



Correspondence.

New Brunswick.

MR. EDITOR.—Permit me to say that the Provincial Wesleyan is becoming increasingly popular in this city; and, in my opinion, it deserves to be so. One evidence of this is the rapidly increasing list of subscribers. As the Provincial Wesleyan is now sent gratuitously to the dwellings of those who desire it, one cannot but hope that its patrons in St. John will soon be further augmented. Having forwarded the names of several new subscribers, I feel bound, so far as is in my power, to add notes on local matters. If by example shall excite to general imitation throughout the year, the current volume of the official organ of our Connexion will greatly exceed in value and utility the volumes of its earlier years.

During the Conference in Sackville, three adults belonging to our congregations reached the house appointed for all living.—Mr. C. Smiler, the late proprietor and publisher of the Temperance Telegraph, being one of them. My colleagues diligently visited these departed friends in the weary weeks and days when their "ashes and hearts" were falling. Well grounded hope was affixed that their souls were in the hands of the Prince of Life. But the knowledge that several persons who belonged to our pastoral charge had completed their probationary course for eternity, together with the uncertainty of the continuance of life to all our hearers, were adequate to impart additional seriousness to the preachers' ministrations, and increased earnestness to their exhortations.

Occasion was early taken, after the ordinary service on a Sabbath evening, to communicate to the society such particulars of the Conference as would most deeply interest them. And, happily, there was no measure to recommend, the society was affectionately requested to sustain the institutions of the Church, and promote its objects by their accustomed pious activity, liberality and prayer. The Rev. Mr. Albrigham read the Annual Address of the Conference in German Street Church, accompanied by his judicious comments. The visitation of the classes in this Circuit is rather a laborious work. However, it has been done for the first quarter, and the schedule, ordered by the Conference in conformity with the practice in England, has been duly filled up, as far as respects the numerical state of all the classes, amounting to forty-six. More members move from this city in the summer, than in all the other parts of the year. Although in some of the classes there has been a decrease of thirty-one, yet in the whole society there has been an absolute increase of members, and six remain on trial. For this we may well thank God, and take courage.

One of the accessions to our Church is a person beyond the middle age, who had never been baptized. He appears to have been awakened to the necessity of conversion by the reading of a religious tract.—Residing in the vicinity of the Rev. C. Stewart, who found him out in his domestic visits, he soon became more perfectly "fructified in the way of the Lord." After due probation and examination this person publicly professed his faith in Christ in the presence of a large congregation, and being baptized he received from Mr. Stewart the right hand of fellowship. The baptismal service was peculiarly solemn and impressive, and the congregation was unusual in our congregations in this Circuit.

Preaching in the street on Sabbath afternoons has been resumed, at which the hearers are more numerous than last summer. This is one of the instrumentalities whereby the attendants in the new church are fast approximating in number and regularity to the other congregations in the German street and Centenary Churches.

The first quarterly meeting of the Circuit was held on the 19th inst. The official members were generally present, and exhibited a delightful harmony of feeling, which promises well for their successful co-operation in the course of the year, in the anticipation of no unimportant services for the revival and extension of pure and undefiled religion. The expenditure of this Circuit is necessarily large, but the claims on the Steward for the quarter were exceeded by the income from the usual sources. The societies have only to do as they have done, and the commercial depression now embarrassing business men, and darkening the prospects of many families, with whom we deeply sympathize, will have no hurtful influence on the Church. "The times" do indeed call for economy, for more prayer, self-denial, and for renewed devotedness to God. Let the Church dutifully respond to this call, and the day is not distant when the acknowledgment shall be thankfully made that the things now happening furthered the saving designs of the Gospel.

According to intimation in your columns the meeting of the Financial Committee for this District was held on the 26th inst. In anticipation of the arrival of the Ministers in the city, the Lovefeast was appointed on the evening of the 25th. The object of this arrangement was attained. All the Ministers present spoke in the Lovefeast, and thus largely contributed to the edification and joy of the great number that had assembled, and were themselves refreshed by the hallowed service. It is not man's word, but God's. The liberal soul shall be made fat, and he that watereth shall be watered also himself. (Prov. 11:25.) It was indeed good to be there. Many sprang with growing ardour towards the holiness of heart and life to which we are called; and every one, it is believed, resolved to succeed to be faithful unto death, that the great end of our hope and faith may be finally obtained—a crown of life which shall never fade away.

In the pleasant and growing village of Barnesville (formerly South Stream), in the Upham Circuit, a new and larger chapel is being built. It will be of wood—the frame is erected and boarded—the whole is finished, and is to be finished about January next. The fittings will be from a debt will be contracted. The chapel site is regularly deeded to the Connexion according to the provisions of the model deed, enrolled in the Court of Chancery in this Province.

The Sons of Temperance have determined to raise a suitable monument to their late zealous, eloquent, and effective advocate, Mr. C. Smiler. No individual subscription towards this monument is to be entered on the list. The whole business has been placed in charge of a strong committee who hope to have consummated their labours by the next Anniversary of the introduction of the Order into New Brunswick, and then to inaugurate the memorial by appropriate solemnities.

Yours truly, E. B. St. John South, August 28.

Provincial Wesleyan.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 2, 1857.

Compendium designed for this paper must be accompanied by the name of the writer in confidence. We do not assume responsibility for the opinions of correspondents.

The Indian Crisis.

Eastward the star of discord takes its way. No sooner has the crimsoned Crimea ceased to be the scene of conflict than Persia provides a cause of disturbance; and Persia is no sooner pacified than tumult rises in India, and England's empire in the East becomes the centre of the world's excited gaze. The horrors of the mutiny in Bengal have thrilled the hearts of men in every land and the universal exclamation is, Whence hath it arisen, and whither does it tend? To form an adequate idea of the crisis through which British supremacy in the East is now passing, we must first obtain an accurate view of the position of the English in Hindostan. What is that dominion whose magic rise and marvellous growth outstrips the stories of romance? By whom is it held? and in what manner maintained?

Our territory in India is equal in extent to the whole of Continental Europe outside the boundary of Russia; and the population it contains about as great. Our gracious Queen enthroned in her sea girt isle stretches forth her hand and sways the sceptre of supremacy over an Asian region so vast and people so numerous that she were deprived of the possession, and our exchange received the sovereignty of Europe from Cape St. Vincent to the Mores, up to the Baltic sea and round to Cape St. Vincent again, she would probably have no gain in territory or in subjects. The area in square miles is 1,868,112. The population is stated in round numbers at 160,000,000, though we have assumed, not without authority, that it more nearly approaches two hundred millions. The armies of Continental Europe, excepting as before, are 2,300,000 men, while Britain has in India 321,500. An English writer referring to the number of troops says, "This is a great army; yet its proportion to the extent of the Empire presents a forcible comment on the nature of British rule. Compare it with the proportion which the armies of the Continent bear to the population of the respective countries, and you might imagine that we were holding conquered nations, and we governing our hereditary soil. Forty-nine thousand out of the whole are Englishmen—a loss number than is generally found anywhere to govern the one city of Paris! Even the native Rajahs, with a population of 55,000,000, have 400,000 soldiers; while we, with double the population, have 110,000 less, though they are guaranteed against external war, and we have to take all risks. Then our 240,000 native troops are a strength or a weakness, just as our authority is popular or the reverse. Were their attachment lost, how formidable would they be, taught in our mode of war, and five times as numerous as the English soldiers! Were they and the troops of the Rajahs united against us, it would be 50,000 against 640,000. You may travel through India for days together without coming on a military station. You may pass through kingdoms, with three millions or more inhabitants, containing only one post of European troops. You may find great cities without a soldier; the remains of vast fortifications, seen in which not a uniform vest is visible, except such as there, when contrasted with the constant display of military force in the countries even of civilized Europe, forcibly prove that the power of the English has foundations in the homes of the people, as well as in the cantonments of the soldiery."

The fact is evident that possessions so vast held by numbers so few must be maintained much less by military than by moral power.—There is a prestige of might surrounding Britain which awes the native mind,—the fruit of her early and invincible prowess,—but the bulk of the millions held in subjection by fewer thousands! The truth is, England has something nobler than the conqueror's renown on which to rest her claims to the people's allegiance. Darkened as are the pages of our Indian history with stains of deepest dye, it cannot be denied that we have done the Hindoo good. Though in the work of material advancement, moral education, and Christian enlightenment, we have miserably fallen short of our duty, yet we have not altogether failed, and India is happier to-day and nearer the goal of moral regeneration than it never has been but for British rule. Is it possible to demand? The tokens of material advancement meet you everywhere, in furniture, in dress, in modes of transit. The rude boat, and the cow, are supplanted by the steamer and the rail-car. "The Government steamers that now ply the three hallowed and bloody waters of the Great Ganges are crowded with passengers." The railway trains on ordinary occasions are thronged like excursion trains in England.—The telegraph is established, and the Hindoo works the wonderful machine. Peace and comfort now prevail where formerly disorder and terror reigned. Life and property—once the sport and spoil of unchecked robbers, tyrannical princes and dishonest police—are now secure under theegis of British protection.—In the settled provinces, says the London Quarterly Review, "any British Subject, even a pauper, who conceives himself to be wronged by authority can sue the Company in its own courts; and five hundred such cases do occur in a year, often with gain to the subject; every man may find his labor to the best market, may multiply his wealth indefinitely without fear; villages are built without walls; walled villages their walls to crumble; no marauding chief can stir; no internal war is heard of; the Thugs are broken up; it under servants of the Government, according to traditional usage, plunder under guise of police they have but to be detected to be disgraced; the upper courts are pure; codes are published which must bind the highest authorities in the land; public servants are as secure of office and life as at home; only crime can harm them; conquered Princes are pensioned: every one may profess what religion he will, without civil penalties; no widows are burned; as far as noble efforts and much vigilance can prevent, infants are saved; no slave exists: the millions of domestic have encouragement to raise themselves in domestic service in the army, or in any office for which they may qualify themselves by education and character; the press is completely free: the people may meet, discuss, and petition: no new law is put in force till it has been two months at least, before the people, open to the criticisms and remonstrances of all, which often produce modifications, sometimes withdrawal; and in a word, the Coolie of Calcutta has political rights which are denied the Servant of Paris, and freedoms which no subject of the great Continental monarchies can claim,—freedom of person, without espionage, pass-port, or other check; freedom of association; freedom of the press; freedom of labor; and, with one or two 'habeas exceptions' by Government monopoly, freedom of commerce."

Progress in letters is seen in the multiplication of printed books, of schools, and the numbers of those who learn the English tongue. In religion,

we have done something for India; shamefully little must be confessed, yet sufficient when we remember how brief the time within which the most part has been accomplished, to encourage the hope that the light of Christianity will ere long chase the dismal darkness of Heathen night from that idolatrous land. "The Bible," we quote again from the same Review, "is translated into ten languages, the New Testament into four others. In some languages as many as thirty, forty, or even seventy tracts and books are published; and SEVENTY-FIVE printing establishments are maintained. Towards the cost of these missionary labours, about THIRTY-THREE THOUSAND POUNDS annually, are raised in India.

"The Romanists appealed to the natives by conforming to their own ceremonial, or, where in power, by exerting authority. The Dutch enforced baptism at the peril of civil punishments. The modern Protestant Missionaries approach the defenses of Brahmanism with no weapons but the sermon, the book, the school. The fact that more than a hundred thousand Hindoos have, with only such inducements, openly renounced their ancestral creed, is more significant than it would be among any other people; for they are proverbially easy to change; and such is the closeness of caste ties, that the conversion of any number of individuals against a large community, which feels its traditions violated, and its integrity impaired. No fact is more expressive of the broad made on Hindoo idolatry than that fourteen thousand Hindoo females are in schools managed by foreigners, and open to the designs to subvert the religion of the natives. By native usage no female learned to read, but those devoted to public shame; thus the force both of custom and of modesty was arrayed against the friends of female education. That they have done so much, is but the earnest of great things yet undone."

A word on the cause and the probable consequences of the mutiny must be reserved.

The Deputation in England.

The Watchman furnishes the following report of the introduction of Messrs. Pickard and Churchill to the British Conference, and the Addresses delivered:—

The Secretary introduced the Representatives of the Eastern British American Conference, the Revs. Charles Churchhill, and Humphrey Pickard, A. M., Principal of the Wesleyan Academy, Mount Allison, New Brunswick.

The Rev. CHARLES CHURCHILL, from Halifax, Nova Scotia, spoke in substance as follows: "Mr. President, Esteemed Fathers and Brethren.—In rising to address you my mind is deeply impressed with a profound respect for the value of the time of the Conference. When that time is so limited, and the matters of business to be transacted are of such weighty importance—to devote so much time to the numerous deputations which have arrived from the different affiliations of the Conference, demands our respect and appreciation. Had I come, Sir, as a private individual, (and since I was sent out by the Missionary Society twenty years ago it has been a constant desire that I might return and some day attend the session of this august body—though I never looked forward to standing in my present position.) I should not have indulged in such a long and tedious address, but, appointed as a Representative to this Body I have a public duty to discharge. I come, Sir, with my esteemed colleague, to bring to you the filial regard and the affectionate greetings of the youngest member of the family of which this is the parent body, and as representing that youngest member, I have the honor to undertake the youngest always obtains. I should have been glad, Sir, had there been in this Conference a clearer definition and a better understanding of our real geographical position. In the announcement of "Dr. Simson and his associates," there has been a mixing up of us with the Canadian and the British. The British Conference, which conveys an erroneous impression. Let me state, Mr. President, that we are as distinct from the Canadian Conference as we are from the Australian, and as Englishmen, we are proud of our origin as a body, equally distinct. The Canadian world emigrated across the line 45 degrees of North Latitude, ours comes from the west, and our Missionary effort from your vessels, the fruits of the labors of the venerable William Black in the first instance, and organized as a Conference two years ago by one, the late Rev. Dr. Beecham, whose name will be cherished and revered, and never forgotten by us. My object, Mr. President, will be to lay before you facts, not mere sentiments; and for this purpose I shall claim for a few moments, the ear of the Conference. The Rev. Gentlemen here gave an outline of which the following is a summary:—"The Conference Proper comprised the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Islands of Prince Edward, Cape Breton, Newfoundland, and Bermuda. There were in the Conference 102 Ministers, including Supernumeraries and Preachers on trial; of the latter 9 were ordained at the Conference held last month, 17 remained as probationers, and more were received on probation, 4 having died during the year. There are 12,780 members, with 925 on trial, and nearly 10,000 children in the Sabbath-schools. He then referred to the establishment of the Connexion Fund, to the Book-Room of which he is the Book-Steward, to the Printing Establishment of the Conference Office under his care, the work being done by steam power with the latest improvements, to the Provincial Wesleyan Newspaper, the organ of the Conference, and a circulation already nearly half that of the Watchman in this country. He continued:—"It is true, Mr. President, we are now distinct and separate as a Conference, but that we are not indifferent, let our efforts in behalf of our Missionary Society testify. Upwards of 43,000 were raised during the last year, and I may add that of this 25,714 are Confessors in our own Circuits—the city of Halifax alone. We too have our Mission work. It is true that in our Missionary Report it is not yet defined and classified as it is in Canada, but it does not the less exist; there is nothing of spiritual destitution, and of hungering for the Word of Life, of opening doors of usefulness, which has been said of Canada, but what may be said of us. We have entered into a statement of the peculiar claims of Newfoundland and Labrador, and made an appeal for a man to be sent from England for the latter Mission.) I shall not occupy the valuable time of the Conference. I am to be followed by my esteemed colleague, the Principal of the Mount Allison Academy, who will enter into other important particulars. Let me now conclude, Sir, by asking a closer recognition of our position by this Conference, that when its deputations are sent to Canada and the United States, they may visit us. Be assured, that we represent a people loyal to Methodism in every respect, that neither pain nor pleasure can affect you but that it thrills sympathetically through the remotest ramifications of our body, and that we shall ever delight in our affiliated connection with this Body, while it will be our constant desire."

"To labor on at God's command, And offer all our hearts to Him."

The Rev. HUMPHREY PICKARD, Principal of the Mount Allison Wesleyan Academy, in New Brunswick, upon being introduced as one of the Representatives of the "Conference of Eastern British America," said that he regarded the position in which he then found himself as the Representative of the Conference of Eastern British America, attending in the British Conference, and, as such, by this Conference so kindly recognized, as the most honorable of his life; but the elevation of the position only served to make him so feel his own personal insignificance and unworthiness, that if he only consulted the predominant feeling in his own heart he would ask to be allowed to shrink away in silence to the most obscure corner of the house, where he might listen to the words of wisdom dropping from the lips of the venerated fathers and respected brethren before whom he was allowed to stand. He had been taught from his very infancy to regard the Methodist Missionary with highest respect. His parents had been converted to God through the instrumentality of the first really avowed student of the British Academy by the British Conference, more than half a century ago; and among his own earliest recollections were those of instruction received from the Rev. Wm. Burr, and the Rev. George Jackson, whom he rejoiced, after so many years, to meet again in this venerable Conference. But he must not neglect the duties of his office, but he, in connection with his excellent Brother Churchhill, represented—the most youthful of the Methodist-Confidential Family. As such he begged to be allowed to claim for it the peculiar attention and indulgent consideration of the highest ecclesiastical court of churches which had been established by Wesleyan Missionaries, acting under the direction of the noble Missionary Committee of the British Conference, is ambitious only to imitate the Parent Conference. We would follow you in effort for the good of the world faithfully, though we may not hope to do so with equal steps. In two years ago we have elapsed since our Conference organization, have necessarily been spent to a very great extent in preparatory work. Now, although, as my colleague has designated it, it is yet the infant Conference; and, therefore, but feeble, timid somewhat, and inexperienced, needing parental watchfulness, and kindly aid, and looking to this Conference for it with childlike confidence; yet I think it may be properly reported as healthy, and not altogether unworthy of parental recognition by this venerable Body. We have been educated in the doctrines and trained in the discipline and usages of the British Conference. I rejoice to be allowed to repeat emphatically the sentiments uttered by my colleague, that the Conference and Societies we represent are loyal to the British Conference. I also furthermore rejoice that I can add that they are loyal to the British Crown, and attached to the glorious principles of the British constitution. I come from a British colony, and I am free from the necessity of undertaking any embarrassing and repeated explanation of the position of the church I represent in regard to the accused system of slavery. I am proud to feel that I am a citizen of a truly free country; though not an Englishman. I am a British subject as given to me by the British Constitution, and I am free from the necessity of undertaking any embarrassing and repeated explanation of the position of the church I represent in regard to the accused system of slavery. I am proud to feel that I am a citizen of a truly free country; though not an Englishman. 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