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COLPORTAGE.

During the last year the question of Colportage agency has engaged much attention. Several gentlemen voluntarily offered contributions towards the employment of one or more Colporteurs. In this way a large amount of literature, the valuable literature of our own Church, was put into circulation in localities where it was most needed. To many a settler in remote and sparsely settled districts, it was a great boon to obtain a copy of the *Pilgrim's Progress*, or John Nelson's *Journal*, or the *Biography of John Smith*, and other valuable volumes, the most treasured possessions of the Church, for a few cents each.

To endorse the employment of such an agency, to encourage the friends who by generous contribution have originated this movement, and especially to direct attention to Home Mission fields, the sum of five hundred dollars was set apart by the Conference for the Home Mission Fund, for employing Colporteurs—who shall distribute suitable books in destitute localities, and render service in Home Mission work generally.

The carrying out of this object was entrusted to the Conference Executive Book Committee. To give effect to Conference action, the following resolutions were passed, in a meeting of the Committee held on the 6th July.

1. That a Colporteur be employed in each of the Conferences of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and P. E. Island, and that special arrangements be made with Newfoundland.

2. That some of the brethren having intimated their intention to give up their interest upon the proposed Book-Room Bonds, for the benefit of the Colportage Fund, all such amounts, with any other contributions which may be received for the same object, shall be expended for the benefit of the Conference from which they may be received.

3. That a Committee be authorized to act on behalf of the Executive, for the special purpose of carrying out Conference action in regard to the employment of Colporteurs.

4. That Rev. W. H. Hearst, the Rev. Steward, with J. Wesley Smith, Samuel W. Brookfield, C. W. Watson, J. Irving and Martin B. Huestis, Esqrs., are hereby constituted such a Committee.

To those interested in the diffusion of Wesleyan literature through the length and breadth of the land, more especially in Home Mission Districts of the Conference, the above resolutions will constitute both explanation and appeal. The bonds referred to are for amounts paid by several ministers for meeting in past times the liabilities of the Book Concern. The proposal has been made by several brethren voluntarily to transfer these amounts to the benefit of the Colportage Fund. The Book Steward will be glad at once to receive the names of others, who, for the accomplishment of a great work, are prepared to make the same generous offer.

The members of our Church who by their liberality have prompted this movement, will, we hope, continue to aid its important operations. Contributions will be gratefully acknowledged by the Book Steward.

J. LATHERN, Sec'y.

Provincial Wesleyan. MONDAY JULY 13, 1874.

THE LATE CONFERENCE.

Our Reporter has, considering the time at his disposal, given a spirited and comprehensive view of the ordinary proceedings at our recent memorable Conference. Next week we will furnish his concluding paragraphs. It was the fitting termination of an existence extending over nineteen years, and embracing many remarkable events and characters for so brief a duration. Altogether, the Conference of Eastern British America had a great history. The men who founded and shaped its constitution; the delegates from the Parent Body who gave it a distinguished name and potent influence; the elements of which it was composed, comprising orators, debaters and financiers, second to none in the British Provinces; its seasons of decline; its periods of rejoicing; all deserve, which we sincerely hope they may obtain, such a record by some skilled literary genius as shall serve to glorify Christ's Head and cheer the Church in future generations.

We were on the summit of success when a dissolution was effected. Could it have been foreseen that our condition would present just such phases as those which filled us all with wonder and happiness, it is quite probable that the question of union would have met with a serious check from its leave well-nigh-announced opponents. But the destiny is fixed. In a year of unexampled prosperity, our converts counted by thousands; our Home Mission Treasury overflowing, notwithstanding some sixty claimants had been added to its lists in four years; upwards of thirty candidates received into the ministry, while vacancies presented themselves demanding as many more at the least; the property of our Church increased greatly in value; salaries well sustained, and the pulse of our people everywhere beating high—with these advantages, and at this stage, we have entered a union with our neighbours in the West. Thank God, we bring to them no decaying church—no beggary elements.

To what cause shall we ascribe the marked ability which characterized several debates, during the recent session? Excit-

ing influences were at work, it is true; men rose to some sense of their own dignity, and the greatness of the occasion to which they were lending themselves, as the General Conference came well in view. Hence, all motions directed toward union were intensely interesting and well calculated to arouse every dormant faculty. But observers witnessed more than excitement. Faces were flushed with the earnestness of debate; not unfrequently from five to eight claimants for the right of speech were on their feet at once; and the effect of a division was sure to call out fervent applause from one or other of the interested parties. All this there was, as one might have anticipated. But there was also most signal displays of talent—that kind of talent which commands the respect and admiration of thoughtful and impressive witnesses. Several young men particularly distinguished themselves this year. With the wise, gifted fathers we were all acquainted; to a few more youthful we have received an introduction such as will incline us to look to their future career for the fulfilment of bright promise.

It was cheering to observe that amid much sadness in separating our numbers—an emotion which found utterance in many ways and in connection with different subjects—all proper ambition was cherished in regard to a brotherly rivalry between the future Conferences, which will doubtless result in great good.

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OUR DELEGATES FROM THE UNITED STATES.—Rev. Dr. Clark of Boston, and Rev. Mr. Elliott of Philadelphia, were this year, by appointment of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the Northern States, our honourable visitors. Their appearance and address were all that could have been expected, considering the authority with which they were invested and the Body from which they came. Dr. Clark has kindly promised us the manuscript of his sermon, delivered in Charlotte, N.C. Wesleyan Church on the morning of Conference Sunday.

Our readers will be prepared for a masterly piece of argumentation in favour of Christianity and in opposition to some of the prevailing errors of ancient and modern times. Next week we will publish an imperfect digest of his charge to the candidates for ordination.

Mr. Elliott is a man of very different type from Dr. Clark, but undoubtedly in his own sphere, an able and influential speaker.

A FUGITIVE RETURNED.—We publish on the first page, our Conference Reporters first letter from Charlotte, N.C. Our readers will scarcely receive it with favour when we assert that its movements have been, for a ministerial messenger, anything but reputable. It left its Island destination weeks ago, but seems to have fallen into evil ways very soon. In fact it has been aping the habits of aristocracy, wandering in an unseemly and reckless manner on the continent, doubtless hobnobbing with fast companions at fashionable watering-places and returning with debts of dissipation, and burdened with debt. We have restored it once more to a respectable, presentable dress, paid its debts and "set it up!" We may assume that it is at length really sincere in its repentance, and its venality may be relied upon. Our readers will bid it welcome!

ADDRESS.—The Rev. Joseph Seller, A. M. and Mrs. Seller, on the eve of their departure from New Brunswick, have been presented with a most flattering address by the devoted friends to whom our Brother has been ministering for three years. Mr. Seller replied in suitable language. Our beloved Joseph has, like many of his ministerial Brethren, received this year the cost of many a costly journey, the pledge of sincere and special regard. May the Divine Father still afford His rich blessings to the Church; and shall His ministers be ever held in highest favour! Rev. G. W. Fisher, "Shepherd of Salisbury Plains" has been presented also with an address, expressive of great esteem and love by his people.

THE PASTORAL ADDRESS, on our first page, should be read this year in the Churches, not merely as a duty, but also for the advantage of its timely and important truths. It very ably sets forth our present transition as a Church, and our many obligations to God for His mercies.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Provincial Wesleyan:

CHURCH DEDICATION.

MR. EDITOR:—According to announcement the Wesleyan church, at Stanley, York County was dedicated to the service of God on Sunday the 14th inst. This Church, the foundation of which was laid about nineteen months ago is situated in a beautiful and commanding position fronting the village of Stanley, and is a well built structure 27 ft. x 40 ft. and 16 ft. ceiling. The windows are in the Gothic style and are so arranged that the house can be ventilated without exposing the congregation to the dangers of draughts. It has three rows of pews with two aisles. The woodwork of the interior is painted and grained in walnut and oak, and presents a fine appearance.

The Church cost upwards of one thousand dollars, yet the building committee presented it to the Conference on the day of dedication, with the satisfactory announcement that the pews were all free and there remained a debt of only one hundred dollars on the building. This debt was reduced to fifty dollars by the collections at the morning and evening services.

When we reflect that at the time the building of this Church was first projected it might almost have been said that there were no Methodists in Stanley, too much praise cannot be accorded to the Rev. Jos. Seller, who may justly claim the credit of being the originator of the movement, and to the committee who have displayed so much energy—so much genuine "push" in the matter.

There were on the platform at the opening service at 11 o'clock a. m. the Rev. L. Gaetz of Fredericton, the Rev. Mr. Truan

Episcopal Methodist and the Rev. Joseph Seller superintendent of the Circuit. The house was well filled a considerable number having driven from the New Brunswick to attend the service. The dedicatory sermon was preached by our esteemed friend Rev. L. Gaetz, who has taken a warm interest in the building and kindly rendered every assistance in his power to forward the good work. His text was 1 Kings vi. 19 latter clause. To set there the ark of the covenant was the Lord.

Those who have heard Mr. Gaetz need not be informed that with such a subject the congregation enjoyed an intellectual feast which they seldom enjoyed. At three o'clock p. m. a social meeting was held conducted by the Rev. Mr. Truan. Quite a number participated in the service.

At six o'clock p. m. Mr. Gaetz preached from Ezekiel 47 chap. 9 verse (latter clause) "and every thing shall live whither the stream cometh" which was the subject of a discourse of great depth and power. The house was again comfortably filled, notwithstanding a heavy shower of rain which came on about the hour of service. At the close three persons were received into Church membership, one of whom was baptized by Mr. Seller.

All who went from New Brunswick remained during the day, and were well cared for by the people of Stanley with that kind hospitality which is one of their prominent characteristics.

The New Brunswick and Bostonian Circuit of which Stanley is the seat, was well supplied with Churches there having been five completed within the past five years, including one presented to the Conference by Alex. Smith Esq., of Bloomfield.

They are all commodious and comfortable buildings well adapted to the wants of the several congregations.

W. McBRAN.

New Brunswick, June 20th, 1874.

REMEDY FOR INSECTS.

To the Editor of the Provincial Wesleyan:—

"Potato bugs and how to cure them,"—such was the title of your valuable paper of the 6th inst. Bring a stranger I was led to make enquiries concerning the insect that seemed to carry such consternation and dismay into the ranks of the farmers of this Dominion, causing destruction to the crops, and consequent monetary loss to the community. Explanation followed my enquiries, and I very soon saw that farmers of the Dominion are not the only sufferers, but that agriculturists in other lands suffer from the same cause, and are led by it to attempt a remedy. During five years residence in New Zealand, and before the great destruction to crops by the bugs and other insects, and watched the various methods employed by different individuals to preserve their crops. Some tried lime, others tried various chemical preparations, but all to no purpose, and at last a remedy was discovered which seemed to meet the difficulty. Kerosene oil is pronounced by men of experience, to be the most successful agent in destroying these insects and preserving their crops; it is used in the following proportion, one part of oil to 12 parts of water, or instead of water, use very turpentine, one part of oil to 8 parts of water. A farmer by adopting this method saved 14 acres of a potato crop, and others saved crops from 10 acres downward, and even in England it has been tried, one farmer to whom I introduced it, saved his crop, and the insects are suffering severely from the ravages of these insects, the result being that after 4 times watering the garden, (with an ordinary water pot, and using the oil and water in proportions as above) the plants began to revive, and were not troubled with the insects any more. Hoping the few remarks may be of use to the public generally, I remain,

Yours truly,

W. G. LANE.

Brunswick Street, July 7th, 1874.

NOTE.—Paraffine and other mineral oils I understand will answer the same end.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.

THIRD DAY.—(CONTINUED.)

DELEGATES FROM E. B. GENERAL CONFERENCE.

At 10½ the Conference was again interrupted by the arrival of delegates from the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States, the Rev. Drs. Clarke and Elliott. They were conducted to the platform, and introduced to the delegates by the Rev. H. Pope, 2nd, who was our delegate to the last General American Conference. The visitors were received with every mark of pleasure and respect, and for a time at least, were the objects of an undivided and we may say scrupulous attention. To many of them this was the first destination which had been received from this great sister church, and curiosity was on tip-toe to discover if possible what manner of men these were. We know well that this church holds among its 10,000 ministers, men who had distinguished themselves in the fields of literature, science and theology, stars who shone both in the pulpit and on the platform, and we hoped that some of these had been commissioned to come down to illuminate our darkness. The investigation seemed to be satisfactory. As representatives of the church by which they were sent, Dr. Clarke, who seems to be the head of the delegation, is a man of slight build and scarcely medium height, but appears taller than he really is. He is tall and portly, and has a fine, intelligent nature, which develops latent power, and trains that power so as to clothe strength with beauty. Such a man seemed Dr. Clarke the christian gentleman, the model of the christian minister. Physically, Dr. Elliott—we don't know whether he is tall or not—seemed to be superior to his colleague. The latter is decidedly American in physique, the former essentially English, and there is that genial warmth and earnestness about him, which we are accustomed to think only what might be said of most men. There are few who would not suffer by being placed in a position where they would necessarily be brought into comparison with one who we believe has not many superiors on this continent or the old

of a good old English dition. "My friends, how great learning does it require to make these things plain." It was an illustration of another excellence which we seldom see manifested even in our best pulpits, and was in this respect an admirable lesson to ministers. We refer to his manner of treating scientific questions in the pulpit. While the preacher, evidently, had no objection to the discussion of any of the questions raised by science, he remembered that his business there was the discussion of religious truth, not scientific. Hence there was elaborate setting up of systems or points, or men of straw of any kind, for the sake of the child's play of knocking them down again; no exhaustive disquisition upon the abstruse principles involved in all these questions; but on the contrary, only keen analysis, going like a surgeon's knife to the very core of the diseased, a few masterly strokes laying bare the root of the whole matter—a contrasting of rationalism or ritualism or any other ism with the Christianity of the Gospel—a proving not so much the truthfulness of other schemes, as their uselessness, impressing us most deeply with the fact that this scheme and this only "is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth," and filling our hearts with thankfulness that the lines have fallen to us in pleasant places and that we have so goodly a heritage.

As a pulpit orator Dr. Clarke must stand high. His great range of thought, his power of logical argument, his wealth of illustration—his genius of quickening thought, of moving the feelings, of delighting the fancy, and above all, the union from the Holy one which accompanied all those utterances mark him as one who can be no barren or unfruitful in the work of the Lord. Long may he live to adorn the church of his choice, and often may we be permitted to listen to his loving words and wise fatherly counsel.

(Our Reporter had to preach on Sunday afternoon and cannot consequently furnish any reference to the Love Feast and Sunday school addresses in the Wesleyan Church. E.)

DR. ELLIOTT'S SERMON.

In the evening we were favored with a sermon from the junior delegate Dr. Elliott. His text was Neh. 5: 6. "The hosts of heaven worshipped Thee." After a few preliminary remarks upon the tendency and necessity of worship, he followed his text into a disquisition upon the nature and employment of angels. His voice is not so clear as Dr. Clarke's, rendering it more difficult for him to be heard in a large building, but nevertheless he was listened to with deep interest by a congregation considerably larger than that of the morning. The two sermons cannot be contrasted, as they did not belong to the same class. Each, however, had its excellencies. That of the evening speaker was of the graceful and finished of the morning one, but was characterized by bold vigorous thought. Indeed, to our stereotyped views, it might seem in some minor points, to be almost too bold, more speculative than practical. Such for instance, as the idea that angels were possessed of eternalized material bodies; and his exegesis of Dan. 10: 13. "But the sermon was calculated to incite thoughtful inquiry, and an interest in things not clearly revealed; but which are legitimate subjects of investigation. May we be induced to examine these subjects more carefully, and closely, remembering always, as the preacher did, that we cannot know what is absolutely true or false, save as we find that God has placed upon it the stamp of revelation.

FOURTH DAY.—MONDAY.

Conference was opened with the usual devotional exercises.

After the reading of the minutes the questions asked and answered in a general conference were taken up in order. That for this morning's consideration was—"What ministers had died during the year?" This question always awakens deep and solemn feeling in the minds of all. Banded together, as we are by one people, we are reminded of the fact that we are all members of the same body, and that the death of one is the death of one of our own. A paper was read by Rev. E. Brette in reference to him, the substance of which has already appeared in the *Wesleyan*. The letter writers were directed to prepare a letter of condolence to Mrs. Smith and also to other relatives had died during the year.

At 10½ the hour appointed for the reception of addresses and delegates, Conference passed to the order of the day. The address from the British Conference was first taken up. This address, the last yearly one, probably, which we shall receive, was listened to with deep interest as read by the Secretary. It was felt to be a farewell, although there was nothing of the sadness which usually mingles with such greetings. There was rather the joy of the parent who gives the child to God, in always a point of deepest interest to the parent body. The address was filled with kindly greetings and congratulations. It referred to our prosperity and especially to our numerical increase. This as indicating the great work we are doing for God, in always a point of deepest interest to the parent body. The address was filled with kindly greetings and congratulations. It referred to our prosperity and especially to our numerical increase. This as indicating the great work we are doing for God, in always a point of deepest interest to the parent body.

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revivals—and the broad foundation we are laying for our Educational Institutions, and spoke hopefully of that to be secured by union. He paid a graceful and eloquent tribute to the ability with which our representative to his Conference, Rev. H. Pope, discharged the duties of his mission. As Mr. Pope had at that time spoke of being deeply indebted to the Americans on account of his father having gone thither, in his younger days and carried off one of its fair daughters, he (Dr. C.) hoped that our Conference would always pay the interest on this debt as they had done in this case, and he felt assured that his Church, at least, would consider the debt as good property well invested. He endorsed the wish that had been expressed for the continuance of peace, and referred in language which thrilled every heart and called forth repeated bursts of applause, to the noble advance, "the advance of this century" which these two great nations had made in calling in to settle their own disputes, "the Angel of Arbitration" instead of the "Demon of War." He spoke of their policy, like our own, not being of the Made and Persia type. They had introduced the lay element into the General Conference, and trusted that it would be a means of cementing together more firmly the different interests of Methodism. Their wonderful prosperity came in for an extended notice. Their membership of nearly 2,000,000, their 10,000 ordained ministers, and 12,000 local preachers—these augmented by 54,000 members, 878 ministers, and 410 local preachers yearly, besides an increase of Churches, averaging about 1½ per cent per annum, not being of the Made and Persia type. They had introduced the lay element into the General Conference, and trusted that it would be a means of cementing together more firmly the different interests of Methodism. Their wonderful prosperity came in for an extended notice. Their membership of nearly 2,000,000, their 10,000 ordained ministers, and 12,000 local preachers—these augmented by 54,000 members, 878 ministers, and 410 local preachers yearly, besides an increase of Churches, averaging about 1½ per cent per annum, not being of the Made and Persia type.

He referred to their two great publishing establishments, and to the great work which they were doing. Their Educational facilities were passed in review. They have, we were told, 27 Colleges, 69 Academies, 3 Theological Institutes in the United States, 1 in Germany, and 1 in India. Boston University, one of these latest enterprises, was fast pressing itself into the first rank among Educational Institutions. He spoke of the great work being done in instructing and elevating the colored race in the South, and of their missionary efforts in general. For this purpose \$840,000 were raised annually by the Church, but this was the one fact of which he was ashamed. It did not compare at all favourably with the amounts, calculated by British or Canadian Methodists. He referred briefly to other facts connected with their standing and progress, but would not go into details, for he feared that he had already wearied his audience by the recital of this dull dry figures— "But," said he, with a grand sweep of his hand, "I can and do assure you, Mr. President, that these dry bones live. They have come together, bone to his bone; they are covered with tendons and sinews; there beats beneath them a mighty throbbing heart, and there is power over them and through them the full life blood of a dewy youth." (Great applause.)

Time and space would both fail to give even a serviceable outline of this very eloquent and powerful address. He spoke of the great work committed to them of grasping the truth, and then, with a grand sweep of his hand, "I can and do assure you, Mr. President, that these dry bones live. They have come together, bone to his bone; they are covered with tendons and sinews; there beats beneath them a mighty throbbing heart, and there is power over them and through them the full life blood of a dewy youth." (Great applause.)

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