

THE WESLEYAN.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1879.

NOVA SCOTIA CONFERENCE.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the MISSIONARY COMMITTEE of the Nova Scotia Conference, will be held in the School Room, of the Wesleyan Church, St. John, N. B., on Wednesday, October 23rd, at 9.30 a.m.

S. F. HUESTIS, Pres. of Conference.

THE MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

OF THE NEW BRUNSWICK AND P. E. ISLAND CONFERENCE will hold its ANNUAL MEETING, in the Queen Square Methodist Church, St. John, N. B., on Tuesday, the 28th day of October, at 10 o'clock a.m.

H. McKEOWN, President of N. B. and P. E. I. Conf.

REVIVAL WORK.

During the past winter Rev. J. O. Peck, pastor of the St. John's Methodist Church, Brooklyn, New York, received over three hundred persons into the church on probation, as the fruits of revival services. He recently received two hundred and twenty-seven of those probationers into full membership. Others will be hereafter received. Mr. Peck expects to save ninety-eight per cent. of them. He depends largely for success upon getting his young converts into class-meetings, and keeping them there, and keeping them at work for Christ.

THE IRISH LAND AGITATION.

The land agitation in Ireland assumes a serious aspect. The cry is being iterated, and reiterated, that the land of Ireland should be taken from the present landlords and given to the present tenants. The landlords, it is urged, are the descendants of the haughty Normans, who came over with William the Conqueror, and appropriated the lands of the Saxons. These landlords, it is claimed, have had the lands long enough, and, now, the lands should revert to the tenants who are the descendants of the conquered Saxons.

Anti-rent demonstrations are being held in different parts of the country. A Mr. Bigger, M. P., holds that the true panacea for the evils of Ireland, is to buy out the landlords, and convert the occupiers into owners of the soil. He proposes that "the landlord should be called upon, for the public good, to sell his land to the occupier at a fair purchase, and that the Government, which should have the interests of all classes at heart, should interfere to facilitate the arrangements between landlords and tenants."

The continuous agitation of this vexed question, between landlords and tenants, may develop some very deplorable results. It were well if some satisfactory solution of this irrepressible conflict could be speedily reached.

AFGHANISTAN.

The progress of the English forces under General Roberts is encouraging. He has reached Cabul, without any disaster, and without much fighting. The city has been evacuated. It is not probable that any resistance will be offered to a peaceful entry. General Roberts has dispersed the Afghan forces. He has captured a large proportion of their artillery, and has taken possession of the fortifications commanding the city.

The latest advices indicate that the Ameer, Yakoub Khan, is about to abdicate, and that General Roberts is making arrangements for maintaining order in Afghanistan, and for carrying on the administration of affairs. England has informed Russia that British influence must dominate in Afghanistan's foreign relations. A magazine at Bala Huzzar has been blown up, whereby twenty-seven British and many Afghans were killed.

An interview has recently been had between Lord Salisbury, representing England, and Schouvaloff, representing Russia. Schouvaloff proposed that the western part of Afghanistan should be placed under the jurisdiction of Russia, and that England should have possession of the western part as far as the Hindoo Koosh. Salisbury declined the proposal, claiming that England will settle the future of Afghanistan in her own way. It is rumoured that assurances have been received, by the English Government, from the Shah of Persia, of such a nature as to satisfy Beaconsfield that Persia, in the event of complications between Russia and England, will not take sides with Russia. The relations just now between England and Russia are extremely critical.

Rev. Joseph McLeod, pastor of the Free Baptist Church, Fredericton, N. B., and Editor of the *Religious Intelligencer*, has been resting for several months, on account of impaired health. We are glad to notice that his health is fully restored, and that he has resumed his regular duties. We hope our young country will yet, for several decades, be favored with the productions of his able pen, and the utterances of his eloquent tongue.

THE UTE INDIAN WAR.

The United States has granted large tracts of land called reservations to various tribes of Indians in different States and territories of the West. In 1868 the United States assigned to the Ute Indians a reservation, in what was then the Territory of Colorado. A second Treaty was made with the Ute Indians in 1874, more clearly defining their rights and duties. It was in the treaty of 1868, provided, on the one hand, that the Indians should settle on their reservation and remain there, and relinquish all claim to any other lands in the Union. On the other hand, the United States agreed to defend the Indians in their title to the reservation, and to aid them there.

In the treaty of 1874 it was provided that a portion of the reservation should revert to the United States, and in consideration thereof the United States was to pay the Indians a specified sum of money, annually, forever.

Difficulties arose between the Indians and their white neighbours. The reports of the difficulties, and their causes, are conflicting. It is probable, however, that the Indians have been most shamefully treated by the whites. The Indians resisted the high-handed injustice that has been perpetrated against them. The result is the United States has declared war against the tribe.

General Crook is in command of the troops in this war. He is a distinguished soldier; and has had large experience in Indian warfare. He has indicated his reluctance to enter into this struggle. He said, when accepting his marching orders, that: "it is a hard thing to fight the Utes 'when I know that they are clearly in the right.'" General Crook will probably conquer the Utes, and bring them to terms.

RAILROAD ACCIDENTS.

It is not pleasant to read that, by a railroad disaster in Michigan, within the last few days, eighteen or more persons were killed, and many others were more or less seriously injured. The Pacific express train was reported as behind time going westward from Detroit. Some officials at Jackson assumed that the train would arrive there, still behind time. A switch engine was allowed to remain on the track a few moments too long. Hence the express train, having, meanwhile, made up her lost time, dashed into the switch engine. Several passenger cars were badly smashed up. Railway corporations have no souls. One remedy for such carelessness, and consequent loss of limb and life, is to touch the pocket of the negligent companies, seriously, through heavy damages.

THE HALIFAX INFANTS' HOME.

A few philanthropic persons opened a Home for Infants in this city in 1875. It was known, at least to a portion of our people, that the odious system of Baby Farming existed in this city. To prevent this evil, as far as possible, and to rescue uncared for infancy from cruel neglect, from beatings, bruises, and an untimely end, the Infant's Home was called into existence, and is still being sustained.

Two hundred and fifty destitute infants have been received into the Home. Some have been kept there for a few weeks only; others for several years. Forty-seven of the babes that were received into this establishment, have been adopted therefrom, into permanent homes in various parts of the country.

The infants that are recipients of the solicitude, sympathy, and care of the Home, have been taken from amidst surroundings more or less wretched. The Infant's Home can show a bright record of valuable effort during its existence of four years. It has taken the sick, the wasting, the wounded, the filthy, and the dying, from habitations of cruelty, and of want; and has clothed, and fed, and nourished them, and has thus saved them from an early grave, or from being brought up to a living death.

The Home, we are informed, needs more room; a more commodious building; and "daily bread." There are now about sixty persons to be provided for, daily, including nurses and infants, in the Home. This institution needs the practical sympathy of the charitable. Would it not be well, just at this Thanksgiving season of the year, for those, whose children know not the wretchedness of poverty and shame, and for those who were themselves once the children of happy homes, to express their gratitude by the presentation of a timely and needed offering to the Halifax Infants' Home? We have much pleasure in giving insertion to the following plea in behalf of the Institution. We would also call attention to a communication on this subject in another column:

A MOTHER'S PLEA FOR THE INFANTS' HOME.

Pity, help the little children
Who enjoy no father's care,
And o'er whom a tender mother
Never breathes a loving prayer.

Who will hear them, who will heed them,
As they perish one by one,
In this world of joy and beauty,
Underneath the blessed sun?

See! they perish near God's temples
Where a loving Saviour stands
Bidding all to help in mercy:—
Will you need the Lord's commands?

Hear the wailing of the children:
O, it breaks my very heart
When I see that in our city
Women do the murderer's part!

Ears as deaf and dull as adder's,
Catch the babies' fanned cries;
Eyes as pitiless as Herod's
Watch their dying agonies.

Blood is on thy skirts, O city!
Blood of many a little one!
God in judgment will require it:—
He will make His justice known.

Are they sinful little children?
Outcasts to be flung aside,
Trodden underfoot, or tortured,
Victims of our greed, or pride?

Sleep, yes sleep in peace, O mothers,
With your darlings safe in bed:
Do not dream of those poor infants,
Outcast, starving, dying,—dead.

Let not their pinched faces haunt you,
Nor their forms all bruised and scarred:
Why your happiness and comfort
By such visions grim be marred?

What to you are starving infants,
If your own are amply fed?
What to you are pain and torture
Falling on another's head?

Why should Dives mar his feasting?
Why should Laxarus have a crumb?
Let them die, your outcast infants:
In the grave they must be dumb!

No, my sisters! up to Heaven
Shall ascend their bitter moan:
God himself is their avenger
Sitting on His righteous Throne.

Mock not God with hollow praises
In your churches, in your homes,
While the blood of murdered children
Up before His presence comes.

If you show no love, no pity,
Caring not how children die,—
In your hour of woe and anguish
Will the Saviour heed your cry?

Mothers, sisters, in whose bosom
God's great love has found a place,
Hasten to the rescue, hasten
As ye prize the Saviour's grace.

Rich men, help us in your bounty,
Give us freely of your store:
Fruit you'll find most richly, surely,
When your gold avails no more.

You can help to save the children,
From the grasp of cruel hands,
From starvation, poison, torture:
Help, O help! 'tis God commands.

Jesus loves and seeks the outcast,
Saves the weakest and the worst,
Is the Friend of friendless children,
Though by Pharisees accurst.

Brothers, sisters, will you follow
Him who come to seek and save?
Or the Pharisees, as cruel,
Cold, and heartless as the grave?

By His love who to redeem us
Died upon the shameful tree,—
By His love who 'mid heaven's glory
Still remembers Calvary,—

By His love I now implore you,
Rise to help us while you may;
Help to save the little children
Who are perishing to-day!

GIVE! AND GOD WHO OWNS ALL RICHES
SHALL YOUR BOUNTY WELL REPAY!
E. C. M.

BARBAROUS ACCUSATIONS.

There is a dressmaker in one of our eastern towns who has a peculiar way of doing some things. She sometimes hides money and other valuables in out-of-the-way places, and then appears to forget where the treasures have been deposited. She, several years ago, hid her watch in a trunk, and subsequently not remembering where she had left it, and being unable to find it, she accused a relative of stealing her watch. The accused party, conscious of innocence, was not very greatly disturbed by the false accusation. Not long after the dressmaker found the watch where she had hid it in her trunk.

The same woman on another occasion accused one of her apprentices of stealing twenty dollars. The missing twenty dollars was afterwards found by the erratic dressmaker in the place where she had hid it.

Recently the dress-maker has been playing her old game. She concealed, in one of her hiding places, a few weeks ago, a hundred dollars. When, not long after, she wanted her money, she could not recall the exact spot where, amid some rubbish, it had been placed. She, straightway, accused a young girl, of about fourteen years, one of her apprentices, of stealing the hundred dollars. This young girl of a good family, and sensitive in an extreme degree, resented indignantly and scornfully, the barbarous accusation. She gave way to paroxysms of grief. The dressmaker told her story to the parents of the accused apprentice, and with such appar-

ent sincerity that the parents did not know but their child was guilty of the alleged crime. The dressmaker and the parents upbraided the innocent girl. They threatened her. They talked of the penitentiary, and the gallows. The girl protested that she was innocent. She wrote a touching letter to the dressmaker, denying the charge against her. She sobbed her life out, dying on the third day of a broken heart. The verdict of the coroner's jury was: "Died of paralysis of the heart from over excitement."

Since this girl died the lost money, one hundred dollars, has been found in a box of rags, where it had been placed by the owner. Prior to the holding of the inquest the dressmaker had added another foul accusation against the innocent victim, in saying she had committed suicide by taking poison.

The people of the place where this tragedy occurred are about to place a monument over the grave of the unfortunate. But no monument of marble or of bronze can bring that young life back again. Why does not the jurisprudence of the land provide that for the utterer of false accusations there shall be meted out an adequate penalty?

REVIVING PROSPERITY.

One of the signs of reviving prosperity in the United States is the fact that since the resumption of specific payments the influx of gold into that country amounts to more than \$45,000,000. The exports from the United States now very largely exceed the imports. Within a few years several hundreds of millions of dollars in American securities, largely government bonds, have been returned, as the means of settling the balance of trade in their favor.

Another sign of the times is the recent rise in Stocks, and in Railroad Bonds, in New York, and throughout the country. We do not know upon how sound a basis the advance rests. Within a year twenty-six Stocks of railroads, that are reported as having paid no dividends, have risen in the market to the aggregate amount of one hundred and thirty-nine millions of dollars. The bonds of eleven roads have advanced to the amount of nearly nine millions of dollars. The bonds are undoubtedly good property. But we may look out for a crash in the Stocks some of these days. The shrewder speculators will stand from under before the damaging tumbling comes.

The Bonds of the St. Joseph and Pacific Railroad (reorganized St. Joseph and Denver City), that were scarcely worth 10 per cent in the market, a year ago, with the Stock of the same road thrown in as valueless, are now quoted in New York as worth 82 per cent, and the Stock at 17 per cent.

The Newfoundland papers, by the last mail, contain extended notices of JOHN MUNN, Esq., who, for many years, has been one of the most prominent and respected citizens of Harbor Grace. He died at Southport, England, on the 29th ult., at the age of seventy-two. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church; and while contributing liberally from his ample resources to the support of his own church, he evinced his appreciation of Methodism, by frequent and generous gifts toward the various enterprises of our church. Rev. Mr. Angwin, for several years an intimate friend of Mr. Munn, has kindly furnished an article in reference to him which will be found in another column.

The last number of the *Toronto Weekly Globe* furnishes its readers with a well-executed likeness of Rev. EDWARD HARTLEY DEWART, M.D., Editor of the *Christian Guardian*, of Toronto; and contains also an appreciative pen and ink sketch of his career. Mr. Dewart has scarcely yet attained unto the maturity of his powers. He is now, and is likely for many years to be, one of the stronger men of our country.

MANY of our readers will regret to learn by correspondence in another column, that Rev. R. O. B. Johnson, of Gabarus, is now laid aside from active work, and has been for several weeks, on account of serious illness.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

TAKE.—We are advertising in this paper to-day Dr. Wolfe's Common-Sense Book. It is offered "as a free gift" to any person suffering with Consumption, Asthma, or Catarrh, or any other disease of the nose, throat, or lungs. The Doctor has made the treatment of the organs of respiration a special practice for over thirty years, and has put his varied experiences and reflections in this little monograph. The book is very handsomely printed and illustrated. Send for it, by all means, especially if you have a cough, or any disease of the nose, throat, or lungs. See his advertisement.

THE ILLUSTRATED ALMANAC for 1880 is received. It presents a very fine typographical appearance.

METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARIES.

IN GRAFTON STREET CHURCH.

SERMONS BY REV. S. B. MUNN AND D. D. CURRIE.

(From Halifax Herald Monday Oct. 20.)

The Sabbath School Anniversary in connection with the Grafton Street Methodist Church was held yesterday. In the morning Rev. S. B. Munn preached a sermon to the children of the Grafton St. and Coburg Road schools (taking for his text Zechariah viii. 5, "And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls.") He remarked that the prophet was looking through the telescope of prophetic vision, and saw the signs of human happiness in the groups of rosy, frolicsome boys and girls playing in the streets. His subject, he said, was "boys and girls," and if it was not large, it was very important; and if it was not interesting as well, that would be his fault and not theirs. Somebody had said, "The hope of the world lies in the cradle," but it didn't stop there. Boys and girls have a habit of getting out of the cradle, but others get in, and so "the bright succession runs." This was why they are so very important. He then asked what their future was going to be. What they were now, in all probability they would be when they were men and women: for, "Childhood shows the man, as the morning shows the day." Wild oats sown in youth would yield white hairs, wrinkled faces, aching hearts, bitter memories, premature graves and a woeful hereafter. He then proceeded to enlarge upon the wisdom of choosing good models for imitation. Speaking of the imitative instinct in youth he said that the evil was more naturally and readily imitated than the good, and referred to the pupils of Plato copying his crooked shoulders rather than his noble qualities of mind. Only the good and the wise were to be imitated. The ancient Romans used to place in the vestibules of their houses the busts of their great men, that their children might be reminded of their many virtues. He next advised the cultivation of the childlike spirit. The childlike spirit was the best for men and women, as well as for boys and girls, many of whom would like to go back to the innocence and simplicity of long clothes and short cradles, whipping out all the dark and bitter memories that lie between. Referring to Wordsworth's line, "Heaven lies about us in our infancy," he said that some people were never so near heaven as they are when they are children, for the longer they live the farther they depart from virtue and God. He didn't want the boys and girls to be little old men and little old women, but to be children while they were children, and men and women when they were old enough. He was not one who admired precocious children that where beyond their years, that know too much and know too soon. He preferred the child that could laugh and cry all in a breath, whose little life was like an April day, an alternation of sunshine and shower. He preferred the boys and girls that didn't know as much as their fathers and mothers, but were willing to be taught. He preferred the rough-and-tumble, whole-souled rattle of innocent glee. If boys will be boys, let them be boys; they will be men soon enough, and then the roguish wrinkles that are now seen at the corners of their laughing mouths will by-and-by be found on their care-worn foreheads instead. He admonished the young to cherish the loving forgiving spirit, and to take special heed to warned and instruction. Even sin had its warning voice just as much as the venomous reptile has its rattle. Conscience warning them of danger, and its admonitions were to be renarded. He concluded with some encouragement. If wise counsel were heeded they would make themselves happy, and their parents too; for said he, "Happy are the parents that never caused their children a blush, and happy are children that never caused their parents a tear." Quoting the words of Chrysostom, he said, "None can hurt a man who will not hurt himself." If they heeded wise counsel, not only would they be happy, but the bright promise of their life would be fulfilled. He hoped their life would be, not like the Jordan which rises at the "foot of beautiful Hermon and runs through the pleasant groves of Dan, to end at last, after a broken, crooked course, in the Dead Sea;" but he hoped it would be like a river, pure in its rise, fructifying in its course, to empty its swelling tide into the ocean of God.

THE AFTERNOON SERVICES.

A public meeting was held in the afternoon, but in consequence of the rain, the attendance was comparatively small. The report of the Grafton Street School, which was read by the Secretary, Mr. S. H. Black, shows the number on the roll to be as follows: 1 Superintendent, 1 Secretary, 2 Librarians, 8 male and 15 female Teachers, 103 male, 165 female scholars; being an increase upon the previous year. The report of the Coburg Road School was presented by the Superintendent, Mr. J. S. Belcher; Teachers, 9; Scholars, 84. Both schools were shown to be in a prosperous condition. The meeting was then addressed by Hon. S. L. Shannon, Edward Lloyd and Dr. Woodbury. Interesting pieces were sung by the schools, and after the benediction by the pastor, who presided, the meeting was brought to a close.

THE EVENING SERVICES.

In the evening there was a large attendance, notwithstanding the very disagreeable state of the weather. The Rev. D. D. Currie preached from Deut. 6: 6, 7: "And these words which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart; 'And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.'"