



Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1863.

In consequence of the official relation which this paper sustains to the Conference of Eastern Districts...

"The Missing Link."

We have lately been reading a small volume bearing the above title. Though quite romantic, it is by no means a romance.

The scenes which it depicts have been witnessed in London—that city of wealth and centre of Christian influence—yet for darkness and misery they could scarcely be surpassed in the land of heathenism.

So mutual are the relations of the various orders of British society; so closely allied to each other are they by the principle of inter-dependence...

It is stated that—not only in the metropolis, but also in many of the provincial towns of Great Britain—while two-thirds of the population are rising towards affluence, and one-sixth has attained it, so in like manner, two-thirds are descending towards poverty, and one-sixth has reached the lowest level, and is all but hopelessly sunk in wretchedness and vice.

The abodes—for homes they can scarcely be called—of these outcasts, for dirt and discomfort, beggar description. They are found in the alleys and lanes which represent the architecture of a former age—tolerable enough, when each house was but the residence of one family...

But public sympathy has at length been roused with reference to these city Arabs. Home Missions have been established, and are now operating most beneficially. Ragged Schools and Juvenile Reformatories have been originated for the children, and Mothers' Associations have been commenced with good effect.

Providence has raised up an agency to meet this peculiar necessity. And this, as it has seized upon the lowest grade of the community, and has been instrumental to a very considerable extent in restoring it to an honourable position, has well been named "The Missing Link."

A poor woman, nursed and reared amidst this destitution, is the first to visit a library which is opened for the benefit of her neighbourhood. Having never seen a Bible, she is induced by curiosity to ask the loan of one. To her surprise she obtains it as a gift.

She writes to the City Missionary, that the love of Christ constrains her, and that she is anxious under his direction to visit the sick, to instruct, as far as she is able, the ignorant, and to help forward in any way the temporal and spiritual interests of those who still are as she formerly was.

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from the prophetic seal of Divine truth; and while the amazing events of modern times demonstrate the reign of Divine providence, from these dens and rookeries of London come forth the most glorious displays of the efficacy of the Gospel of Christ.

The little work which contains this narrative is worthy of a large circulation. It should occupy a place among those elaborate volumes which treat of the evidences of Christianity. Parents should put it in the hands of their children.

As the first day of the week is the Christian Sabbath in the stead of the seventh; and as the Lord's Supper is the Christian Passover in the stead of the Jewish Passover; so Baptism is the Christian circumcision in the stead of the Abrahamic circumcision.

It is often deferred to adult age, by some from want of opportunity, by others from opposition to Infant baptism, but it was never repeated by the apostles.

All Missionary Societies, by constant exertions, find that suitable agents are necessary. The first of these is the necessary fund. The intimations of God's Providence are always in advance of the movements of his Church.

These remarks apply to the sustenance of the cause of Christ, at home as well as abroad. How few among the Wesleyans give according to their ability? And yet I believe no section of the Church gives more largely; but the measure of duty in giving, we are not to find by comparison with others.

It is high time to awake out of sleep, as regards this matter! Some worthy Ministers of the gospel are now very much tried and perplexed with pecuniary matters. In our branch of the Church, the allowance to Preachers, which is sufficient, could it be realized; but of late this is not the case generally.

There is yet another way by which the cause of religion may be sustained. Death-bed giving. When a rich man expects to die, he is often led to reflect upon his past life, and perceiving that he has not given to God that proportion of the property with which he was entrusted, that he ought have given, now resolves to act more wisely, and accordingly wills a large amount to the Godlike enterprises of the age.

For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband; as the seed of Abraham, in whom all the families of the earth were to be blessed.

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Abraham's seed, or that he that believeth shall be saved, and he that believeth not shall be damned, and also that "the promise is unto you and to your children," as it was to Abraham and his children.

C. here was but one circumcision—'outward' in the flesh, one inward in the spirit—'outward' in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God. B. There is but one baptism—'one' with water and one with the spirit. As Paul said of the Jew, that he was not truly circumcised if his circumcision was only outward—so he would say of the Christian, that he was not truly baptized if his baptism was only outward.

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Duty, Ministers and Money. This is called an age of progress, and in many respects the designation is correct, in others it is not applicable.

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Parliamentary. House of Assembly. The house met at 3 o'clock. Several local bills were read a second and third time.

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