

THE WESLEYAN.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1876.

A MOST SUGGESTIVE BOOK.

Who has read Sydney Smith's essay on Methodism and not wondered at the pious or political horror with which he predicts the universal dissemination of this heretical sect?

Dr. De Puy of the N.Y. "Advocate" has kindly sent us a copy of the "Minutes of the Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church."

We have reports, however, of eighty Conferences, with a total membership of nearly one and half millions. If these members hold to the general congregations the same proportions as in our country, there must be, including the South, five millions of Methodists—or one-eighth of the population—in the Republic yonder.

There are a few conclusions—curious and important—on the surface of these "Minutes." The increase of membership last year was over 17,000, notwithstanding the church lost nearly 20,000 by deaths.

Too Late.—Mr. Somerville's third letter, besides a large number of remittances for the paper, come in at too late an hour to appear in this issue.

We write this paragraph in Windsor, where we spend Sabbath, January 30th. Five years ago, strongly aided by Bro. Smallwood, we stood here in circumstances very similar—surrounded by broken-hearted penitents and rejoicing converts.

1. How thoroughly true penitence accomplishes its work? It revolutionizes everything. It breaks up old foundations—scatters the elements of self into fragments.

We are pleased that our contemporary has frankly confessed. The "Episcopal minister and Roman Catholic priest" were gentlemen who in their personal and religious character stood in the confidence and esteem of the public—and they stood high as educationists.

There was nothing to confess. Our views as to the old administration, under Father Hannan, were honestly expressed at the time.

Consistency.—We have seen a strange thing in Israel:—Men taking gold watches out of their pockets to measure the time occupied by the minister in breaking the Bread of Life, and then putting copper cents in the plate to pay for it.

A supply of Books has been forwarded some time ago to Mr. Wade, Colporteur, Shelburne. They are still in charge of Rev. P. Frastwood.

Mr. Brewster Again.—If there was a particularly strong vein in the constitution of our old friend Rev. J. Brewster, it was in the direction of refined sarcasm.

We are not astonished to find that this disposition in Mr. Brewster is occasionally provoked in England.

Gross Outrage! Inhuman Exposure of Roman Remains. Newbury: Blacket & Son.—This is the title of a very rare pamphlet, published by the Rev. John Brewster of Newbury, in reply to the article by the Rev. S. B. James, Vicar of North Marston, in the Parish Magazine, headed by the proverb, "Where God has His church the devil will have his chapel."

Many friends of Rev. L. Gaetz would be astonished on reading the following editorial paragraph in the Halifax Chronicle of last Tuesday:—"Rev. Leonard Gaetz, lately of Nova Scotia and now pastor of a Methodist Church in Montreal, is reported to have preached a political party sermon on Sunday week."

An evening Montreal paper reported that "The Rev. Leonard Gaetz delivered a very impressive and soul stirring sermon in St. James street, Wesleyan Church, on Sunday evening in the course of which he referred to the prevailing depression of business."

The Montreal Witness, in alluding to the circumstance, headed its article "A CLERGYMAN BEYOND HIS DEPTH." But immediately, on receipt of a note from Mr. Gaetz, withdrew the expression and admitted that its off-encountered sentiments in regard to liberty of speech should be received in the full force of their meaning.

Now for those who are strangers, indeed—not wealthy strangers—but those who, wisely or unwisely, I will not say, have taken up their abode with us—have become our fellow citizens—not to beg; much less to steal, but to earn an honest livelihood, and are willing and anxious to do it.

men; if you can barely pay expenses, keep moving—if only for half time, keep the engine going. If to save yourself from financial ruin, you are compelled to reduce the wages, you are justified in doing that.

Coming from a man of impulsive temperament—who owes much of his pulpit and platform strength to his ardent disposition—there does not seem to be anything in that extract deserving of being classed with the political harangues of Roman Catholic priests.

We do not usually notice anonymous writers, whatever may be their spirit; but one in this week's Messenger must have a moment's attention.

This is neither elegant nor truthful. The fact is—and we hesitate even now to avow it, and do so only because compelled in self-defence—we had reason for suspecting that Mr. Somerville was right in respect to at least a portion of our Baptist friends.

THE Lecture course of the Y. M. C. A. Halifax, was opened by Dr. Burns. We regret that this fact escaped our notice in writing on the subject last week.

S. M. BROOKFIELD, Esq., has been elected to fill a vacancy in one of the Wards of Halifax. We congratulate the city on the fulfilment of a hope we expressed nearly a year ago.

OUR CORRESPONDENCE last week included a most excellent letter from Newfoundland. The writer holds a leading position as a gentleman of culture and literary taste.

OUR Death-notices show that dark shadows have fallen on the family of Rev. J. Lathern of this city. On Thursday of last week their youngest child—a lovely boy of five years—complained of sickness.

THE CONTROVERSY ON BAPTISM.—There is a manifest misapprehension prevailing in respect to our attitude on this subject. In opening our columns to Mr. Somerville, we yielded a courtesy which would be granted to any intelligent Christian gentleman.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FINALE.

On two or three occasions, during last Autumn, an article appeared in our editorial columns, bearing upon the relative fertility of certain Circuits, as regards candidates for the ministry.

Our readers may accept the declaration from ourselves in addition that this latter condition shall be carried out.

SURELY NOT.

DEAR MR. EDITOR:—To what a warm discussion the correspondence upon the Banner Circuit has waxed both among your columns and around our hearths.

1. It has been shown to one or two misapprehending correspondents that the scene of spiritual up-springing and early nurture, or of district recommendation, is that which claims a man as its "son."

3. Let the that the old Wallace!—precise population derstood it. 4. The lace and Br twelve mile mile ditto, w names, and Bridgetown, eight or ten fions of Meth 5. Have f formed been diction, to by Truth, elsew Until this of the peopl Wallace, bee late. Walla That is abou a little more delusion so p now, since s wards unveili about the us long time, I s indefinite. I s itself. It shou dom. "Know in helping t (the voice of man, had be age) says, in s what Wallace Yes. The prog be sure. Th sorting to th other. Who G. O. H. ? 7. Then, f H." opposes t course) not t cut, includi wit, two othe life (one of t ters)—but, a town circuit of Alas, Alas fo See the tempta wise would ha 1846 boast, at BENE. 8. No. Wh anything that what it is. Cl trusive, has e but only bea somey loud Here is the Ch with her prese she numbers u nphant, than together with What I offer in the severa corresponden rated from all our boast, sho tiori, as the b interpreted, of gestion No. 1. In conclusio wrong to let t the biography taches to the p ministerial orig of the one Boo ledge of facts, out Methodism nacy among th for nearly for my sympathy thing? I ask of yo calmly look at and regard the Grateful for I am, yo CHARLOTTE Jan'y. 25. NEW Amherst is A house at Monday last. Skating Car Province of N. The Spring 89,000 profit la An agricultu at Oxford. An Antigou burned. The contract at L'Ardoise h Two of our A. S. DesBris been made com The Oxford received during 10,000 yards of Mr. H. M. D. jured at the O ping down thi Two person on Saturday at had a leg brok Some of the starting an agi franchise. A man name ferry boats run Dartmouth, wh