

Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1872.

Our Institutions at Sackville have been working up to their full strength hitherto with all they could obtain by way of compensation from the Governments of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Twenty-four hundred dollars annual grant has been withdrawn by the latter, leaving them in a condition which demands prompt and liberal aid from the part of our people. The Board of Trustees at its session a few days ago reviewed the situation, and concluded that any attempt to work the Institutions with a reduced income must tend to cripple them hopelessly. They consequently agreed unanimously to represent the emergency to the Conference and ask it to take certain measures for securing an Endowment. We will briefly glance at the leading features of this subject and endeavor to show that the cause is worthy of generous and universal support.

Had this action of the N. B. Government been decided upon a few years ago there would have been no doubt that our condition would have been pitiable. With a debt of nearly twenty thousand dollars, chiefly on the Female Academy operation, we would have been at least partially suspended. The astonishing success which crowned the efforts by which the splendid new academy was erected, left, as may be remembered, a surplus sufficient to reduce the general debt to an endurable fraction. Since then, with all the expenditure incurred by extensive repairs and costly heating-apparatus, the debt has been gradually going down. There are not, consequently, fair facilities for affording all the advantages required by students anywhere in the Provinces.

The record of our educational work at Mount Allison is a splendid one. From both departments of Academic training, students have gone out to the world by hundreds, and the instances have been few in which they have brought discredit upon their Alma Mater.

Secondly, when the lay delegation movement had achieved its final victory, those who had opposed it, and those who doubted whether its success did not bode ill to the cause dear to them, graciously accepted it with a purpose to make the best of it.

The General Conference has made a noble addition to the Episcopate of the Church it represents, having elected no less than eight new bishops, all of them men of mark and decided influence and character. These, according to custom, have been inaugurated in office by the ceremony of consecration—a sort of ordination by the laying on of hands by Bishops and Elders. We have no doubt that this service was a deeply solemn and impressive one. Yet it is open to question whether it would not be judicious to employ a more simple method of inducting Methodist bishops into office than that of ordination. Methodism everywhere should guard against the development of sacerdotal tendencies. Especially should American Methodism guard against such a development, for it would work disastrously for that church. Once let the younger clergy of the Methodist Episcopal Church be indoctrinated with the idea of a distinction of orders between Bishops and Elders, once let them get their minds deluged with the divine origin of Episcopacy dogma, and such of them as shall be capable of reasoning and acting logically will soon withdraw themselves from a communion manifestly not possessed of an historical basis for such a dogma to rest upon. There are those who fear that this insidious dogma is not regarded with as much repugnance as it merits in certain quarters in the Methodist E. Church. Possibly there is no just ground for apprehensions on this score, although some somewhat unguarded utterances have lately been made on this subject by some of its more eminent members, as well as by some of the fraternal deputations to the General Conference. The language employed for instance by the so called Methodist Episcopal Church of Canada in reference to this matter, before the Brooklyn General Conference was perfectly startling. One of them actually attached so much importance to having a President elected for life and called a Bishop, that he treated the General Conference to send missionaries into Dominion fields efficiently occupied by the Canadian Wesleyan Methodist Church, whose chief officer is called President, and elected from year to year. Such insensate folly, such dangerous puerilities ought to find no encouragement in any observance, custom or form of expression tolerated by the Methodist Episcopal Church.

J. R. N.

It is thought that the Conference will adjourn on Monday, June 18. The session has been laborious and important. We will give a summary of its important results hereafter. Lay Delegation has worked well. The lay delegates have been punctually in their places, have attended closely to business, and have been full in all the deliberations of the body. The most successful one by this time convinced of the value of this great change in the economy of the Church.—N. Y. Methodist.

ADVANCE, HALT, OR RETREAT?—WHICH?

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NEWFOUNDLAND.—WHAT THEY SAY OF IT.

A new mode of catering for the sensational-loving public has been resorted to of late in the American cities. Distasteful and unwholesome as are described in all the organs of unscrupulous crime, and under all the exquisite sufferings of justice, by writers who have little to inform them beyond their own imaginations, and are bold through the confidence that they shall escape punishment. Newfoundland has received notice of this mode of catering for the sensational-loving public has been resorted to of late in the American cities. Distasteful and unwholesome as are described in all the organs of unscrupulous crime, and under all the exquisite sufferings of justice, by writers who have little to inform them beyond their own imaginations, and are bold through the confidence that they shall escape punishment.

LETTER FROM MONTREAL.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—In the short time that has elapsed since my last to you was written the scene in Montreal has changed from ice on the water, and snow on the land, to that of early summer, and the warm and business. Scores of ships, steamers, and river craft are at the wharves on which thousands of men are employed. The heat of the day when clear is quite high enough for comfort. The trees growing in the streets afford already a lovely and grateful shade; when evening comes there is a solemn hush.

The rapid progress of the city is owing partly to its advantages as a port for ships, and its central position for railroad routes. For the latter the wonderful Victoria bridge affords great facilities. It is now contemplated to construct a railroad on the north shore of the St. Lawrence, with another bridge over the great river. This project has been named the Northern Colonization Railroad. Its enterprise represents the application of the corporation to take stock to the amount of a million of dollars. This led to great discussions. The grant requested so far found favor in the Council, that they placed it favorably before the citizens for their suffrages. The grant was voted 3,972 votes had only 116 against it. But few voted subsequently, and the proportion of yeas and nays, was not affected thereby.

The report showed a total of 919 schools, an increase during the year of 176 schools. Scholars, 153,492, increase, 24,683. Very able addresses were delivered by the Chairman, Westminister, 124 male students are being trained under the Principality of the Rev. G. M. A. At the Parent Institution, Westminister, 124 male students are being trained under the Principality of the Rev. G. M. A.

The Home Missionary Anniversary was held in the City Road Chapel, on the day following the great Foreign Missionary Meeting in Exeter Hall. W. McArthur, Esq., M. P. presided, and an excellent and earnest speech was given by the Rev. Charles Frest, gave an extended report, not in the usual printed or written form, but in the course of an admirable speech in which with very great tact and skill, he pointed out the necessity of increased liberality and grounds for sanguine hopefulness in our future operations.

The income of this branch of our aggressive agencies, is for this year about \$30,000, a very large share of this is appropriated to claimant and to the support of the centres of Methodist effort. This arises from the union of the Contingent Fund with the Home Mission Funds. The operations of the Home Missionary work have produced very gracious results in Wesleyan as well as in other denominations. 80 Home Missions were employed. In connection with this movement more than 100 chapels have been erected. 54 houses for preachers have been provided, and the regular Circuit work has largely benefited from the year to year. Reports of a most successful nature are received from the Army and Navy Departments of our Home Missions, and our Ministers are received with much respect, and treated with due courtesy by the Commanders of Her Majesty's Forces.

Circuit Intelligence.

During the quarter we have added three preaching places to our already large number, viz., Springfield, Coverhill, and Millville. At all these places we have a few Methodist families, who having removed into these new, but now flourishing settlements, have felt deeply the want of those services in which they were accustomed to part upon God previous to their removal from the old places. The ladies of the members of these families have been trained in our Sabbath schools, converted through the instrumentality of Methodist ministers, and for years, previous to their removal, had been instrumental in obtaining our services; some of them have come 15 miles to ask for preaching; and have offered to do all they can to sustain the financial interests of the mission.

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President Allison expressed his gratitude

