

others good, is the principle of our Order, and should be the spring of action of her sons; the preservation and redemption of our fellow beings from a habit that overwhelms them with ruin in every form and in every relation, is the disinterested and holy object she sets before him.

This it is that rises high above all the other principles, all the other objects of the Order; not indeed, in antagonistic contrast, but rather in harmonious union—leading, from its superior power and grace, brightness and energy to all the rest; while they reflect back from their united influences added strength to this, the foundation stone of the edifice; like some towering oak that spreads wide its sheltering boughs and clothes in richest foliage, stands acknowledged the most glorious ornament of the field, while the shrub that flowers by its side, and the sweet violet that enameles the turf around its root, and sheds fragrance through the air, derive beauty from the protecting shade, and in return give a richer splendour to its sylvan glories.

(To be Continued.)

STANDING REGULATIONS.

Correspondents must send their communications written in a legible hand, and, unless they contain the names of new subscribers, or remittances, free of postage; and entrust us in confidence, with their proper names and addresses. The Editor holds not himself responsible for the opinions of correspondents—claims the privilege of modifying or rejecting articles offered for publication—and cannot pledge himself to return those not inserted. Communications on business, and those intended for publication, when contained in the same letter, should, if practicable, be written on different parts of the sheet, so that they may be separated when they reach us. Communications and exchanges should be addressed to the Editor, Halifax, N. S. Issues weekly, on Thursday Morning—Terms Ten Shillings per annum, exclusive of postage—half yearly in advance—Single Copies three pence each. The Wesleyan Ministers of the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Districts are our Agents; who will receive orders and make remittances.

THE WESLEYAN.

Halifax, Saturday Morning, July 20, 1850.

SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE.

ENERGETIC is the spirit which is animating the pulse of the world. Activity in every enterprise, which gives promise of success, is the prevailing characteristic of the age. Never was the human mind more busy—never was human effort more severely taxed—never was determination to advance in the onward career of ulterior and profitable attainment more manifested—than now. To whatever portion of the earth we direct attention, or on whatever class of the world's teeming population we bestow our thought, the spirit of enterprise is exhibiting itself in a greater or less degree. This spirit may for a season in some localities lie comparatively dormant—but one earnest, stirring mind can evoke it, and infuse its own promptings into the general mass. Under its influence, like the ice of winter acted upon by the warm rays of advancing summer, the frigid disposition of indifference melts, and ere long a deep, rapid current of vigorous exertion is seen speeding through the land. Mighty intellects, active spirits, are at work at the present day, devising, maturing, and propelling schemes, which, in various ways, tend to better the circumstances of individuals, of particular communities, and of the wide world at large. When guided by wisdom, and prudence, and due moderation, and when exerted in reliance on the blessing of the Supreme, governing Power, such manifestations of mind must be beneficial in their results to the vast brotherhood of mankind. In this enumeration, we include subjects of moral and religious, as well as of temporal, advancement. Educational Efforts, Temperance Associations, Peace Societies, Sabbath Alliances, Sanctuary Services, and Missionary Operations, may be cited as instances of the former: Agricultural, Commercial, Mineral, Steam-navigation, Rail-way, and the various mechanical or handicraft operations, as illustrations of the latter. The live of the world is busy, full of active, working men. Drones there may be—but they are few, and

too insignificant and powerless to retard the progressive course of improvement. They must imbibe the spirit of the times, or be thrust aside—they must catch the inspirations of the age, or be driven into the solitary haunts of abject laziness, and be content to saunter through life in inglorious indolence, the objects neither of love nor of admiration, unhonoured in life, unregretted at death. Whilst the men of the world are vigorously employed in their several avocations, Christian Ministers, and other official, and the lay, members of the Church will carry the propelling spirit of enterprise and activity into their varied efforts; and thus, in doing good in the highest sense, and on the largest scale, keep abreast of the age, and, in self-denying toil, in necessary sacrifices, place themselves far in advance of those who are actuated by inferior motives, and aiming at less dignified ends.

Methodist Literature.

The history of our literature is co-extensive with our existence as a people. Mr. Wesley was a profound scholar, and a man of vast reading. He was fully awake to the importance of a sanctified literature to the edification of the Church in knowledge and holiness. No man knew better than he did the value of good books, and no man ever laboured more assiduously and successfully to supply them. Soon after he commenced preaching from experience the doctrine of justification by faith alone, he commenced publishing sermons, tracts, and hymns, designed to exercise a permanent agency upon the vast numbers who had been awakened by a chance sermon, delivered in his flight through the kingdom, and who, but for the aid of the printed page, might soon have relapsed into their former spiritual indifference. This business of furnishing reading matter—helps to thought and helps to devotion—soon became a moiety of the labour in which this truly apostolic man was providentially engaged. The press soon teemed with his productions—from the tract of four small pages to the ponderous quarto;—several ripe scholars of the Established Church, of a similar spirit—particularly John Fletcher, vicar of Madeley—came up nobly to his aid in this department, and it was not long ere what the inflated scholars of the day would have scorned to dignify with the name of literature, was moving the very foundations of society. Mr. Wesley's preaching and discipline did much towards bringing about the mighty change in the religious feelings and character of the last century; but it is our deliberate opinion that his publications did vastly more.

The literature of Methodism, at first, was almost wholly exegetical, experimental, and polemical. The great vital truths of the Reformation had become obscured by formalism on the one hand, and false philosophy on the other; and the accumulated rubbish must be removed by the heavy and oft-repeated blows of the man of gigantic strength, who in the providence of God had been raised up for the purpose, and suited to the work. This work was bravely done. Mr. Wesley's controversial tracts are masterly specimens of logical skill, properly tempered with true self-respect and the most enlarged charity. He was no bigot, no sectarian, nor was he the least of a temporizer. He gave full latitude in matters of indifference, and in matters essential he yielded not a hair's breadth, but wrestled with all forms of error like a giant; and triumphed like a Christian, always endeavouring to save the unhappy victim, while he consigned the error itself to eternal infancy. There is a scope, a completeness, and an effectiveness in Mr. Wesley's controversial tracts absolutely surprising. There is scarcely anything in the whole catalogue of heresies which have cursed the Church and the world, which is not ably refuted, or wholly annihilated, in the works of this great man.

In the great Arminian and Calvinistic controversy, what was wanting in Mr. Wesley, was supplied by the Vicar of Madeley. Fletcher's inimitable Checks are, in some respects, *au géneris*. If they are inferior in profound reasoning and logical acumen to the controversial Tracts of Wesley, they are wholly unrivalled in their felicity of illustration, and the luxuriance of their imagery. He is the only polemical writer that gives the life and charm of poetry to theological controversy; nor is the true Christian spirit less remarkable in the polemical writings of Mr. Fletcher. This author's Checks to Antinomianism, and his Appeal to Matter-of-fact and Common Sense, as monuments of genius, will be durable as the world, and, as models of Christian controversy, will never cease to be admired by all men of sound learning and correct taste.

In morals and reforms how far was Mr. Wesley before his age! Our modern reformers—

real reformers, not ultraists—need do little more than make a draught upon the founder of Methodism, to furnish themselves with the most potent weapons. Where are Tracts to be found more pertinent and convincing, on drunkenness and the liquor traffic, on Sabbath-breaking, on licentiousness, on gambling, on profanity, on slavery, on lying, on smuggling, &c., &c., than those written and published by Mr. Wesley?

In producing works on didactic, practical, and pastoral theology, the fathers of Methodism were exceedingly industrious. In these departments little was left to be desired by a young, vigorous, and widely extended and influential community. Indeed, little has been added in these departments, which must not be regarded as the mere echo of our fathers, beyond the mere record of facts and experiences which have transpired during the lapse of the period which has followed their exit and their triumph.—*N. Y. Christian Adv. and Journal.*

Beating the Seed, or Bread upon the Waters.

Two Swedish vessels have lately cleared from New York, in which there is reason to believe several persons—not only officers and men, but some returning home as passengers—have been “renewed in the spirit of their mind,” and have fully purposed to declare, wherever they go,—the power of spiritual religion—the fruit of personal experimental faith in Christ. One man in particular, who goes home as a passenger, does it because he could not rest until he could make known unto his kinsmen and brethren “how great things the Lord has done for him.” He is the man to whose case a reference is had in the July number of the Advocate, showing the “fruit” of faith, by sending home confessions to his mother, and fifty dollars in money, as a token of his having come to his right mind.—*Id.*

The Free Church and the Clergy Reserves.

At the meeting of the Synod of the Presbyterian Free Church of Canada, held a few days ago, the following “deliverance” was made on the question of the Clergy Reserves and Rectories; “The Synod, taking into consideration the manifold evils, both religious and social, which have resulted from the Clergy Reserve system in the Province—the glaring injustice, as well as impolicy, of an attempt to set up an exclusive ecclesiastical establishment, by means of patented and endowed rectories—as also the iniquitous manner in which the rectories were constituted, without the knowledge and against the mind of the Province at large—resolve to memorialize the Government and the Legislature of Canada, to the effect that they will be pleased to adopt immediate measures for the appropriation of the lands at present held as Clergy Reserves and Rectorial Endowments, to the purposes of education. The Synod would also desire, that in meeting such appropriation, academies, as well as common schools, may be included, and that in both, the Word of God shall be distinctly recognised as the basis, and as the guardian of education. The Synod further recommended that similar memorials, or petitions, shall be presented by all the congregations under their charge; and they appoint a committee to draft said memorial, to present it to the Executive and Legislature, and to co-operate with other bodies in watching the progress of any measures that may be devised for the successful prosecution of the great object of such memorial, and to report to next meeting of Synod.”

Education.

Religious men, enlightened by the Gospel, are not apt to oppose the education of the people; the relations between true religion, freedom and the spiritual good of men, and the cause of education, are too vital to leave room for doubt or indifference in the minds of such.—*N. Y. Evangelist.*

Death of Sir Robert Peel.

The greatest Statesman of this country made his last, and not least noble effort, in Parliament on Friday evening. Could his auditors have foreseen that those were his latest public accents, the calm moderation of his sentiments, and the wisdom of his political advice, would have still more deeply fixed their attention. Sir Robert Peel delivered his last Parliamentary speech that night: the next day occurred what is called commonly—but most improperly called—the accident which was at once expected to be fatal; and within three days he had ceased to exist. He expired at nine minutes past eleven last evening.

The *Times* remarks—“But that the thought suggests a murmur at Omnipotence, one might call it a waste of precious power, a mighty soul lost to the world by the merest trifle,—by the silly panic or momentary impatience of a brute.” The thought is a natural one, but the events of coming years may show, what we have no shadow of doubt is the fact, that this melancholy event was exactly timed at the best moment for the deceased statesman, and for his country—since much addition from the future: for four years he had comparatively retired from public life, as if he felt that his most important work was done. The accident was a most distressing one, but his mind was generally unclouded, and the physical suffering was alleviated by the presence of friendship, and, before the scene closed, by the last solemn and eminently, in Sir Robert's case, appropriate, consolations of religion. Not till after this did the sinking come on which in a few hours terminated the great Statesman's earthly career. Such a death is not to be classed with that of Perceval or Castlereagh. Its lesson is more solemn than terrible.

Rising from the people, Sir Robert Peel was determined to remain to the last in the Commons' House; no dignity or title could tempt him to leave that mighty senate of the People, where his influence, ever great, was often mightiest. Of his political acts this is not the time to speak. A people mourning as if for the loss of one of its great chiefs attests his worth; and the voice of blame is mute in the presence of affliction. History will in a brief time assert her rights, for to her he now belongs, and, in narrating the great civil changes which have come over the face of the land during the thirty-five years that have elapsed since Wellington, the constant friend of the deceased, closed his grand series of military triumphs, the name, amidst all those great civil alterations, which have affected Religion, Jurisprudence, the Franchise, Finance, and Property,—the name most eminent, and, therefore, to be chronicled with highest praise or heaviest censure, will be that of Sir Robert Peel. Biography will record the Statesman's private virtues, his unblemished morality, his munificent patronage of all that was of practical worth, or of eminence in art; the power with which he was attached to himself and retained the affection of his tenants; the friendship of such men as the Duke of Wellington, and the respect of his political rivals; and also, as we believe we have a right to add, his respect for religion, and unaffected personal piety. Of such a man, Britain has a right to be proud; and over his sudden, but, as we think, not untimely end, all parties—party feeling for the while forgotten—unite in mourning.—*London Watchman, July 3.*

A WORD TO OUR AGENTS AND FRIENDS.

The success of the *Wesleyan* for the past year must be highly gratifying to all who have wished well to our cause, and have been desirous of the permanent establishment of an organ of communication with our widely scattered societies and congregations. For the patronage already extended to us we are sincerely thankful, and we hope that, on consideration of all circumstances, none will regret the encouragement afforded. Continued effort will be made on our part to sustain the character of our publication, and increase its interest. From the experience of the past, we think we have gained something for the future. The toil, and care, and expense, are incessant; corresponding efforts by our friends to sustain the undertaking are requisite. A greatly enlarged subscription list is desirable. By some pains-taking on the part of those interested in the continued prosperity of our Journal, we are persuaded this object may be secured. The *Wesleyan* should find its way into the greater part of Methodist families, as well as into some of other denominations. Some of our brethren are picking up new subscribers, and they have our thanks.—Every addition to our list tells on the present and future advantage of our paper. Subscribers, who approve of the management of the *Wesleyan*, may render us essential service by recommending it to others. Our terms may be seen under the heading of “STANDING REGULATIONS.” We need scarcely say, that, a large, paying list of subscribers is necessary to sustain our paper at the exceedingly low terms at which it is published. We anticipate a prosperous year, and it remains with our friends, whether in a financial point of view, our expectations shall be realized or not.

RAILWAY DELEGATES.

A Railway Convention is to be held on the 21st inst., at Portland, Maine, U. S., to propose and decide on measures for the establishment of

a line of railway to pass through New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to connect the United States with Halifax. This is decidedly the most important movement of the day, affording reasonable grounds to anticipate a favourable and successful issue. We give the scheme our hearty approval and recommendation. Delegates have been appointed to represent the various interests of this Province. The appointments, as far as we can learn, are as follows:—

By Windsor, —J. D. Fraser, Esq.
By Committee of the Halifax and Quebec Railway, —Hon. Attorney General, Hon. J. Fairbanks.
By Halifax City Council, —His Worship the Mayor.

By Cumberland, —Robert B. Dickie, Esq.

PROSPECT OF AN HOSPITAL.

We learn that at a City Council Meeting held on Tuesday last, a report of a Committee adopted which recommended the erection of a Hospital on the road leading to the North West Arm. The cost to be about £1,500. The measure it appears has granted towards this sum £600, which can be drawn, when the act has been provided for. A Committee appointed by the Council to obtain plans, specifications, &c. That a public hospital, in near this sea-board City has been a desideratum, is matter of general acknowledgment. Now hope that this great want will be speedily supplied. The poor and the stranger, I claim on public sympathy and care.

The Coach fare on the whole route between H. and Annapolis, and proportionally for intermediate points has been greatly reduced. This is good news for us. Whether the thing will pay is a question which we may not intermeddle.

Dr. Payne it is said, retired from the Presidency of the College. A strenuous effort is now being made to reduce £2,000 towards reducing the debt on the College. We wish success to the undertaking.

Our old friend, and staunch advocate of Temperance, JAMES MARSHALL, has returned to Nova Scotia, after a considerable absence in the Mother Country. He will meet with a hearty welcome.

The Adelaide, Capt. Donah, sailed on Tuesday for California. We wish the adventurous Master a swift and safe voyage, and as much of the good as will be for their good.

As an illustration of the speedy travelling, which demands modes of conveyance afford, we may mention that J. Robinson of the 44th, accomplished the distance from Halifax to St. John, New Brunswick, via Miramichi, Liverpool, G. B., Halifax, and Windsor, in 10 days of actual travelling!

THE SACRED ACADEMY.—The next Term commences on Thursday the 8th August.

Obituary Notice.

Died at Bridgetown, June 21st, aged 19, Mary, daughter of Mr. Enoch Duggan, who had lived, as most young persons live, in the world, notwithstanding she had been the subject of religious training and at times very serious. She had neglected the attainment of the one thing needful until disease of the nervous kind laid hold upon her, and death near: then she began to awake from her sleep, and became fully alive to her lost soul. She sought the Lord in great earnestness, could not rest until she had a most precious sense of sins forgiven. She enjoyed this blessing but one short day before her departure. She sweetly fell asleep in Jesus, leaving a sorrowful family to mourn the loss of one whose amiable temper and conduct had greatly endeared herself to them. A. McE.

Summary of News.

BY THE R. M. STEAMER.

On Thursday forenoon the R. M. S. *America*, Capt. Shannon, arrived at Halifax. She was detained at the mouth of the river during the preceding night owing to fog.—We give our usual synopsis of News from

Great Britain.

The unexpected death of Sir Robert Peel was announced. He was thrown from his horse on Saturday evening, the 20th ult., near the spot, on Constitution-hill. Although he died insensible by the fall, Sir Robert's moment retained hold of the bridle: it was entangled in some part of his pet horse being thereby suddenly checked heavily upon Sir Robert, the animal striking the right leg. Baronet betwixt shoulders. He was raised immediately by gentlemen, but was insensible. Sir Robert's Majesty's physician was at