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Provincial Wesleyan.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1873.

BACKSLIDERS,—KEEP THEM IN VIEW.—Every Church has its long, sad list of weary and faint and wayward members. The land is full of them. Some turning on a pivot—to-day glowing with religious ardor, to-morrow pressing with the crowd down the decline of sin; others bitter in their consciousness of wrong, giving every one else the utmost degree of trouble; and still others reckless, hardened, as if the memory of former professions were something to live down by determined unrighteousness. How do we think of these people? Generally as we do of confirmed drunkards,—as hopeless cases and only to be pitied.

The Methodist Church can well afford to make a special effort for the recovery of this class of sinners. Many of them have attained to joys whose lingering sunshine will be ever beautiful in their estimation. The sermon smites them, the confident hymn fills them with sadness, lives of purity rebuke their own iniquities. The strong probability is, that once back in the Church they would walk more warily,—they would appreciate the treasures long lost but never forgotten. Treat them kindly; deal with them tenderly. "And *upraideth* not," says the Apostle. Conscience will do this effectually. In the winter's campaign, forget not the numbers of backsliders who exist almost everywhere. They are precious as any and may be restored to Christ, fully, directly, joyfully.

FROM THE ALLIANCE TO HEAVEN. An American steamer collided last week with a sailing ship, and was so damaged that she sunk, taking down with her 260 passengers, among whom were two of the Alliance Delegates. And thus God deals with us! The historian of the Peninsular Wars records that on one occasion, when the hosts were weary after a heavy days' fight, a veteran dragoon, looking up to heaven in the pale moonlight, caught the rapture of worship, and began to sing the grand old hymn—"Thanks and Praise to our God." One after another of his comrades caught up the strain, till dying and wounded, resting for a brief triumph on their elbows in pools of blood, joined with the healthful in rolling those noble strains toward heaven. Eight thousand voices, scattered over a fatal battle field, united in the chorus! And thus it ever is. Falling on the right hand and the left,—sinking in the sea and shot down on the land, brave heroes pass homeward; but the survivors are confident in God, and the Church moves right on. "God buries his workmen but carries on his work." Blessed be His name forever!

THE CHILD OF THE 19TH CENTURY.—A most happy sign of these times is the energy displayed in ministering to the rising generation. The ablest minds are engaged in writing for them; a large proportion of our best music is designed for them; systems of religious and secular teaching are contrived for them, which embody all the experience of centuries; homes in the Church—costly structures for Sabbath Schools, and all necessary equipments to render them tasteful, attractive, and delightful,—these our wise Christian peoples are providing on every hand.

To contribute our portion of aid in this direction, we are preparing to give each week, after the new year opens, the International or Berean Lessons. The best talent of the Church is engaged in writing these, and they save Teachers the trouble of preparation to some extent, while they furnish truth in a systematic and intelligible form. Though we did not begin to write with a view to constructing an advertisement, we cannot do better than recommend the Berean Lessons. They are furnished through the Book Room, postage paid, at 6 cents for each number or leaf for the year. And the Journal, designed for Teachers, at 60 cents a year.

PICTORAL PUSH.—This Continent is evidently to have an Oleographic deluge! Papers professing to have tens of thousands of new subscribers in prospect, are threatening to send a picture to each one. The *Christian at Work*, with all the strength of Talmage as Editor, and the regular contributions of Spurgeon, and the exclusive use of Bonar's pen, is yet making a speciality of its pictures. Talmage, Spurgeon and Bonar are not enough! With these two, and three Chromos, surely the inducements are complete. We have an inkling that several of the first shower of premiums which fell on these Provinces, have found their way into solitary hiding places. Why should our love of the beautiful be blighted by the schemes of commerce? And now the *N. Y. Methodist* offers, with its new form and increased price, several premiums,—one of which is *shot-guns* in different patterns! *We* are resolved to lend no countenance to shooting—other than metaphorical!

JOY BELLS.—We clip this hymeneal note from *Zion's Herald*:—

The *Traveller* says: "A brilliant wedding took place in Brooklyn last night, when the Rev. Frederic Woods, of Newtonville, was united in marriage to Miss Anna Alden May, of Boston Highlands, daughter of Wm. B. May, the well-known broker. The wedding was celebrated at the residence of W. W. Hill, jr., Esq., in the presence of a large number of the friends of the parties, among whom were ex Gov. Claflin and other distinguished guests. The wedding presents were numerous, costly and beautiful."

Mr. Wood is a native of St. John's Newfoundland. He obtained his education principally in the United States, and entered the ministry in the New England Conference, where he has remained during several years. He married some years ago an amiable young lady, daughter of our own Rev. W. S. Shenstone. In a short time she followed other members of the same family to the home of pure spirits. May the new relationship be preserved from such a calamity for many a day!

Mr. Wood is a leading Preacher among his Brethren in New England. He has been elected frequently to deliver the Conference sermon, and has always produced a most favorable impression by his scholarly and fervent addresses. He confines himself almost entirely to manuscript, though his rare faculty of seeming to be independent of all extraneous aid, gives him an advantage to which ordinary readers seldom attain.

CHURCH INSTITUTE.—Grafton St. Church is to have an Institute Last Friday evening week a large number of young men assembled in the vestry to give practical effect to a petition previously presented to the pastor, Rev. J. Read, in favor of an organization embracing the features of social, literary and religious intercourse. Most heartily they agreed upon two things—to organize, and to admit all of both sexes belonging to the congregation who might desire the privilege of membership. With the talent which we observed there to an extent that almost surprised us, we may reasonably anticipate for the new organization, a lengthened and lively existence. Those Churches are very wise which provide these homes within themselves for their young people.

EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.—The Halifax Branch has been reorganized. Hon. Dr. Parker has been reappointed President, with Mr. Brown as Vice President. The laborious Mr. Murray of the *Witness*, has been established for another year in the Secretariat, and D. Henry Starr, Esq. is to disburse the funds. The Alliance has a noble mission before it. Already this season it has done much for the Church and community in this city. May it continue to prosper!

The *Montreal Witness* has during the past year increased rapidly in circulation, and is much respected as a conscientious and vigorous newspaper. It is the second paper in the Dominion in point of cheapness. The *Witness* has for many years followed a plan which we do not know to be followed by any other paper, in the regulation immediately over the editorial head of its last week's circulation compared with the same circulation a year before. So far it has been an exceptional day in its history when these figures have indicated retrogression. The *Witness* is coming out this winter in a new dress, and the Weekly is to be to some extent enlarged, making it a remarkably good dollar's worth. The publishers announce that their subscriptions came in during last month 58 per cent more than during the same month last year. Whatever views may be taken of the course of the *Witness* in its treatment of public matters it is certainly without a rival as a family newspaper, and as such we can safely commend it. Its selected articles on social questions and its tales are very well chosen.

Correspondence.

NEWFOUNDLAND LETTER.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—At the date of my last (Oct. 28,) Bro. Jabez Hill, lately from England, was on his way from St. John's to Bonne Bay, nearly 600 miles distant; where a very considerable Wesleyan community was awaiting him, as an ambassador of Christ and messenger of the Church. Particulars of his safe arrival at Port au Basque, nearly 400 miles, onward per steamer, and after some delay, of his having left by sailing packet for his Mission, have reached me; and by this time it is hoped he has entered fully upon his work as our pioneer missionary on our Western coast. Next summer, one or two more men will be needed to complete the chain of missions that ought to be formed there without delay. Meantime much prayer should arise from the thousands of our Israel, that our young brother may be preserved, sustained and comforted in his isolated position, and made the means of the conversion of many souls.

Bro. Joseph Parkins has also since then reported his arrival at St. Pierre, and entered upon his duties there with fair share of promise. Seven or eight *French* Protestants had come from Miquelon to attend the opening Sabbath services, and to invite him to visit them at an early day. The congregations were encouraging and a Sabbath school had been organized.

Two brethren more have reinforced our number of labourers, for whom we are again indebted to Joseph Lawrence, Esq., of East Keswick, Wetherby, England, who since Conference has spared neither time, thought nor means to forward our missions in Newfoundland. It may stimulate others to a life of beneficence to learn that this Christian gentleman with moderate income, has, *at his own expense*, issued a circular to every Superintendent Wesleyan minister in the United Kingdom respecting our need of men; conducted an enormous correspondence; liberally provided grants of books, and in several cases passages per Royal M. S. for missionary candidates, and sent free of charge twenty pounds sterling worth of tracts for circulation, besides newspapers and periodicals for the brethren by every mail. His recent communications lead me to hope for the arrival of another man for Musgrave Harbour, the last on our list with "one to be sent." They inform me also that he has five young men at his Institution undergoing a course of training for our ministry next year. Of the two brethren referred to above, one, Bro. Samuel Snowden, went immediately to Bay of Islands and Tilt Cove, via Exploits; the other brother, George H. Bryant, who is married, but came out as a young man with special recommendations, went to Greens Harbor, by direction of the Chairman of the Carbonear West circuit, accompanied by Bro. C. Ladner, the Superintendent. He was most heartily welcomed by the people, who made the best possible arrangements in their power for the reception of himself and family meantime, and then resolved at once to commence a parsonage, which, through their united and creditable efforts, since succeeded by the liberality of friends in Harbor Grace and St. John's, will be finished by the first of May next, and partially furnished without debt (or nearly,) and secured to the Connexion. Bro. B. has preached with great earnestness and unction in Brigus, Harbor Grace and St. John's, and bids fair to be useful among us. He has been here for some time awaiting the arrival of a "craft" to take his family to his circuit.

From our increased staff of self-denying and devoted laborers, we encourage the hope and cherish the faith of satisfactory results. Help in many ways we might ask from Wesleyans in the sister Provinces; may we not at least depend upon the prayers of those who have power before the mercy seat for a daily remembrance of our network of missions that will soon—we hope and *believe* environ the whole coast of Newfoundland. Is need of laborers an incentive to benevolence? then let our Home Missions be sustained yet more vigorously, for still from many destitute and populous districts the cry reaches us,—Come over and help us.

In this city and circuit we have a good deal of earnest Christian life. Our converts of last year, generally, stand firmly to their obligations; and the gain in church power is vast. If we mistake not the *pulse* of our people, as indicated by their godly desires and efforts, it *beats* well; and leads us to expect yet greater things. A fine corps of tract distributors, chiefly young sisters, carry the silent message of glad tidings for sinners to very many homes of the humble, where their words and looks secure them a cordial welcome; while a noble band of brethren, old as well as young, has been enlisted to co-operate with their ministers in supplying regularly the outports on the Sabbath. At one of the old stations a new church is very nearly completed, which is a model for neatness; at a new one where is a most promising prospect of doing good, a chapel partially completed for some months, is being made comfortable for the winter.

Our new church in St. John's is at length receiving the finishing touches from masons, carpenters and painters; and is a great ornament to the city and a credit to the denomination. (D. V.) It will be opened on Sabbath, December 14, of which an account may be expected hereafter. One sad event has grievously marred the satisfaction attending the completion of this beautiful sanctuary. Mr. Richard Atwell, master builder and superintendent of the work, to whose skill and taste the Trustees are very greatly indebted, died on the 19th of October, from severe spinal injury received on the 16th of October, by a fall from the portico, the scaffolding giving way, when the work was all but done. The deceased, who leaves a widow and two children, was greatly and universally esteemed. A vast concourse of sincere mourners followed his remains to the cemetry. The community for a season seemed appalled. Almost everybody looked as if he had lost a friend. There was good hope in his death, which was duly improved by a sermon by the Superintendent of the circuit, on Sabbath evening, 26th ult. A suitable monument, it is expected, will be determined upon by the Trustees, as the matter is now referred to a committee. In this connection, I may observe, Mr. Christopher Vey, one of the pillars of our Church in former years, a little ago, entered peacefully upon his reward, aged 78 years. His life well deserves a suitable notice in another place.

Once more the great political contest is over. The excitement, deponent saith, was quite up to the wildest *revival* scenes ever witnessed, yet what wise man would question the *sobriety* and *good sense* of the constituency of this respectable city. It is quite assuring to some nevertheless to hear things passed off *quietly*. As the writer knows, ministers do well to say little about about politics, he will only add both Government and Opposition claim great victories, and what the complexion of affairs will be in a month or two is quite uncertain. One thing admits of no doubt. The Wesleyan element has gained immensely, and will it is hoped stand up nobly for *equal rights*. The loss of the "Robert Lowe," S. S. with the captain and sixteen others, on Thursday last, has just thrilled our city with intense emotions. Other great losses of life it is feared may be reported in the heavy gales, with which our coast has been recently visited. May the voice of God be heard in these visitations! G. S. M.

St John's, Nov. 35, 1873.

MOUNT ALLISON INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND.

SACKVILLE, N. B, DEC. 3, 1873.

MY DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Had it not been for the accident by which I was overtaken in Charlottetown, about a month since, I should have sent some earlier report of the progress made in the Agency for this Fund. During the five weeks which followed the publication of my letter respecting it in your issue of the 22nd of September, I was allowed to visit St. John and St. Stephens in New Brunswick; Halifax and Yarmouth in Nova Scotia, and Bedeque, Tryon and Cornwall in Prince Edward Island. The places in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia above named, had been canvassed for subscriptions by members of the Agency Committee the previous year, so that the primary object of my visitation thither, was to give the friends who had previously subscribed, the opportunity of either paying their subscriptions or putting them in such form as would render them immediately productive, and I found almost every one of these friends ready to employ the opportunity so afforded. Something however was accomplished also in the way of obtaining additions to the amount of subscriptions, these additions amount to $3,070. As soon as the canvass can be completed in the different places, I intend to send more particular reports of the subscriptions, both new and old, for publication in the PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN.

I am now so far recovered from the effects of the accident before mentioned, that I hope to immediately resume the work which has been interrupted for a month past. I intend, (D.V.) to go to St. John this afternoon, and after this proceed to Halifax with all convenient speed.

An examination of the subscription lists show that about fifteen thousand Dollars are yet required to make the Fund amount to the $60,000, considered both by the "Board of Trustees" and the "Conference," after careful consideration, to be "absolutely necessary," and that thirty thousand more must be secured to make the Fund amount to the least sum named as "exceedingly desirable." This statement is sufficient to show that the assistance of the friends who have not yet subscribed is urgently needed.

Leaving out of view the Conference or Preachers' List, I find that 140 individuals have subscribed the amount of $34,154 84, in sums varying from $2,000 down to $10. Now is it unreasonable to suppose that there are among all the thousands in our congregations throughout the Provinces, 140 others who are well able to contribute at least half as much as the first 140, and that then there would be enough among the more than ninety thousand still left, who could and should subscribe enough to round up the Fund to, at least, the exceedingly desirable $100,000?

However I, as the Agent of the Conference and Church, am just now to seek the 140, more or less, who will subscribe the $15,000 yet lacking, to make up the net $60,000 "immediately indispensable."

H. PICKARD.

P. S.—I wish to make grateful mention of the kind assistance which has been rendered to me in my agency work by Brethren Joseph Hart and T. J. Deinstadt, as well as by the Ministerial Brethren on all the circuits which I have already been able to visit. H. P.

"TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS."

MR. EDITOR.—Under the above heading in the PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN of the 24th ult., an 'error' in our Conference Minutes is noted. The 'first edition' of said error was published in the PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN of the 16th July. In getting up the Minutes, Conference documents printed in PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN in advance, were the 'copy.' In this instance the Minutes show "a true copy,"—error and all.

There is a redeeming quality however in *this* 'error.' It expressed a literal fact. The Pastorate was 'limited.' We are informed that it is so no longer, for vacancies are filled, the list of stations is *now* complete. "Hamlets and palatial mansions are alike under Pastoral oversight."

These happy changes are appropriately announced in the same paper and column which refer to the wording in the minutes, suggesting that the term limited (error or no error) should be dropped or changed.

Good! the Pastorate is not limited, neither in its number nor the object of its oversight. May the improvement be progressive, and henceforth pastors be found to fill new fields of labor, and in visiting from house to house pass by none of the flock, but go to all, that it may never be truthfully written (error or no error) that we have a Pastorate limited—to a few.

Let us now hope that the liberality of the people will become so generally diffusive, as to render the term 'limited" obsolete also, in relation to their support of the Pastorate, and the pecuniary circumstances of the Pastor.

In some things the term should be retained, and its meaning have practical recognition—in articles written for the columns of the PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN, and other matter where its application will be equally judicious,—'Typographical errors' *not* excepted. F. S. (LIMITED)

(Alas for our friend's metaphor! This very week several urgent claims are made for men—more men. The ranks were, but are not full! May this ever be the case in Methodism till the Millenial shout shall be heard, "The Lord God Omnipotent reigneth!"—ED. P. W.)

Miscellaneous.

RECANTATION OF A ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST IN ROME.

Our English exchanges came too late last week to admit of our making extracts from their pages; but this letter from the London *Watchman* will even now be read with grateful interest:—

DEAR SIRS,—I send you for insertion a copy of an exceedingly interesting letter just received from the Rev. W C. Van Meter, of Rome. It relates chiefly to Father Grassi's secession from the Church of Rome. His conduct before the Inquisitors, before whom he was summoned, amounted to true moral heroism. His speech, extracts of which are given, is worthy of a Roman, and will, I am sure, be read with deepest interest by your numerous readers.

M. Van Meter is engaged in organizing Evangelical schools in Rome, and has been eminently successful in this good work. I was there in March last, and had the honor of opening a Sunday-school while there. I felt much impressed with the altered circumstances of Rome that permitted such a privilege.—I am, yours very truly,

JAMES SINCLAIR.

48, Blackfriars-Street, Manchester, Oct. 29.

12, Vicolo D, Alibert, Rome, 22nd Oct. 1873

DEAR SIR,—I hasten to convey to you some information respecting Father Grassi's recantation, which I am persuaded will gladden the heart of Protestant England.

Father Grassi, who for thirty-six years performed successively the duties of priest, confessor, curate, mitred abbot, Lent preacher, and lastly incumbent of the great Basilica Santa Maria Maggiore, has cast down robes, honor, emoluments, abandoned prospective promotion, and united with the Baptist Church under the pastorate of the Rev. Mr. Wall, of England.

A few weeks ago, with Mr. Wall, he called to bid his associates farewell. It was a scene not to be forgotten. They knew well that he whom they had so long known, loved, and honoured, was sincere. As a loving father he told them of the terrible conflict through which he had passed, why he had given up all, and chosen his home with a little company of Christians meeting in a tent, and begged them to consider well his reasons. All were deeply moved, and when he arose they gathered around, embraced, and kissed him. Six of his associates have followed him to the inquiry. What is truth? Last week, in one day, twelve priests called on Mr. Wall to ask for light, one of them the superior of a convent, who on Sunday sent a priest to Mr. Wall for tracts and Scriptures to distribute among the inmates.

For a few days nothing was heard from headquarters concerning the "apostage." But last Sunday the silence was broken. The Vatican had decided to try its strength revive the Inquisition, and make an example of Father Grassi! The "Infallible" comforted a delegation of priest with the assurance that the "postage" would soon be swept away. Grasri was summoned before the Inquisition, to repent or endure the penalty. He decided at once to appear, not because he acknowledged its authority, but because it gave him an opportunity to declare the truth before these men. He applied to the Government for protection, but was advised not to venture, and that if he did go, he must bear the responsibility. The interview was appointed for nine o'clock next morning. Father Grassi, assisted by Mr. Wall and a priest who is a prominent professor in a college in Rome, spent nearly the whole night in preparing his vindication.

In the morning, after bowing together and commiting all to God, we started for the Inquisition. Father Grassi took my arm, and as he walked along the street of the Holy Office thinking of our brethren who had preceded us, but who never returned, I reminded him of our Saviour's words. "Fear not them that kill the body" (Matt. x. 28 32), and of precious encouragement, "Let not your heart be troubled" (John xiv. 1-2). Arrangements had been made for friends to stand in the street ready to render assistance if needed; four of us went in. We were promised permission to be with him, but they desired to see him alone for a moment first.

He had been advised not to trust himself in their hands. But now came a trial of moral courage, such as Nehemiah experienced when he refused to shrink from danger, asking, "Shall such a man as I flee?" and Luther, when he said, "I will go to Worms though the devils are as thick as tiles on the houses."

Grassi entered alone, and the door was shut. We could only beg God to keep him, and enable him to "open his mouth boldly" and declare the truth.

Soon loud and earnest talking was heard. Again and again admission was admanded and promised, but not granted. For nearly an hour we waited, then the door opened, and our brother was with us again. Taking my hand and pressing it to his heart he said, with deep emotion, "E finito!" "E finito!" "It is finished" "It is finished!"

He is calm, tender, humble and modest, yet firm and fearless. Not often do we witness such moral heroism. Alone he stood before his inquisitors, declared the truth, entered his protest, denounced their iniquities, defied their power, and scorned their anathems. To give you a more correct idea of the man, I give a few closing sentences of his defence, Think of him alone, unprotected, and in such a place, warming up into the holy enthusiasm of Stephen, the first Christian martyr, and turning upon his Inquisitors, he said:—

"O you inquisitors, pontiffs, cardinals, and prelates, God speaks to you. To what have you brought the true Church! She that was so pure, so beautiful, so glorious, ye have betrayed, violated, despoiled, wounded, and crucified by your doctrines, superstitions, and immoralty, and sealed her tomb by your blasphemous 'dogma of infallibility.' Hear what God says to his suffering children, 'The God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.' Do you not tremble at these words? Who but Satan instigated and inflicted the tortures in this place? O, could the buried, speak—could this roof but echo back the cries of agony from your innocent victims, and the the vaults beneath us reveal the corpses of those who have been buried alive—no other sentence of condemation would be required.

"But the breath of God has for ever extinguished the fires of the Inquisition, and swept away your power! Therefore I stand before you to-day and declare these truths, while you dare not touch a hair of my head. Yes, God has begun this work, and soon this tribunal, these walls and instruments will be bruised under our feet and scattered as ashes to the four winds, proclaiming to the world that the most holy universal Roman Inquisition is dead—dead because God has crushed it beneath the feet of your children. O ye obstinate ones, hear me; hear one of your brothers who has said mass, and confessed, and preached with you. Weep not over me as dead. I am not dead, but among the living, and stand before you to announce the resurrection of that Church which you have tried to drown in blood. Yes, she is rising glorious as the morning light, and ignorance, superstition, heresy, and tyranny flee before her.

"Farewell, Church of my youth; farewell, companions of my ministry of destruction. Oh, if my word has yet any weight upon you, I beseech you to open your eyes to the light—to abandon that system of darkness in which you are groping, and accept the true light which Jesus offers to you."

Mr. Van Meter closes with an appeal for support for his work.

OUR EXCHANGES.

THE INSURRECTION IN CUBA.—A letter from Manzanillo, (a seaport on the south east coast of Cuba, and about 85 miles N. N. W. of Santiago de Cuba) dated Nov. 14 says:—

"On the 13th the Spanish troops, numbering 900, entered the city by the Bayamo road, thus taking away all the troops, garrisoning the small towns in the interior, and exposing them openly to the inroads of the Cubans. The forming of barricades is still going on, and those already made are being strengthened. The insurgents are reported to have, from 3000 to 4000 men near here and an attack is momentarily expected. The troops and citizens are nearly tired out by continued alarms. The flags on the different Consulates remain hoisted both day and night. To-day the Spanish force left again, and all volunteers upon the troops leaving were ordered out to guard the town during the night. Twelve to fourteen persons were arrested without the slightest cause, except that they were Cubans, and were lodged in the common jail, one of them being a lady. The British man-of-war Woodlark arrived here on the 16th and left again on the following day.

The Cubans who entered the town said that they stood in no need of expeditions or arms from abroad, as when any were wanted they knew where to go and get them, and in fact they helped themselves very freely to everything that could be carried off. The Spanish papers admit that the fight of Sacra was one of the severest every fought since the insurrection, the Cubans rushing up to within forty paces of the canon's mouth.

The *Evangelical Witness* (New Connexion) Canada, gives thus a

LETTER FROM ONE OF THE OLD CANADIAN WESLEYANS.—*Mr. Editor*: I have no doubt but the letter written by the Rev. J. Caswell may be by some disputed as to the facts it brings forward relating to the union of the Canadian Wesleyans with the New Connexion in 1841. I will give you the figures from 1841 to 1873:

The Canadian Wesleyan Methodist New Connexion have received into the ministry *two hundred and thirty-three*, and up to our last Conference we have,

Ninety ministers in the itinerancy.
Twenty-one superanuated.
Twenty-four deaths.
Ninety-three who have left the Connexion.

I view the Connexion as retrograding rather than increasing. I know of only FOUR of the ancient brethren who were ministers of the old body. These are the Revs. J. Wilkinson, J. Bell, J. Warren, and myself. Whether we have union or no union, it is high time we had a change for the better, whatever that change may be; and the sooner the better. May the Spirit of the Lord direct and guide the whole Church for the advancement of His kingdom and glory throughout the world.

Yours truly,

T. RUMP.

Tiutura, Nov. 17, 1873.

N. B.—Is there not a cause?

HERE are some incidents of the Tweed Trial in New York:—

Well, the exceptions were finally all submitted, and then the crowd—the court-room now being full—began to put on the free and easy style usual in waiting for verdicts. Those addicted to smoking lit cigars, and large numbers returned to the adjoining rooms to stretch their legs and talk on the probable results. No one would have scarcely believed, from the general interest shown, that this was Mr. Tweed's second trial. There was, in fact, more interest evinced than on his first trial. Various groups speedily formed, and in each the trial and the verdict likely to follow were the all-absorbing topics of conversation.

"I fear a conviction," said one, shaking his head in token of his doubt.

"So do I," said another sorrowfully. "The Judge's charge was dead against him."

It is a singular fact, but very few spoke against Mr. Tweed or expressed a hope that he would be convicted.

"How do you account for the universal friendly feeling shown for Tweed?" a gentleman (who was evidently a stranger from the country, and whose curosity to see the great ex-boss has evidently drawn him to the court room) asked another.

"Most there are friends of Tweed," responded the party addressed. "There are men here whom he has made rich, and, if necessary, they would spend their bottom dollar for him. A bigger-hearted man never lived. He may have acted indiscreetly, but a more liberal man and one truer to his friends never breathed the breath of life."

THE JURY DESIRE EXPLANATIONS.

Some emotion was excited by the coming in of the jury at ten o'clock, When it was told they were coming everybody rushed from the adjoining rooms, and there was the most intense eagerness to learn the verdict, if one had been arrived at, or the purport of their return. It was soon set at rest by the foreman stating that they wished the Judge to explain to them the meaning of the fourth count. This Judge Davis proceeded to do, by reading in the first place, that portion of the indictment including this count, and then stripping the same of its verbiage, explaining it to them. He also gave them more specific directions as to the form of the verdict they were to render, and the jury again withdrew.

MORE SURPRISE.

Again, on the departure of the jury, there was a renewal of the previous suspense. Again were cigars lit, and again more speculations as to the final verdict.

"That jury is bound to convict," was the general exclamation.

Meantime Mr. Tweed seemed to show very little anxiety. He chatted with his counsel with his usual freedom, and greeted his friends in his usual easy, off-hand way. Surrounding him were, in addition to his counsel, his brother Richard Tweed, his son "Young Dick," his private secretary, Mr. Dewey. The time rolled on slowly. The clock pointed to 11 o'clock and yet no sign of the jury. At length the hour of midnight arrived and still no jury. Most of the crowd continued to wait patiently; however, Mr. Bonynge, the Court stenographer, whose facile fingers had been kept in motion since nine o'clock in the morning, had at this hour fallen into a gentle repose, and, through "tired nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep," was recuperating his overtaxed energies. Most of the reporters, for that matter, were in a semi-somnolent condition: and yet, take the crowd altogether, they were a wide-wake party, and evinced an unflagging determination to see the thing out.

"It is going to be a disagreement," was now the remark most generally heard.

Another half hour passed and brought no change in the situation. One o'clock arrived. The only news it brought was that the jury had sent for a pitcher of ice water. At half-past one the scene changed from water to brandy. Mr. Tweed was the purveyor, and furnished the latter beverage, the drinking, however, being confined to himself and counsel. Scarcely had they taken—in this case—their "morning nip," when it was announced that the jury was coming. The announcement woke up the sleepers, for many in the weariness of waiting had fallen asleep, and all were agog waiting the approach of the twelve men honest and true. It proved a false alarm, and the sleepers again subsided into their somnolency.

At two o'clock Judge Davis and counsel were still waiting the coming in of the jury.—*N. Y. Herald.*

The *Methodist* (New York) thus refers to the Dean of Canterbury's troubles on account of his recent action in communion with Christians of other Churches at the Alliance. And now the High Church dignatries have a more serious trouble on their hands,—Her Most gracious Majesty Queen Victoria has been communing with Presbyterians! *Perhaps* those two liberal-minded heads of the English Church understood each other. At all events they seem to be thoroughly emancipated from arch-episcopal thraldom:—

There is wrath among the Ritualists of England against the Dean of Canterbury. He has commited the, for a Churchman, unpardonable sin. He has been guilty of Christian charity. The *Guardian* (courteous High-Church) says: "Considering the occasion and the person, it may be doubted whether any more grave and deliberate violation of Church order than this has been witnessed in our time. It is a far more serious act than any mere preaching or joining in prayer in congregations not belonging to our communion." Indeed! joining in prayer with non-Anglican congregations is a serious offence, is it? The *Church Times* (malignant High Church) is, after its usual fashion, more trenchant. It does the Dean and Canon Freemantle in this style: "We can only offer to our brethren across the Atlantic our apologies for the eccentricities of these vagrant clerics, and beg them to believe that neither is a person of any account at home. It may be as well to explain to them that persons in England with very great titles are often very small men. Thus, although the Primatial sees are with us very high dignities, the actual holders of them—chosen as they generally are for their conspicuous want of great qualities—are seldom men of much influence. But if the Archbishop of Canterbury is personally not a very great personage, the Dean of that city is infinitely less. It is understood, in England at least, that the sole reasons for his promotion was to rescue his chair at the University from the contempt which, with all his undoubted Syriac learning, his incapacity had brought upon it. As for Mr. Freemantle, it is hardly possible to conceive a smaller dignitary."

Is not all this amazing? The Pharisees of old made crimes of praiseworthy acts, if these happened to disagree with their petty traditions, and rejected men whom Christ took to his heart. Our modern Churchmen are not a whit wiser. History is here repeating itself. Nor will the parellel be too close, should the Evangelical world apply the rebuke which was uttered ages ago: "Thou blind Pharisee!"

We take the following from the *Truro News*. Our young brethren do well to give their full influence against the traffic in strong drinks, as well as the vice of intemperance. The world is feeling this awful curse more and more, and only sound, determined advocacy of temperance principles can turn the current:—

LECTURE AT GREAT VILLAGE.—Rev. Mr. Ainsley of Truro, gave a very interesting lecture on Monday evening, Dec. 1st, under the auspices of Palma Lodge, I. O. G. T.

Subject:—"Intemperance of Drink, Dress, Light literature, and the Obnoxious weed"

The lecture was closely listened to for one hour, during which the audience was held in rapture with the lecturer's vivid pictures drawn from life. It is time our Village should look to the matter of intemperance, as there are four places where intoxicating drinks are bought and drank, and one wholesale dealer. The sight of reeling and staggering with blasphemy, is of no strange occurrence. It is time that a stand should be taken in the right direction, and let those who are true friends to temperance come to the front, and not those who are the friends of the drinking house and who make temperance a cloak. Let men of sturdy integrity come to the public front, and then, and not until then, will the principles of our once quiet Village, be brought from rioting to sobriety. Palma Lodge intends having a series of temperance lectures during the season hoping that they will be the means to arouse the sturdy to duty.

Yours, &c.

DILETTANI.

Editorial Notes, &c.

PERIODICALS FOR NEXT YEAR.—We have heard from only a few respecting their intentions of taking these for next year. We will of course continue where we do not receive information to the contrary. In this case "Silence gives consent."

BEREAN LESSONS.—We are receiving orders for them for next year. Sunday School journals 60 cents each and lessons six cents each for the year, post paid. All schools should have them. About one journal for every seven leaves would be about the average.

MUSIC BOOKS for the Sunday School are absolutely necessary. Select the one most suitable and send us your orders. We will forward specimens free at the price mentioned in our advertisement.

REMEMBER!—We send *any* Books in our Catalogues, post free, on receipt of price.

REVISION OF SUBSCRIBERS LISTS will begin with the new year. In adjusting these during the past few months a mistake here and there has been made and injustice done to a few of our subscribers. This was natural under the circumstances. We will endeavour for the future more strictly still to avoid any mistake; and when such are reported to us we will regard it as a kindness, with promise of immediate rectification. No one but those who have had the trial are aware of the trouble involved in keeping thousands of subscribers on lists which are revised every few months. Agents reporting may intimate to us when they wish to have amounts acknowledged, and we will do so, waiting till they have completed their canvas. In all cases we will keep on subscribers who may be thus vouched for by our agents, for a reasonable length of time.

REV. J. W. Shepherdson writes respecting Sheet Harbour Mission: "I find this a large Circuit—65 miles. The people are very kind and eagerly listen to the Truth. There are many scattered along the shores favourable to Methodism, and I hope soon to form a Society." Our Home Missions are truly encouraging in all details of information.

MESSRS. RUSSELL AND CHESLEY advertised in our issue of to-day, deserve the confidence of the public. Mr. R. particulary distinguished himself as a student, both in College and in Law preparation Mr. Chesley is the son of the lamented minister of that name, and as a student is also well known, so that, in all respects, they both bring a good record before the public.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS, to the number of 275, have been added to our Lists. A brave, united, determined effort by all our Agents this month, and a good word from our readers to those who do not take the Paper, will bring up the thousand yet. Our Agent is very successful—will be in Dorchester and Sackville this week. Let us all try for it.

BELCHER'S FARMERS ALMANAC.—Messrs. McAlpine and Barnes, publishers of this neat, concise and multifarious manual, have sent us a copy for notice. It contains even more than the usual quantity of information on subjects which every one ought to know. For sale at the Book-room, 12 cents.

THE ARENA AND THE THRONE.—This is Prof. Townsend's latest Book. It is splendidly got up in all materials of printing and binding. His subject is divided into, "The Field – The Defeat,—The Triumph,—The King." The first is a fine treatise on the stellar worlds; the second relates to the ravages of sin, graphically illustrated by instances like that of Judas; the third is a victory over sin's consequences, as in the case of Job, and the last head illustrates the character of Him by whom all conquest is obtained.

The volume is one of the Professor's best. Mr. Gossip of Halifax has it on sale. It may also be obtained through the Wesleyan Book-room.

THE *Western Chronicle*, of Kentville, comes before the public with great promise. Its leaders indicate considerable originality and spirit, and its local items are prepared with prudence and tact. We give it a hearty welcome.

WE are sending Catalogues of our Books to the several Ministers. Will they please give one to each Sunday School Superintendent?

HANTSPORT FANCY SALE AND SOCIAL.

MR. EDITOR,—Allow me through your columns to give notice, that the ladies of the Methodist congregation at Hantsport intend holding their Annual Social, to include a Tea Meeting, a Fancy Sale and Refreshment, &c., in the basement of the church, on Wednesday, the 17th inst., or, if that day should be unfavorable, on the day following. On the Fancy tables will be offered a variety of useful and ornamental articles, suitable for Christmas presents. The tea will, of course, be all that can be desired; and the Confectionary and Refreshment Tables will be loaded with good cheer.

Doors open at 2 p. m. Tea will be served at 4 o'clock, and from that hour during the evening. Admission 10 cents, Tea 30 cents. It is expected that excursion tickets will be issued at the Railway Stations at one fare, good for that and following day.

JOHN MCMURRAY.

Hantsport Dec. 6, 1873.