







THE WESLEYAN

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1883.

RENEWALS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We are waiting patiently to hear from all our subscribers before we revise our lists. We dislike very much to lose a single name, but the rule of the Book Committee forbids us sending the paper to any subscriber who has not paid 2.00 within twelve months.

S. F. HUESTIS, Publisher.

A PLEASING FACT.

The revival in our churches in this city still continues. Interesting services at the Grafton St. Church could not be suddenly closed; nor could meetings announced for Charles St. be longer postponed.

In our religious exchanges we mark a pleasing fact in reference to revival work—the fact that special blessings are being enjoyed by Sunday-schools.

In this work many of our town and country pastors are now engaged, though not wholly among the young. Men and women are coming, but our young friends seem more ready than those who have outgrown the sweet promise.

A hint here will not be out of place. Of an English Methodist pastor, Alfred Barratt, it was said, "The godly, humble members of his flock always felt they had a true friend in him, and he, firm friends in them."

A COMING VOLUME.

Dr. Ryerson's "Story of My Life," of which the public some months since had the promise, is now passing through the press at our Toronto Book Room.

That portion of the volume which we have been made familiar with by the establishment of the Christian Guardian, which Dr. Ryerson was the first editor, and ends with an account of the excitement produced by the publication in its columns of the Doctor's "Impressions" during an official visit to England.

In the Local Parliament the great subject of interest thus far has been the reception of the documents in relation to the Railway Syndicate, and the negotiations of the Commissioners with parties in London.

While pencils are yet being sharpened for the discussion of Union, facts are being readily furnished for pages of church history. The topic must soon cease to be a matter of argument, and thence must pass into the catalogue of earnest, practical questions.

This cordial endorsement of the proposed Basis is being received by the "minor bodies" with evident satisfaction. Their feelings had been rendered somewhat sensitive by allusions to their ministers and people which they deemed offensive to themselves and unworthy of the writers.

which each shall see a reminder of past victories and an incentive to grander effort in the service of our common Lord and Master.

The Canada Christian Advocate, which has acted like a maiden not easily won, because, perhaps, our contemporary, the Christian Guardian, has not been a very demonstrative wooer.

The vote of the Methodist Church of Canada was regarded by many as the turning point in the Union agitation. For, if they had pronounced an adverse verdict the whole movement would have been effectually checked.

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The reports of the various Departments, Dominion and Local are being distributed with promptness. The statement of Public Accounts was laid on the table of the House of Commons last week.

In the Local Parliament the great subject of interest thus far has been the reception of the documents in relation to the Railway Syndicate, and the negotiations of the Commissioners with parties in London.

Some of our readers are getting weary of the discussion on Union, and others, though deeply interested in the topic, are concluding that all that can henceforth be said must only be a repetition of what has already been said.

The floating of the black flag over Irish jails has done what offered rewards could not do. The Government seems now master of the situation.

Canadians are far from being satisfied with the law as regards bankruptcy. Failures take place and both debtor and creditor need an equitable method of closing up the estate.

Methodism in Canada is trying to follow the example of Presbyterianism by uniting its different sects into a single church. May success wait upon its efforts!

"There's some Christianity in that four-dollar note," said a friend. "Indeed there is," was our reply. This brief conversation was called forth by a note to the editor, from "Member—Halifax North."

Great rivers have their value, but are terrible masters when they rise in their strength. The woe and misery attending their overflow, and the desolation and sickness following their subsidence, only too well attest their might.

A number of papers are copying the statement that the newly elected Archbishop of Canterbury is the grandson of the Rev. Joseph Benson, a well-known Methodist commentator, and twice President of the English Wesleyan Conference.

UNION.

THE TERMS: EQUAL LAY DELEGATION.

There are a few aspects of the financial question not glanced at in my last paper for want of space.

We are asked to accept, as a condition of union, equal lay delegation in the Annual Conference. It is that requirement a novel one? Does nothing like it exist elsewhere?

It is argued that the laymen of our Church do not demand the concession tendered. Be it so. But how long would it be before such a demand would be made should the basis be rejected by the Annual Conference?

It is objected that the doubling of the size of existing Annual Conferences by the addition of such a large number of lay representatives would render satisfactory billings of the members an impossible task.

Why should it not be made as easy to transfer in case of need tens as to transfer units from one contiguous Conference to another? Must an improved Transfer Committee be deemed an impossible creation?

The great advantage then of the "Basis of Union" is that it is a fair and honest compromise. No church has any to another, "We got the better of you in this bargain."

cently met in Toronto that almost every article in the "Basis of Union" has been objected to by some one.

Nor will the objections made surprise or vex even the most ardent advocates of union. It will not vex him, for he wishes to know, we hope, and wishes every one else to know every thing that can be urged against the proposed "Basis," so that if there be any grave difficulties which the committee might have overlooked they could be provided for in time, or the union scheme arrested.

It has been said by one writer that union upon any plan is undesirable; and that if these churches could by any pressure be brought to unite with us, we should make a great change in our polity, it would be no great advantage.

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Mr. Editor.—We seem at length, to have reached the last objection to the "Basis of Union." From the grave question of the Church's name every thing debatable in this important document has been discussed, I may add, discussed with much impartiality and no little skill.

draw a preliminary position, and approve it. Toronto.

DEAR THE EDITOR: I am glad to see that the meeting of the General Conference of the Wesleyan Church in Toronto is being held in accordance with the arrangements made by the Executive Committee.

At the Union meeting held in Toronto, the subject of Union was discussed at length, and the results were generally favorable.

Mr. Editor.—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your issue of the 23rd inst., and to thank you for the interest you have taken in my views.

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