be completed by the 15th of November of the present year, so as to avoid any interference with the usual missionary meetings."

There is reason to fear that, on a large number of circuits, the lists are not yet closed; and unless this be speedily accomplished, not only will the ordinary income be seriously affected, but the Relief and Extension Fund itself will suffer loss. An earnest appeal is made to the brethren to finish the canvass without delay.

MINISTERS' SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Brethren will greatly oblige by omitting the names of ministerial subscribers from the Circuits lists. There are three reasons for this:—In the first place, in order to reach the \$150,000, it is necessary to raise—exclusive of minister's subscriptions—an amount fully equal to the whole income of last year. In the next place, many of the ministers will remove to new fields before the second instalment becomes due. In the last place, these subscriptions have already been published in the ministerial lists; and to publish them again in the circuit lists would be misleading.

REV. WILLIAM TAYLOR has laid upon our table his *Christian Adventures in South Africa*. This volume contains a record of earnest efforts for the extension of missions in that part of the world, and of successes that attended those efforts. The work abounds with stirring incidents connected with the writer's personal experience. The book contains 557 pages, is well printed on good paper, and is handsomely bound.

MONCTON BUSINESS PROSPECTS.

The Peters' Combination Lock Company has purchased a four acre lot, in Moncton, N. B., and has begun the erection of a large and substantial brick building, for the manufacture of various kinds of brass goods. The walls of the building are rising rapidly. It is probable that, in the early part of the coming summer, the company will be able to place some of its manufactured articles upon the market.

Earnest efforts are being made to secure the erection of a sugar refinery in that town. There are fair prospects that those efforts will not be in vain.

Our maritime country needs, in these trying times, such enterprises as those. It were well, we think, if, in Halifax, or some other suitable centre, manufacturing enterprises of greater or lesser extent were undertaken at an early day.

THE expediency of purchasing the New Brunswick Railway by the Dominion Government, is being discussed in some circles. The purchase of this road would involve the necessity of its extension from both of its present points of termination, so as to connect with River du Loup on the one hand, and St. John on the other. Should this arrangement be carried out, the route by rail, between St. John and the West, would thereby be very many miles shorter than it now is by way of the Intercolonial, and the value of St. John as a winter port of the Dominion would thereby be greatly enhanced.

WE had the pleasure of examining this week, the most beautiful piece of pen-work we have ever seen, consisting of a card setting forth the subjects taught at the Halifax Business College. Mr Wm^t Whiston, who has executed this fine piece of work, is certainly a pen artist of the highest order.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE FOR 1880.

The Fact that this standard magazine has had a successful career of over thirty-five years against much competition, is proof sufficient that it merits an undoubted want of the public. It furnishes what is essential to American readers in a great and indispensable current literature—a literature which embraces more and more every year the work of the ablest thinkers and writers of the day. As the only satisfactory complete and fresh compendium of this literature, its importance and value have steadily increased. It enables the reader, at trifling expense considering the quantity and quality of the reading furnished, to keep pace with the best thought and literary work of our time; and its great convenience to every intelligent person or family can therefore hardly be over-rated.

The extra offer to new subscribers for 1880, and the reduced clubbing rates, are worthy of note in the prospectus published in another column. The magazine is well worth the attention of those who are selecting their reading for the new year. As the multitude of periodicals increases more and more beyond the means and leisure of readers, the value of such a comprehensive one as this becomes more and more apparent.

NOVA SCOTIA CONFERENCE.

TO THE SUPERINTENDENTS OF CIRCUITS. Dear Brethren,—There are two matters to which I beg to call your attention:

I.—RELIEF AND EXTENSION FUND. The special effort on behalf of this Fund, I presume, is about completed on all the Circuits. Will you please forward, immediately, a list of all promised subscriptions to the Rev. A. Sutherland, D.D., Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto? The Chairmen are the Treasurers for this Fund in their respective Districts, to whom you will remit all subscriptions that have been paid, which will be forwarded at once to the General Treasurers. By a statement published in this week's WESLEYAN, you will observe that only three circuits of the N. S. Conference have sent in their lists. It is very necessary that these lists should be completed and forwarded at once, so as not to interfere with the ordinary income of the Society.

II.—THE GENERAL CONFERENCE FUND. At the last session of our Conference, it was agreed that a collection on behalf of this Fund should be made on all the Circuits in the month of December, and the amounts promptly remitted to the President, who was appointed Treasurer of the Fund.—(See Minutes of Conference.) You will please attend to this order of Conference. The amounts, as received by me, will be duly acknowledged in the WESLEYAN.

Fraternally yours,
S. F. HUESTIS,
President of Conf.
Halifax, Dec. 8, 1879.

Falseness is never so successful as when she baits her hook with truth. No opinions so fatally mislead us as those that are not wholly wrong; as no watches so effectually deceive the wearer as those that are sometimes right.—Colton.

EVERY man throws on to his surroundings the sunshine or the shadow that exists in his own soul.

POSTAL CARDS.

YARMOUTH, Dec. 11, 79.

As an item of news, you can mention in religious column that we had a good service at Yarmouth North, on Sunday evening last. Four persons were baptized, and six received into membership with the church.

J. L.

AVONDALE, Dec. 8, 79.

Rev. Mr. McDougall was with us yesterday. Rev. Mr. McMurray conducted the opening exercises, offering an impressive prayer. Mr. McDougall, basing his remarks on Ex. 14, 15, and gave an account of the trials and successes of missionary life in the North-West. Presenting the triumphs of the Gospel in changing the heart and life of the heathen as grounds of encouragement for increased activity on the part of the church.

The address, which occupied an hour, was listened to throughout in wrapt attention. Financially the meeting will prove a success.

Subscriptions to Relief and Extension Fund continue to come in. Amount subscribed up to date amounts to \$227. Spiritually, we could wish for better times. We pray for the power of God to rest upon preacher and people.

R. A. DANIEL.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DEBBY, N. B., Dec. 1, 1879.

MR. EDITOR.—No doubt some of the many readers of your paper, and persons interested in the general work of the church, would like to hear what has been done on this Mission. Since I came to this field of labour, there has been but little circuit work done, so far as preaching the Gospel is implied. This was not because I was not willing, but because I was not able. Four weeks after my arrival here, I was taken sick with diphtheria, which appeared in its worst form. So bad was the case that but few thought I would ever recover; but under the skilful treatment of Dr. Davison, and other friends, and with the blessing of a heavenly Father, I was raised from the bed of affliction, but in such a weak condition, that three months passed before I was able to preach, and can only take part of the work on this wide-spread field yet. During my illness, some help was received from Revs. S. T. Teed, George Steel, and the late C. H. Bourne, for which we are all thankful. Here, also, I must express my feelings of gratitude to Mrs. E. Wilson and family, for their kindness to me when sick with that so much to be dreaded disease.

Though our people have not had the amount of preaching they should have had, they have not lost their interest in the work of the church. This is evident from the way they laboured for the completion of our new parsonage. The credit of commencing this work is due the Rev. A. N. Shrewsbury. He laboured for this faithfully, during his ministration here, and before his removal had the outside of the main building and all out-buildings completed. Since I came we have finished the inside of the house, also furnished it. We cannot speak in too high terms of the people here for the interest they have taken, and the spirit that they have gone to work with, for the building of the house. This enterprise has been greatly aided by the kindness and generosity of Mr. Scott Fairley, of Blackwell, who gave us a large subscription, and then advanced what money we needed for carrying on the work. At present there is some debt on the building, but in a few years that will be paid; then we will have as our own one of the best parsonages in this district, and but few better in the New Brunswick and P. E. Island Conference.

On the evening of Nov. 20th we took possession of the house, and found every thing in order. Some fifty persons were in waiting to receive us, notwithstanding the stormy evening, had it been fine there would have been many more. This was every thing left in the house needed to commence house-keeping with, including a barrel of flour, tea, sugar, meat, salmon, &c., &c. All this gave us great reason for rejoicing, but we hope and pray that before the year is ended we shall be able to rejoice over a subs saved, and a revival of the Master's work here.

D. H. L.

OUR MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

CONNEXIONALISM.

MR. EDITOR.—By reports of Missionary Board proceedings, I learn that I am indebted to our estimable President for an answer to the enquiry made through your columns a few weeks ago. I must, however, express my surprise at the very brusque manner adopted by Dr. Sutherland in discussing the subject. In my innocency I assumed that there was a connexional equality amongst all our churches, whether rich and independent, or poor and dependent. This being the case, it appeared to me to be perfectly legitimate to make any enquiries of any and every church concerning connexional matters. Allow me further to state my enquiry did not spring from a fault finding spirit, but solely from a deep interest in our Missionary Society, and a sincere desire to become thoroughly acquainted with its value-d methods of operation.

The information obtained in regard to Montreal was perfectly satisfactory, and instead of "calling in question" that item of expenditure, I regard it as a wise and profitable one. But why could not this information have been given in the spirit in which it was asked? Is this a connexional fund or not? If it is, then no one can deny it to be the privilege of even Domestic Missionaries to "legitimately" either question into or call into question the action of churches East or West, in this matter.

DOMESTIC MISSIONARY.