

the bright fields of heaven; a communion with the saints of light.

What is truth? It is that principle which emanates from the throne of the Deity; the great champion of the rights of man.

What is happiness? An unseen thing; a golden dream of pleasure; the Christian's great desiderium.

What is death? A sleep; a rest from earth's toils and cares; a separation of the soul from the frailty of clay.

What is immortality? An undying name; an everlasting home for the redeemed sons of light.

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

Wesleyan Missions.

Extracts from the Thirty-Second Annual Report of the W. M. M. Society of the Nova Scotia District; now in the Press and soon to be issued.

[We commend the following extracts to the serious and prayerful attention of our readers, and hope the stirring appeals will produce the desired effect.]—Ed. W.

Missions to the heathen, and to countries but partially blessed by the religion of Christ, appear to the majority of His professed subjects to be indispensable to the conversion and ultimate happiness of the entire race. Wherever they have been established, and suitably sustained, there, by a changeless Gospel, they have accomplished delightful revolutions in the civil and social systems of the people they were intended to benefit; and if multiplied and properly supported by the older Churches, they will, doubtless, continue to transform barbarous nations into haunts of zeal and piety, and give, by their reflex influence, (as heretofore) a mighty impetus to the religious institutions of lands professedly Christian.

As the universal establishment and maintenance of Missions is regarded as necessary by those on whom the duty devolves—as the conviction of their utility burns at present in every pious mind, as God has supplied the means necessary to dispend the Kingdom of his Son—as He has given us His word in various languages—and men, adapted to the genius of the enterprise and polished in the schools of science to carry it forth—as His Spirit, whose influences are necessary to success, is waiting to enkindle in the breasts of idolaters the extinguished flame of love to the blessed and only Potentate—we again call upon the friends of Wesleyan Missions in this District to help the Church by their prayers and example against her avowed opponents, and her Divine founder by their influence and property against the errors of the times.

The Committee believe that the Gospel has never yet had upon a large scale the opportunity of demonstrating its elevating and transforming tendencies, and they now mourn over the spirit of warfare and anarchy which seems to pervade the entire family of nations—over the almost incredible waste of property, intellect and life, occasioned by the drinking usages of society—over the prevalence of idolatry, infidelity, and various errors, endowed, and otherwise fostered, by the time-serving expediency of civil governments—as well as over the disunion and sluggishness of a Church called on by God and her martyrs' blood to battle and victory. Yet, while they rejoice in the good done by Peace—Temperance—Evangelical Alliance—and other Societies, they declare their belief that the Gospel of Christ, as the ordination of Heaven, has the power to raise their fellow men to the Divine favour, and to change the dispositions and practices of whole nations—that all instrumentalities merely human, because based on other principles, and unhelped by those of the Gospel, will deplorably fail to effect extensive changes for good in the cast of society in general, or to benefit permanently even those who now uphold them—and that the name by which our world is known and designated in the dialect of Heaven can never be blotted from the rent roll of the arch apostate but by "the glorious Gospel of the blessed God," which is the antagonist of Satan, and which shall ultimately effect his downfall.

The Committee therefore take this opportunity of declaring their entire confidence in the Gospel, and their unswerving attach-

ment to its great principles—they regard it as the only remedy for the world's woes, and as the only instrument by which its inhabitants can be levered up to their former happy position. And while they offer their support to subordinate agencies, they dissent decidedly from the opinion which in this day appears to be gaining currency in different parts of the earth, that the Gospel scheme is discarded by God, and is to be regarded by man as an almost obsolete institution. The Committee's conviction of its efficiency to accomplish all the purposes for which it was given is strengthened by the memory of its past achievements. Nowhere did the legions equipped and sent forth from the banks of the Tiber gain victories so glorious as those won by the fishermen of Gennesareth in the early days of our dispensation. The dominion of Caesar suffered almost daily abridgment, while that of the despised Nazarene rapidly spread, fixing in the breasts of its foes incontestable evidence of its divine character, and potency. The nations, from India on the east, to Britain on the west, submitted to its laws,—Christian Churches were formed on the shores of China, and some of their members traversed the continent of India, while others took up their abode on the Islands of its Archipelago, lifting their testimony against the idolatry and crimes of their inhabitants—the Gospel flourished upon the ruins of the Babylonian and Medo-Persian Monarchies—spread to the deserts of the sons of Ishmael, and over Asia Minor, dispelling the superstitions and restraining the licentiousness of their wandering tribes—it built its Churches amid the mouldering temples of Egyptian mythology—contorted the philosophy of Greece—triumphed over the idols of Rome—and then spread northward, taking their original savageness from barbarous hordes, and enlightening those who sat in darkness and the shadow of death. In later times its victories have been extensive and glorious—it has showed its adaptation to the wants of man in every climate—while Methodism, as one abstract of the Christian religion, has taken the precedence of some of the older bodies, and is now sending to heaven a revenue of souls amounting to thousands per annum.

It is true that the Gospel, which once spread over so many lands, and received the homage of such powerful nations, has receded from its ancient limits—leaving portions of the space it once occupied to be covered again with disgusting heathenism under the name of Christianity. The earlier Churches, with the lapse of years, ceased to be Missionary. A love of ease spread its malign influence among their members—the bishops became worldly and sensual, even to a proverb—and while the Churches fell by calm and deliberate concessions into the manners and maxims of the world—the sturdy idolaters of the north elevated to the supreme throne of Christendom a pastor of Rome, whose decretals were subsequently regarded as more authoritative than the announcements of God's revelation. But believing that the Eternal will still honour a simple and entire reliance on the innate and omnipotent power of His own truth—vindicting its divine origin and exhibiting to friends and foes its legitimate results, when unimpaired by the intermixtures of human inventions—we, while thankful for past approval and support, still bespeak the countenance and co-operation of the subscribers in this noble enterprise. Never in the opinion of the Committee was there a time when Missionary effort was more necessary or more deserving of pecuniary assistance. Society in all countries is in a transition state—all are prepared to receive, yea, are asking for a something which may contribute to their advantage—the throes and fetters of man everywhere show an inward restlessness, and a dissatisfaction with present possessions—the revolutions which are now being effected in existing empires, either in a noiseless or turbulent manner, mark this as the time when the Church through her different Societies should offer to man, who, the world over, is alternating between idolatry and a nominal Christianity, a vital Godliness, which only can satisfy his thirst for happiness, and transform him into a gracious ruler or an obedient subject.

That the Gospel may be effectual to the pulling down of the strong holds of sin wherever preached, the Committee urge upon the subscribers the duty of earnest prayer to Al-

mighty God for the descent of the Holy Spirit—and the necessity of maintaining in their social sphere that purity and consistency of character which will elevate the tone of society to a higher pitch than it has yet attained in these provinces.—By each becoming a fresh centre, an influence for good will be created, which will stream forth with certain effect to the outermost limits of the social circle. A Church composed of such members would project a power which would soon reach to the ends of the earth. And why should not the Wesleyans of this District, standing as they do among the first fruits of our Missionaries' labours, become its germ and nucleus? The balance of influence, both natural and moral, is much more nicely adjusted in this world than is generally supposed. The addition of a single ounce to the one might change the motion of the entire system—and a high toned and generous piety generally diffused through this District might spread on to the limits of Methodism, and thence to other Christian bodies, blending into one harmonious union the present jarring and selfish contrarieties of a divided church. Such an ascending movement as we desire to see must have a beginning some time, and a starting point somewhere,—and though the Province may have been visited in judgment, and the people therefore may be unable to present sums so large as those given from their surplus possessions by Christians of other lands, yet, it is, we conceive, the principle of sacrifice in which God delights, and if with such an offering our friends would but lay upon the altar a whole life conformed to the Saviour's precepts, signs and wonders would certainly follow, and then go on producing their blessed effects to the end of the world. The recent convulsions of Europe may have been felt like the shock of an earthquake over the civilized earth—but they were less violent than they would have been, in all likelihood, had not the powerful religious influence previously granted to the church on this continent reached across the broad Atlantic, kindling into a flame almost indefinite the already expiring zeal of some of the European Christian bodies, while the fervour of devotion, and the pecuniary sacrifices of the British Churches, extended to America, raising to a higher temperature in zeal and liberality the disciples of Jesus in these lands.—There is obviously that in individual or combined action which may retard or prevent the ruin of our fellow men. Ten righteous would have saved the cities of the plain from the threatened destruction, and if the Wesleyans of Nova Scotia will resolve upon increased devotion and liberality in the cause of Christ, then in a few years their influence may be felt even to the extremities of the Methodistical system, and there communicate itself to surrounding Churches, lighting up one orb after another, and giving to all a wider circumference, till the Church universal shall beam with spiritual radiance, and fill all dark places with a blaze of glory.

Progress of the Wes. Missionary Society

Men are living yet, who can remember almost the very birth of Wesleyan Missions,—and, as to the organized Society, there are many now in vigour who rejoiced at its inauguration. Yet to-day, that society is the joyful mother of children dwelling in the ancient continents and new-found isles right round the world. Those men here, in this chapel of Oldham-street, have upon their grateful eyes from the banks of the Gambia, and of the Coleroon; from the heights of the Alps, of Sierra Leone, and of New Zealand; from the forests of Labrador, of Wirtemburg, and of Ashanti; from the isles of the West, the East, and the South. Under their influence the Red Man has laid aside his scalping knife, the Kafir his assegai, and the Polynesian his club; the negro has risen from his chains, the Vedda been enclosed in the pale of civilization, the convict in Australia been reclaimed to society and to God; and changes of deep import wrought on the moral, social, and physical condition of many a distant tribe. Above one hundred thousand souls are in full communion with the church; they have been the means of planting nearly four-score thousand children are taught in schools under their care, and at least half a million of human beings are instructed by their agents in the Word of Life. No one can help feeling that this Society stands, in the eye of God and of man, as one of the high and noble institutions of this British overland, which he spreads His wing with such peculiar tenderness. And the power and wealth, and wisdom of man may all feel well rebuked, when

it is seen that the obscure people called Methodists have already more missionaries spread abroad in the Earth, than the United Church of England and Ireland, with the National Church of Scotland in addition.—Watchman of the 1st inst.

Death of a Wesleyan Missionary's Wife.

Died on the 17th May, at Mysore, in the East Indies, Martha, the beloved wife of the Rev. Daniel Sanderson, Wesleyan Missionary. Her last illness was short and severe; but she was graciously supported by the Saviour whom she had served; and her end was eminently peaceful and happy.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Original Matter is particularly requested for the Paper, such as, Local Intelligence—Biographical Notices of the Introduction, rise, and progress of Methodism in Circuits, Revivals, and remarkable Conversations—Articles on education, temperance, literature, science, and religion—Illustrations of Providence—Sketches of Scriptural characters—interesting anecdotes—descriptions of natural scenery—Papers on any prominent feature of Methodism, &c. &c. Articles, as a general rule, should be short and pithy; no judicious variety in each number is the secret of newspaper popularity and usefulness.

To the Editor of the Wesleyan.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—

Saturday last, August 4th, will be long remembered by many persons in this town. O that the recollection of the events of the day may be salutary in the highest degree. The morning was one of the loveliest, its beauty and brightness invited to cheerful activity and promised bountifulness to all. At a very early hour a report, which, alas! was too well founded, was circulated through the town that a young man, well known to many here, Mr. Hudson, of Tyron, had been drowned on the preceding evening at no great distance from his father's house. Mr. Hudson was in the prime of life. He had been some time in business, and both by his abilities, and application, inspired fond hopes in the bosom of his friends, that his history would be prosperous, and that he would have good success. But in one hour the fair prospect was fatally blighted.

The sadness produced by these tidings was abated a little in some persons, by the interest created by the launching of two fine vessels, which was expected to take place before noon. One of these had been long in building at the foot of the central street. A multitude had collected to witness this innocently gratifying scene. After the usual preparations the ships commenced their expected majestic slide to the elements of their future career, when the bystanders sent up a shout which made the welkin vibrate. The first was also the last, for accidents occurred which hindered the vessels from mounting the water so as to float in it. Scarcely had this disappointment been ascertained in town when it was announced that a beloved youth, much esteemed by those of the Methodist Society who knew him, had just been drowned also, whilst bathing at a short distance from the smaller of the launches.

This young man's name was George Gill, son of parents who have long been ornaments and pillars of the Methodist Society at Little York, on this Circuit. George had resided in Charlotte Town about three years. The promise of piety which he gave in his earliest boyhood, was greatly strengthened about a year ago, when he joined the Church of which his parents were members. From that time he evinced no wavering, but soon proved in the Lord. His sincere deportment proved him decidedly and a member of it. He frequented the early prayer-meeting on Sabbath morning. He had become a teacher in the Sunday School. He had been one of the most punctual and persevering of the Bible Class, and often gratefully referred to his advancement in scriptural knowledge thereby, which evidently produced a good effect on his piety. Had he continued among us, he would probably have become as useful as he was serious, consistent, and fervent. But God's ways are not as our ways, neither doth He give to any as account of his doings.

The funeral of Mr. Gill took place from the residence of his father yesterday. It seemed equally improper to collect the concourse of persons who were in attendance either in the house, or the Chapel adjoining. Arrangements were therefore made to conduct the funeral service in front of Mr. Gill's house, under the grateful shade of a beech and maple which beautify the homestead. So here was brought the corpse, which was stretched out beneath those lovely trees, in the shadow of which George Gill had spent so many hours of his playful infancy, and happy early days. His coffin was surrounded by young men who had been his school fellows—and play-mates—but who were now his bearers to the grave. They were justly and deeply affected. At the head of the bier sat the bereaved parents, who grieved indeed, but their sorrow was greatly mitigated, its character may

be said, to have been changed by that to their departed son, "and sudden glory." Around them a choral silence a great number of both old and young. The funereal bowed the common Liturgical of appropriate hymns—extemporaneous address by the Minister. He endeavoured to show how God dened called the people to repentance. He recommended to us of Christ as described in the N by the preparation for death with and the consolation which survived from the assurance that, of christian, it may be truly said, "into peace; they shall rest in th one walking in his uprightness." May the living, both young ar things to heart, that those whose is made, may on no account de and goodness, and that all oth dueled at once so "to number t apply their hearts unto wisdom."

Let sickness blast, and death If heaven must recompense Perish the grass, and fade th H firm the word of God re

I remain, Your Charlotte Town, P.E.I., August 7, 1849.

THE BRITISH CONI

Transmission of Mr. Wesley's Conference Seal to the Elected Preside

The EX-PRESIDENT, (DR. N) the newly elected President, nea Brother Thomas Jackson,—I hav ed from the chair, that you are President of this Conference. (and Mr. Jackson very cordially, emotion, shook hands with each greeting of the assembled multitu the situation which, by the pro the suffrages of my brethren, I a py, I now, with the most sincer vity, congratulate you on the h nity to which you have attained you from your youth. When I teens, you and your excellent part of my congregation, in a your residence where, from time ed the gospel. I have known from your youth up. In two been colleagues; and never wa thought or feeling towards one travelling together in those circ are fully aware of the onerous which await you; but you will cause you have the confidence brethren, which, if you rightly voice of providence. Cheerel the blessing of God, I earnestly rial year may be a very happy It is with feelings of no ordina sent to you this volume,—(her handed to his Successor Mr. V identical volume which the ve ried in his pocket, and from street-door, under many a tree side, he read out his text. standard of truth, the rule of f of practice. It is also with u not indeed equal pleasure,—n sure, for,—(pointing to the r is above all,—(much emotion yet with sincere pleasure, th the Conference Seal. May th Church pour upon you his bl penses of "Amen." May th your official acts! And may only of great blessing to your prosperity to the Connexion.

The President Elect's Add

The President addressed th subject of his election, from by observing, that he had en expressing the feelings whic place we occupied was the la have sought. He had never cherished a wish, to be plac to empty it by their suffrage vidence, he accepted it, wit honour conferred upon him. duty in the fear of God, to p it pleased God to spare his in the powers he possesseth, to fulfil the trust ep viders. He hoped that he