

The Provincial Wesleyan.

soner does she know her high prerogative—that she may "view the Eternal face to face"—than she "ignores and addresses." Faith soars above the turmoil and strife of earth, to bathe in the sunshine of heaven; she seeks the mercies, and long does she linger there: sweet are the words and sincere the petitions which she pours into the ear of "Him that heareth prayer."

How sweet and guileless is the prayer of childhood! The heart is not stained and blackened by long years of crime, but is fresh and new from the hands of God. How appropriate an altar for the offering of heavenly incense! Say not that the prayer of childhood is an unmeaning prayer. The simple words of infancy where you find sincere words? When the bright-eyed prattler at his mother's knee bows and says, "Father, bear a little child," surely He stoops to listen. When he goes to rest at night, and softly whispers, "Now I lay me down to sleep," bright-winged angels haste from heaven to guard the little sleeping one!

The prayer of youth is earnest and hopeful, welling up from a full heart. The future is bright with hope—brighter than the reality ever was. Youth asks much and expects much.

The man has travelled more than half the way of life; he has reached the summit of the mountain, whence he can look backward and forward. His look is upon futurity with an eye undazzled by inordinate hope, and undimmed by the darkness of despair, and says sincerely, "I will be done!" The cares, and duties, and struggles of life crowd around him, and he asks for strength to do manfully.

The prayer of age is not a prayer for earthly things; the eye is fixed on heaven. The spirit has long been fettered to earth, and longs to fly away to full rest. Who can tell how much prayer has done for the world? Who can tell how often the "dear absent ones" have been blessed in answer to prayer made at the home altar? Who can tell how often mother's prayers have called back erring ones to the paths of virtue?

Prayer is the hope of the world. It has raised the dead, and made life happy; it has turned sorrow to joy, and given the smile of hope for the dark lines of despair; it has held the march of armies and the spirit-trend of the pestilence; it has stopped the ploughshare of ruin, and worked mighty changes; it has guided the footsteps of the individual man, and marked out the path of empire; and, more than all, it opens a future to the view fraught with immortality!

"Prayer is the Christian's vital breath. The Christian's nature is his altar. His watchword at the gate of death—'I leave Heaven by prayer'!"

—West. Chris. Adv.

Provincial Wesleyan

THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 1853.

New Brunswick District.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN, Sir.—I am directed to send you a brief report of the N. B. District Meeting, which has just terminated its sittings.

On Thursday, 22nd, eighteen Methodist Ministers assembled at 10 o'clock, A. M., in the basement of the beautiful Methodist Church in Fredericton, for the purpose of transacting the important business of the District. Many of the Preachers had been praying that it might be a special time of spiritual refreshment to themselves, their brethren, and the Church; and that it might be so, prayer, united, fervent, and mighty, was now presented to Jehovah by several of the senior Ministers.

When business was entered upon, it soon became evident that there were many considerations to call forth our gratitude to the great Head of the Church. No brother had been removed by death—our families in general had also been spared, and, without exception, brethren had not personally been visited by any serious affliction. Another subject of gratitude is, that the brethren had been preserved by the grace of God, from bringing reproach upon the cause of Christ, at the time when the solemn question was proposed— "Are there any objections to any of the Preachers in this District?" with very slight exceptions there were none.

Some young men were recommended by their several Quarterly Meetings, and by their respective Superintendents, as fit persons for the work of the Ministry, in the judgment of the assembled Brethren, it should be thought proper to recommend them to the home Conference. After an examination, which lasted nearly a day, five of the six were accepted, and are to be immediately employed.

From the reports on "the Religious State of the Society," it appeared that in many places the Lord had been pleased to pour out his Spirit upon our Churches and Congregations, and that while many believers had been going on to perfection, a considerable number of souls had been added to the Lord during the past year.

The Sabbath Schools were reported to be in a flourishing condition, and that some of these Institutions especially, the Lord had sent a gracious rain. It was also reported that in all probability before another year shall have expired, we shall have a good Day School in the City of St. John, in immediate connexion with the Wesleyan Body.

On nearly every circuit there has been an increase in every department of Finance, and the contributions towards the Mission cause are considerably in advance of last year.

There was service every morning and every evening during the stay of the Brethren in Fredericton, and they were well attended. The services of the Sabbath were interesting and profitable. The CHAIRMAN preached in the morning, addressing himself particularly to the Ministers present, from—"Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord." A love-feast, well attended and very edifying, was held in the afternoon, and in the evening the Rev. R. COCKEY, A. M., preached to a large congregation from Psalm xlv. 5, "There is a river, &c.," after which the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered, when all retired feeling "it is good to be here."

On Tuesday evening, the 7th of June, an interesting Missionary Meeting was held, when among others the venerable RICHARD WILSON, of Yarmouth, was present, and delivered an able and interesting address. On Thursday evening, R. A. TEMPLE, of the Rev. Wm. Temple, was so only sent apart to the great work of the ministry, by the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery. Several of the Ministers took part in this important work, the Rev. Chairman gave the young Brother a solemn and affectionate "Charge." On Friday, at 8 A. M., the District terminated its sittings, according to the opinion of this Province, according to the opinion of the Brethren, and to the kind, and hospitable friends of Fredericton, who had made the Ministers of Christ so comfortable since their arrival. It was also decided that sermons on the sanctity of the holy

Sabbath should be preached on the last Sunday in August; also, that a Camp Meeting be held in Sussex Vale, in July, and that the "first Friday after the 25th September be observed throughout the District as a day of fasting and prayer."

The following are the present appointments of the Ministers in this District:

St. John South—James G. Hemminger, W. T. Cardy, James Taylor.

St. John North—William Spurgeon.

West—Richard Knight, Wm. Tweedy.

Fredericton—Charles Churchill, Robert Tweedy, Sheffield—George Gaskin.

Millville—Robert Cooney, M. A.

St. Stephen's—Ingham Sutcliffe, Charles Gaskin.

St. Andrew's—William Temple.

Sackville—John Allison, Duncan D. Currie.

Point de l'Isle—William Smith.

Peddieville—William Allen.

Hopewell—Joseph F. Bent.

Sussex Vale—John Prince.

Woodstock—Arthur McNutt, E. Duncan.

Andover—J. S. Phinney.

Annapolis—Geo. M. Barratt.

Bridgeport—Michael Pickles.

Ayleford—Christopher Lockhart.

Digby—Robt. A. Chas. S. Sprague.

Blackhead—James Norris.

Richmond—Gorge B. Payson.

Bathurst—R. A. Temple.

Sackville Academy, Mount Allison—Humphrey Pickard, A. M. Principal; Albert Desbriens, Secy. Chaplain.

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confidence, and a large share of the spirit of their holy and divine vocation. The meeting terminated, after an evening sitting, on Thursday, May 26th. The last act was to adopt the resolutions, which clearly evince the apostolic aims, which the Wesleyan Missionaries in Newfoundland, will pursue on their respective circuits.

After serious conversation on the religious state and prospects of the Province throughout the District, in which the Brethren generally and cordially took part, they unanimously agreed, that the Friday after Michaelmas-day next, shall be observed in all our Circuits as a day of special fasting and prayer to Almighty God, for a more abundant effusion of the Holy Spirit on ourselves, our societies, and congregations; and that in as many places as possible, there shall be a meeting for prayer, at seven o'clock, on the evening of that day.

St. John's, June 10th, 1853.

APPOINTMENTS OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND DISTRICT.

St. John's—Edmund Botterell, John S. Addy.

Harbour Grace—Samuel W. Sprague.

Carbonear—Thomas Angwin.

Blackhead—James Norris.

Perlican—Adam Nightingale.

Island Cove—John Brewster.

Port de Grace—Thomas Smith.

Brigus—John S. Addy.

Trinity Bay—Vacant for the present.

Bonaville—James England.

Green Bay—Vacant.

Burns—John S. Peach.

Grand Bank—Elias Brettie.

Hants Harbour—Paul Prestwood.

EDMUND BOTTERELL.

Chairman of the District and General Superintendent.

Report of the Wesleyan Day School, St. John's.

The Wesleyan Training School in St. John's was opened on the 18th October 1852. The teachers, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton were themselves trained in the Glasgow Normal Seminary. Our cordial gratitude is due to the Missionary Secretaries, for selecting and despatching to this school, teachers who are so profoundly competent, and so truly and constantly pious. At the end of the year the number of scholars was 82. During the first quarter of the present year 64 other pupils were entered—the number of scholars at present is 90. The daily average attendance is about 80, one half are writing on slates, and the other half are writing in copy books. The school is divided into three Sections, in the highest of which there are 21 children, in the next 17, and in the lowest 42. The number of female scholars is 40, several of whom are taught needlework by Mrs. Hamilton, in addition to the other lessons which are common to the School. Thirteen who were scholars have ceased to attend. The total number entered is 103.

The School has given the utmost satisfaction to all that have visited it, so that applications for the admission of pupils have been numerous, and it was thought proper to grant an extension of the school, to the 1st of January next, and in the lowest 42. The number of female scholars is 40, several of whom are taught needlework by Mrs. Hamilton, in addition to the other lessons which are common to the School. Thirteen who were scholars have ceased to attend. The total number entered is 103.

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