

# WESLEYAN METHODIST MAGAZINE

OF CANADA.

AUGUST, 1862.

## WORN-OUT PREACHERS.

We have seen aged and enfeebled men retiring from all ranks, and positions in society, to the quiet and seclusion that the evening of life demands, surrounded with its comforts and conveniences; a fruition which the world seldom fails to afford the faithful and industrious, as the pensioned soldier, the retired merchant, the aged farmer, and the prudent mechanic. There is something that you may almost envy in their lot, at all events you are not called to sigh over it; but if you have a tear to shed, you cannot withhold it from the lot of a worn-out preacher. War, commerce, mechanical genius,—civil society,—the quarrels and litigations of men, and their diseases,—earth—sea—sky, are more considerate, or the study and your devoted to them, are productive of more temporal benefit, in the Church of God, assigns on earth to its worn-out servants. Thank God there is another world, where services rendered the cause of truth and holiness, will be better appreciated, and more abundantly rewarded.

We do not like the application of "worn-out" to many of our preachers, it is rather a perversion of the term when applied to, probably, one half the men whom we have set aside as being in this dilapidated state.

A worn-out preacher!! yes, we have seen such, but not often, save on the bed of death,—and even then strictly speaking, he was not worn-out, his testimony to the power of Christ to save, and the faithfulness of God to preserve was never more explicit and vigorous,—nor was his influence for good ever more powerful though its sphere was more contracted. It can hardly be said of a faithful minister that he is worn-out, until he is laid by with his charge lays down and ceases to work and live. But a prevalent idea has obtained among us, and we have made such an extended and practical application of the idea, that we have become almost careless, and our recklessness has led to thoughtlessness and injustice.

The idea of "worn-out" is followed with the conclusion that that which