## The edestyan.


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THE WESLEYAN, FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 1879.


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## OURLONDON LETTER <br> Londos, July 25,1879 . In the year of speculations, the year of innumerable visionary undertakings.

 of innumerable visionary undertakingthe year of a railmar mania which,
its intensity and its ruinous zesults, a
an most rivalled the South Sea Buable
mere wab pubished in France a pamph
there
let of fist pat there was publishted in France a pamph
let of fifty foolscap pages, which nay $b$ b
regarded as virtually the prospectus o a most audacious scheme. It was noth
ing less than a plan to cut a cana
through tive Istbmus of Panama. The through the Isthmus of Panama. The
introduction to this prospectus is worth
quoting, since its author was a gentle man who then seemed in hopeless diffi
culties, but who afterwards enjoyed fo
a time, a time, great prosperity, and made con
siderable noise in the world. "The
junction of the Atlantic and Pacifi
Oceans", Oceans," he wrote, "by means of a ca-
nal cutting the centre of the New world
is a question of acknowledged import
ance. It will diminish by three thou ance. It will diminish by three thou
sand miles the distance which separates
Europe from the western coast of Ame
rica and Oceanica it will render the Europe from the western coast of A me
rica and Oceanica; it it will render the
communicaton with China, Japan, New
Zealand, and New Holland spaedy Zealand, and New Holland speedy a
easy by means of steamboats; it
elevate immediately to a prodigious gree those countries through whic
such an undertaking must draw annua
ty it wo or open new channeld torchantmen the intro
duction of European produce ; in a wor it will advance by sevevaluce centuries th th
progress of Christianity and civilization troughout half of the globe." Short
ly after the publiction of his pan
phlet the writer wis relieved phlet the writer wis relieved from his
diffculties, in so far as he contrived to
escape from the prison in whieh he was escape from the prison in whieh he was
confined. He came to London deaperately pressed for cash; and in 184
made strenuous attempts to float made strenuous attempts to float h
favorite object. He proposed to launc
a joint-stock Nim a joint-stock Nicaragua CanalCompany,
with a capital of four millions sterling with a capital of four millions sterling
A friend introduced him to a solicitor
the solicitor the soincitor brought him in commun
cation with a capitalist to whom th promoter sbowed his statisticic and his
estimates of costs, and his plan of the estimates of costs, and his plan of the
course of the proposed canal, drawn by
his own hand. There was some talk of his own hand. There was some talk of
the promoter taking a trip to central
America to survey the regions to be
$\qquad$
$\qquad$ in France, whither he repaired without
delay, aud the Nicaragua Canal Company (unlimited) came to nothing. The
name of the promoter was Prince Louis
Napolcon Bonaparte, the prisoner Ham, the exile of Chisleburst, the E
peror Napoleon III.
To this very curious episode in
Imperial career ailusion was recen



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## T任民RYMOND



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JOHN M. GKIDRRT, JI., LL. L. Attorney-at-Law, Notary Public, Com
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WOODBURY BROS
Dr. Ex. WOODSUETRY

TAILORING!
H. G. LAURILLIARD

Amn
THE WESLEYAN
FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 1879. paUl's financial economy For many years there has been good deal of discussion by the religious
press of the United States, and Canada, and the fatherland, on the subject
of systematic contributions for susof systematic contributions for sus-
taining the work of God. In the consideration of this great question, earn-
est efforts have been made to develop the best way whereby the finances, be secured. Different methods had prevailed. Different plans had their prevailed. The discussion of the whole
advocates.
question has brought forth good fruit. Thestion hasporters of the ministry recog nize, more generally, and more clearly,
in these last dars, than ever before, the in these last days, than ever before, the of sustaining the ministry, as indicated by the Apostle Paul. This Scriptural plan invelves two prominent and distinct features, namely, (1) contributions
for, at least some church purposes, should be brought into the treasury of the church weekly; and (2) those con-
tributions should be brought into that tributions should be brought into that
treasury on the first day of the week, which is the Cbristian Sabbath.
Paul, at the close of his inimitable paragraphs on the resurrection of the
dead, in the fifteenth chapter of the first epistle to the Corinthians, refers, to the subject of collections. He shows that he had given orders to the church-
es in Galatia to bring their contribues in Galatia to bring their contribu-
tions into the treasury on the Lord's tions into the treasury on the Lords
dav. Lange, in his translation, gives
the following rendering of this passage, throughout the chure es of Galatia,
even so do ye (in the churcjes of Cor-
inth). Upon every first day of the
week, let every one of jou lay by him

| subject to the inevitable assessment now thater times have so changed tha call themselves Methodists, and who never attend a class-meeting. These are known as Methodists because they are identified, in one way or another, with the families of Methodism, with its congregations, or with its ministry. Mr. Wesley's economy, practically and logically, pro vides that, inasmuch as those persons belong to the Methodist household, and are identified with its interests, and are partakers of its privileges, they should be as sessed for the sustentation of the work in a fair proportion, as others are who are members of a class. <br> The spirit of Mr. Wesley's economy, combined with Paul's method, shows that on the first day ot every week, when a Methodist congre gation assenbles tor the regular public worship of the sanctuary, each one who has been a partaker of divine tavour, should bring his offer 1ng, in his own person, or in the person of his representative, as God hath prospered him. Although a very large proportion of the Methodist people of the present day never atterd a class-meeting, many, nevertheless, being members of Methodist congregations, are, practically, so far as the financial interests of the church are concerned, as thoroughly Methodistic, in deed, and in truth, as many of those wh ose names are enrolled in the class-books of the church. Those persons generally are nct only willing, but desirous, to bring their weekiy offering into the Lord's house. Why should they not? The spirit of Mr Wesley's financial economy requires that they should do so. The envelope system gives them the opportunity. <br> MODERN FINANCIAL ECONOMY. <br> The General Conference of The Methodist Church of Canada, has recommended that the Annual Conferences and the Quarterly Official Meeting3, uñder its jurisdiction, should accept and carry out the fimancial economy which is known as the envelope system. Several of the Annual Conferences, from year to year, have reiterated the same recommendations, and, in part, in the following language: <br> " Let the Quarterly Official Boards, at the beginning of each finameial year, estimate the amount needed for the year. <br> " Then ascertain from each member of the church, and, as far as practicable, from each attendant of the congregation. what each proposes to give as his or her weekly or monthly contribution. |
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 our offerings for the support of the minmight it not be as well to bring an of-
feriug of praiee and worship into the Lord's honse only at the end of each
year? It might be urged that it would save a groat deal of troable, if, once
only, in each year, there should be one general and grand occasion for making
upon the Lord in his temple, and for presenting offerings to him, both spiri-
tualand material. God's ways, however, are not as man's ways. He has
"arranged " that His church should upon every first day of each week, as
there is opportunity, assemble together and engage in the various acts of praise and worship appertaining to the service "arranged" that the churches, or some of them, at least, should bring their into the treasury of the church, with The Holy Ghost, the sacred penmen of the Old Scrip. been careful to place upon the inspired record the fact that, in every age, when God's people gathered before him for purposes of worship, offerings of mate-
rial things were indispensible. The of things that were their, representatives, would remind the thoughtfal worshippers that the gold and silver of the who brought such offerings should member that they are the stewards of the Lord. It was essential, in the olden time, because it was so "arranged" by divine appointment, that material offerings should be brought into the Lord's honse as regularly and as fre quently as the Sabbath came

| a particular class only. Their presentation was alike the duty and the pri vilege of all. The king, in his royal robes, must obey the divine mandate, and give as God had prospered him. The widow, in her bereavement, and her poverty, as regards the duty and the privilege of sustaining God's cause, was as highly favoured as a reigning monarch; and if she gave "as God lad prospered her," though her giving was but a mite, or two, at a time, she had given as grandly as ever gave a king. <br> The divine plan for the performance of religious duty has always required order and system. The directions for the bringing of offerings were minute even as regards the details connected therewith. Herein we see the wisdom of God. In patient, plödding devotion to duty, so far as carrying, ont the details of life's proper work is concerned, there is one of the secrets of success. If we would do life's work well, in any worthy avocation, there must be order, and system, even as regards comparatively little things. The Bible everywhere recognizes the value of little things, and of details. Paul's arrangement for bringing weekly contributions into the treasury of the church on the Sabbath day are in complete accord with the divine method of doing things. It was according to the pattern that had been shown in the mount. It is well that, in these later tımes, the dis. cussions of this question should bring us into barmony with Paul's teaching, and with other Scriptural examples. This plan has about it a common-sense aspect. It is thoroughly practicable. It wo:ks well for the rich, It works well for the poor. It works well for the ministry. It works well for the chureb. <br> WESLEY'S FINANCIAL ECONOMY. <br> That John Wesiey lived far in advan ce of his times is as apparent in his financial plans, for the sustentation of the ministry of the Methodist Church, as in other things. Mr. Wesley's financial economy was in spirit thoroughly in accord with that of Paul. The people called Methodists, in the |
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ing ot his people at the class-mecting was
an
the distinctive feature that marked their
standing as Methodists. In the very be-
ginning of the Methodistic era it was

"arranged by Mr. Wesley, as Paul had
arranged with certain churches. that
every one of his people should bring
an offering every week into the treasury
of the Lords house, as God had prosper-
ed them. If the class-meeting wer on the Sabbath, the offering was brought
weekly on that day, and if held on a secu
lar day of the week, it would be brought weekly at the time, and to the place, o
meeting.
These points are made clearly apparen in the "note" appended in Mr. Wesley's
own words, to the General Rules of the
Society. By the Minutes of the Conference of 1782 it appears that Mr. Wesley
inquired, if the contributions had been
duly made in all the Societies. He directed that each superintendent should re-
mind the Society under his care, " that this was oorioty original rule: Every mem-
ber contributes one penny weekly he is in extreme poverty,) and one shil
ling quarterly." Each minister was required to "explain the reasonableness
of this." The sum of one penny a week was the contribution required from peer ons in moderate and poor circumstance
(except the extremely poor). (except the extremely poor). And per-
sons who were in better circumstances
were required to give larger sums, were required to give larger sums, as the
The " prospered them.
The" to which we have reterre says: ". The duty of supporting the minis-
ters of the gospel is not only reason able
but rest on the church at large, and on Lidual member according to his means municate unto him that teacheth in all Good things' (Gal. 6: 6. 6. 'Even so hath
the Lord ordained that they whin the gospel should live of the grospel
1 Cor. 9: 14). The sum Wesley was fixed as the lowest contribu-
ion, at a time when the valu was greater than at present."
The systematic metho dopted by which is now being largel sometimes the churches, and which is ubstantially. the Pae envelope system, is ted to the circumstances of tc-day. In
Wesley's timeone was known dist because he was connected a Metho class-meeting; and he thereby becam



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THE WESLEYAN, FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 1879.

| SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON. |  |
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| PTEMBER 7, 1879 | Thessalonians asked the Apostre, |
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| Expositios |  |
| 13-them which are aslep ; those |  |
| dead, accorus Scripure frequtent- | But the disem Lodied state is not the high- est. Will there be no resturation of the |
| sion, found in Scripture frequent- | est. malso, and do recorery of the whole |
| Datinaters, John xi. 11. The daught | person from the curze of death? This |
| f Jairus, Matt, is. ${ }^{\text {at }}$. Stephen, Acts | was the question which Paul was Waswer. Where did be find bis |
|  | answer. a (eliering people are members of the body |
| retered to was lest tweir departod |  |
| ds shuuld have no share in the glory |  |
| dist's seoond advent. is orrow con- |  |
| iy turbiden. fituagi we may be | spot with straining eyes of agony. 19 the |
| ted to laineat our own loss. S. r | bead appears, tbey know the man will float |
| the dead belo | aga |
| dop, the heat |  |
| not be |  |
| d. Versc 14-Jesus died and | did |
| in. As Christ, the bead, died and |  |
| eagain, even go sball all the members |  |
| : the | day was at band (Rom. xiii. 12). The |
|  | ${ }^{\text {no }}$ |
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$\qquad$ $\frac{\begin{array}{l}\text { mandments do not only forbid sin in out- } \\ \text { ward ations, but and an in the thoughts } \\ \text { and parposes of the mind. }\end{array}}{\text { CONTEMPORARY OPINIONS }}$ $\square$ doubles that of Minnesota, and triples
that of Pemnsylvanian andio. In the
third place it will interest political

$\qquad$ CAMP-MEETINGS.

Chaprer F . 1 ,-Of the times and sea
sonse of the Lord's cuniur. "Times' do




frum believing Curistians to unbelieyng
and unthiuking wen. Matt. xxir. 38 , 39 ,
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prayer be generally offered for the
Divine benediction upon these services.
-Zion's Heratl
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|  | Messrs. Dun, Barlow \& Co. say that, |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Englatd Sabbath by a great | "never before in our experieace in the | per day that the builocks shoul |
| formation. Our religious newspapers | compilation of these statistics has the decrease mm mercantile casualities been | driven that were provided for |
| cannot's write it back. We cannot | decrease in mercantile casualities been | army. The equipments of his men were |
| preach it back Cosrentions will | \%o marked; in no previous period has the comparison of losses br bad debts | cared for 10 all their minutix. The same exactness he introduced into his |
| raise it from its grave. It has pa |  | same exactness he introduced into his |
| from our hands. It died of w | been so favorable as at the present | administration of civil affairs. From |
| and a loss of spiritual life. Its sanctity | hour." The same firm claims |  |
|  | is an increase of at least 20 |  |
| vanished from the day itself. Tb | the volume of business in this country, |  |
| slightest oxcuse and occasions | slowing that the improvement is no | devotion he th |
| justify the breach of its quiet. The | longer conjectural. The "hard times" | ably secured him his many and decis- |
| and the | so called may be said to be over. The | ive victories. No great commander |
| whistle of the steamers fill the Sabbati |  | lea |
| air. Our popular ministas |  |  |
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| the groaning trains and unnumbered | OBITUARY | an |
| carcomes rash. tay tach cha |  | he generously poured the very rivest. |
| spect. Conscience Las lost the delicacy |  | arsmip and intimate acquaintance |
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| dea of the | ${ }_{\substack{\text { spp } \\ \text { che }}}$ | of English and Latin classics. Every |
| day is lost. | most ardent, her pathway becaime durken- | syllable was submitted to the closest |
| us break do | ed by the dread sladows of consumption. | serutiny, the cadence of the verse was |
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| forms of recreation that have heretof |  | toned, every picture |
| marked the European | at | suffered his poen to pass into print. |
| the dar. The disciples of t | wost of her frieuds; only is slight cold it | This palace of thought was no single |
| ot cast the devil out. We can o | was thought, frou which, by careful nars- | nig |
| the day-His day-to the L | ing and the blessing of God she might |  |
| for him to do it. A great and | doowed to disapp | lamp of Aladin, but was built up |
| outpouring of His |  | coral reef, partcle by |
| spiritual reinforce | to fel | this complete mastery |
| cover both His Church and His Loly |  | cured |
| -Zion's Herald. - | Daily we bebeld the wasting process g |  |
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| Re N | tou truly that the |  |
| meetings. |  |  |
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| ys of conducting | the haue te was coatined to ber rovim, |  |
| ayer-meeting well. One of the best | adicu tueatriby | zenles in the hamble hives of the sleep, ing cottagers nutil the scenery and |
| selcet twelve or fiften versea of Surip. | During the latter part of heer sicicheos | persouages of every picture at last |
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THE SUN FOR 1879.


THE WESLEYAN, FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 1879

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