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WESLEYAN MISSIONARY NOTICES,

CANADA CONFERENCE.

(A Plate of the Alnwick Mission Promises will appear in our next.)

No. II.]

FEBRUARY, 1855.

[QUARTERLY.

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TORONTO:
WESLEYAN CONFERENCE OFFICE,
KING STREET.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS ON THE BUSINESS OF THE MISSIONS ARE TO BE
ADDRESSED TO THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WESLEYAN MISSIONARY NOTICES.

FEBRUARY 1st, 1855.

HUDSON'S BAY.

The intelligence already received of the return in safety and health of the devoted and respected Deputation to Hudson's Bay, the Rev. John Ryerson, Co-Delegate, will we are sure, have been received by the friends of our Church and Missions with pleasure,—and that, after a protracted and perilous, important, official expedition, they will gratefully acknowledge the gracious authority which continues to give angels charge over his servants who trust in Him. On the completion of his onerous labours in the Territory, to expedite his return, the Deputation sailed to England in one of the Honourable Hudson's Bay Company's ships, and there received a welcome from the Parent Wesleyan Missionary Committee characteristic of that body, and exceedingly acceptable and honourable to the Deputation, whose free and full communications at several meetings obtained the warm admiration of the Committee; and had no correspondence have taken place on the subject with the Mission House in London since, we can readily conceive how cordial must have been their congratulations in the presence of the Deputation, whose arduous duties had been so successfully discharged in giving prompt effect to the Committee's transfer of the Bay Missions, and to the noble wishes and purposes of the Canada Conference.

The entire series of Letters prepared by the Deputation has been received, and for diversified and authentic information relating to the Company's Territory, and for vigorous and graphic description, we are not acquainted with any productions so comprehensive and reliable, and calculated to guide the managers of our Missionary Society. Several numbers of the series have appeared, as we are aware of the general anxiety to see them; and a wish to meet that feeling induces us to select another; but others of equal interest remain; their value to our Church is permanent; and their appearance should not be ephemeral; and we are gratified that the writer has consented to their publication in a more durable and acceptable form.

The Letter we now send forth is a narrative of thrilling *facts*, well calculated to create emotion in the reader,—and could we unreprieved draw other statements from the more personal records of a very hazardous occasion, we know enough to assure our readers that the emotion would be greatly increased. We now implore that benediction which shall give to efforts so efficiently performed a wide, and an accumulating influence in Hudson's Bay, in their future beneficial temporal and spiritual results.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. J. Ryerson, Co-Delegate, dated, London, Oct. 26th, 1854.

On Monday morning the 18th of September, at 6 o'clock, our luggage, &c., was sent to the ship "Prince of Wales" in the schooner, and at 10 o'clock Mr. and Mrs. Tom and their two sons, Mr. and Mrs. Hunter and child, Miss Bird and myself were conveyed thither in the packet-boat; the Captain accompanied by Doctors Rae and Combs followed soon after in the captain's gig. In the evening at 10 o'clock Mr. Mason, Dr. Bennet, and Messrs. Watson and Miles came on

board to spend the night with us and bid us farewell. So at supper we had a large party and spent two or three hours very agreeably. Captain Heard, Dr. Rae, Dr. Bennet, Messrs. Mason, Watson and Miles sung some beautiful odes and songs, and it was near 1 o'clock, a. m. when the party separated. All day Tuesday, the 19th, we were confined in the "five fathom hole," not being able to get out for the want of strong favourable wind, the wind being against us. Tuesday at 8 o'clock, a. m. we sailed. There were passengers in the cabin, Mr. and Mrs. Tom and two sons, Miss Bird, Mr. and Mrs. Hunter and child, Neal Finlinson, Esq., Doctor Rae, Messrs. Ross and Steinhaur. There were also about twenty-five steerage passengers. The crew consists of twenty-four men besides the captain and first and second mates, twenty-seven in all. The "Prince of Wales" is a fine ship of five hundred and fifty tons measurement, but capable of carrying eight hundred tons. She has now on board more than five hundred tons of fur skins. The trade of the North-west company must be immense. The cargo with which the ship is now freighted is estimated as worth not less than £120,000 *sterling*. The three first days after sailing the breeze was light but favourable; but on Saturday the 24th the wind turned against us and during the night we got entangled in the ice, or the ice became so thick around the ship that we were obliged to lay to and "wait for the morning," but when the morning light came it did not bring with it the discovery of the way of escape from the perils by which we were surrounded. We were between three and four days shut up in the ice, surrounded with fields and mountains of it, extending far beyond the reach of our vision even when assisted by the spy-glass. Fears now began to be entertained by all on board that we should not get out of the ice, at least towards the point of our destination. To be *closed in the Hudson Straits* in the early part of the season is nothing unusual and not particularly dangerous for the warm season is before you, but to be enclosed in the ice in *these Straits* just as winter is setting in, when you are liable to be *frozen up* any hour is most dangerous. We were in latitude 63—it was snowing

and blowing almost continually with a frost that put the thermometer down to 26 below zero; indeed there was every appearance of the winter setting in; and what added strength to the gloomy prospects was the universal belief that we were to have an early winter. The passengers looked exceedingly cast down. The captain himself appeared any thing but comfortable, and said that he never saw any thing on this wise in the Hudson's Straits at this season of the year, before, though he had navigated these waters for twenty years.

Wednesday the 28th, on the south side of the Straits we found a narrow channel of open water, through which we wended our way until we had passed the fields of ice, when by a strong head wind we were driven over to the opposite shore of the Straits; in the afternoon we found ourselves quite close to the shore of what is called Digg's Islands, the most barren and dreary looking region of all the desolate scenes I ever beheld.

Thursday.—We are now fairly in the Narrow Straits and near "Cape Walsingham" on the south side of the Straits. The hills and mountains of rocks that rise to a great height are covered with snow, and not the sign of vegetable life is visible upon them. Dr. Rae says, there does grow on these sterile hills of everlasting snow, a kind of heath or heather and a short kind of moss, upon which the rabbits live, that are found here in considerable numbers. We are now coasting along within five or ten miles of the shore, which is very bold, and the water very deep right up to the banks: it is said that the ship could in perfect safety, so far as the depth of water is concerned, go within twenty yards of the shore.

Friday the 29th.—The weather is extremely cold and we have no fire in our cabin: I can hardly keep myself from freezing. Yesterday for the want of wind we made little progress; during the night, however, the wind rose a little, or there came a little wind: towards morning it increased, so that in an early part of the day we had made eighty miles from where we were the evening before at 6 o'clock. We are now near Charles Island, a barren rock in the midst of the Straits, now and most of the year round

covered with snow : passing you see in the distance further south the main land, a promineny of which rising up above the surrounding country and extending further into the sea, is called "Cape Weggs." Beating against a head wind we were carried to the north side of the Straits, when we passed Cape Look Out, and a little while after, the North Bull and still a little later in the day, at a short distance from us we passed a large iceberg, supposed to be between fifty and seventy feet above the water, and some half acre in extent of surface ; it appeared spotlessly white and more like the dripping snow than ice. Just as the sun was setting we passed five more icebergs : the rays of the setting sun falling upon them gave them the appearance, in some parts, of variegated colors, and in other parts of brilliant whiteness, which as seen in the distance were objects of beauty surpassing description.

Saturday the 30th.—Last night we sailed about thirty miles and are now in lat. 63, and west long. 71. In the evening at tea during a conversation respecting the Esquimaux Indians, Captain Heard presented me with an Esquimaux spoon which he had obtained from some natives on the Labrador coast. These articles, Dear Sir, I will present through you to the Missionary Committee, to be kept in your office, should I be spared to return to my native country. This morning the weather is fine, and the wind fair, although we are making slow progress, the breeze being very light.—There is a splendid ice-berg near us, the drapery of which is so white as no fuller could whiten it. At two o'clock p. m., we passed the "Savage Islands," situated in lat. 63, and long. 70 50. Another ice-berg just by that, looms up to the height of ninety or a hundred feet above the water.

Sabbath, the 1st of September. Last night at twelve o'clock, we came within a hairbreadth of being destroyed by coming in contact with an ice-berg.—There was a thick white fog on the water at the time, and the first the watch saw of the ice-berg was the dashing of the waves against its side. We were then within a few rods of it, and going at the rate of between six and seven knots an hour. The watch sprang from the bow on the deck, and at the top of

his voice cried—"breakers ahead—down with the helm—hard up." The ship instantly obeyed the helm, and this saved us ; had we been one rod nearer to the ice-berg, when it was discovered ; or had there been one half-minute's more delay, in giving the command ; or the ship have been one atom more tardy in obeying the helm—we should have gone with our bow directly against the ice-berg, in which case all agree that nothing could have saved the instant destruction of the vessel, and, as the captain afterwards said, in five minutes not one would have been left to tell the tale of the sad disaster. As it was, when the ship came in contact with the ice-berg, she was turned perhaps one quarter round, and therefore struck with the *cheek* of her bow, and keeling over a little, raked along the side of it, the ice-berg breaking to atoms and carrying away the "cat-head," the spritsail-yard, the bumkin, the captain's boat called the gig, the bulwarks or the frame or cap of them—a piece of timber of strong oak, between eight and nine inches square. The cat-head is a piece of timber of strong oak, twelve or fourteen inches square, projecting two-and-a-half or three feet out of the quarter-bow : this was broken off as smooth as though it had been sawed off. Indeed it made clean work of it, not leaving a thing from stem to stern, projecting beyond the hull of the vessel. Pieces of ice broken from the ice-berg, fell on the deck of the ship. I felt anxious to preserve some of them, but this I had no means of doing. The ice-berg was as high as the masts of the vessel, and supposed to be near two acres in surface. The side the vessel struck was smooth or even, or comparatively so : this was most fortunate ; for had it been otherwise, we should still have been broken to pieces. The crash as it was, was tremendous. When the bulwarks gave way, the sound was as though the ship was breaking in two ; and then the noises, terror and excitement, attendant on the occurrences of those fearful fifteen minutes, I will not attempt to describe. All the days of my life will I render praise and thanks to the Supreme Being, for the peace and composedness of mind he gave me during the trying crisis. All this day the cap-

tain and all hands have been hard at work, endeavouring in some degree to repair the injury sustained by the ship, by the sad occurrences of last night.—The captain supposes the amount of damage to be more than sixty pounds: he seems a good deal despondent, and says that no such dreadful accident had ever before befallen a vessel on which he sailed. The wind is high, and directly against us: we are making, perhaps, no progress, but are beating about to avoid the ice-bergs by which we are surrounded; for two or three hours we have been near the monster ice-berg we struck last night: it almost makes one's blood freeze in the veins to look at its bold front of breast-work, seventy-five or a hundred feet above the water; it appears to be nearly four-square. There are now in sight thirteen ice-bergs: they surround us on every side, like herculean beasts of prey, waiting to swallow us up. I forgot to say in the proper place, that we struck the ice-berg in lat. 62 32, and long. 71 west.

Tuesday, Oct. 3d. For six or seven days we have been contending with a strong wind, that continues to blow most spitefully against us. It is now the fourteenth day since we left the Five-Fathom Hole at York, and we have yet more than a hundred miles to make, before we shall reach the mouth of the Straits! Are also still surrounded with ice-bergs: a few moments ago there were eighteen in sight. The wind being high and directly against us, our better way would be to lay-to, but for the ice-bergs; but that we may keep out of

their way, we are obliged to keep the ship constantly sailing.

On the 4th we encountered one of the most terrific gales ever met with in these waters. Our sails were torn to pieces, the jolly-boat broken, and otherwise much injury done to the ship, and we were driven forty-five miles back towards Hudson's Bay; but by Friday the 6th, we had regained our lost ground, and had reached the Buttons Islands, at the mouth of the Straits, passing them at six o'clock in the evening. For five days after we got out of the Straits, we had a fair wind and fine sailing. During the time we made more than a thousand miles of our voyage. We then met with another gale, that lasted for the most part forty-eight hours, and did the ship much harm. During the rest of our voyage, the wind was mostly favourable.—We arrived in London Oct. the 29th, 1854. Allow me to remark in conclusion, that Captain Heard is a most active and skilful commander; and from no officer with whom I ever sailed, did I ever receive so many acts of kindness, and experience so much attention. The passengers in the gentlemen and ladies' cabins, amounting to sixteen in number, were also most kind and agreeable. We lived together like a family of brothers and sisters, all endeavouring to contribute to the welfare and happiness of each other. I expect to sail from Liverpool, for America, about the 25th proximo; so I hope soon to have the pleasure of visiting my native land and home, and of seeing you, My Dear Sir, and my friends in Canada.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. T. Hurlburt, Chairman, dated, Rossville, September 14th, 1854.

Hoping I may have another opportunity to send this fall, by way of Red River, I prepare for the return of the Red River boats that are expected now soon.

The state of religion is hopeful. Our meetings on the Sabbath are well attended, and there is an appearance of increased interest in the means of grace. Last Sabbath it rained incessantly, with a cold north wind. Still our fine church was filled four times. 1st, in the morning at 6; at which time I read the morning service in Cree, and preached in Indian: the services of the day were

concluded with a prayer-meeting at 6 p. m.

We have a Sabbath-school of 80 scholars, 38 of whom stood up in a class and read in the English New Testament; 25 of these had memorized some verses of Scripture.

Our day-school averages 70 at this season of the year. During the winter we expect about 50 as an average attendance. Both our teachers have full employment.

In addition to the duties of the school Miss Adams teaches the school girls and

woman from the village, needle work of all kinds required—the cutting and making of garments, head dresses, &c.

Once a week the women of the village assemble, and take lessons in needle-work. Mrs. H. always attends these meetings, and after the sewing is over they turn it into a prayer-meeting.

The last meeting of this kind they say was an interesting one: nine of the women praying with much apparent devotion. This, I think, is a new thing here; but it has been Mrs. H.'s custom, in every place where we have been stationed, and it seems to have been an important aid in fostering individual effort and personal piety among the women. Miss A. has a prayer-meeting with the school children, especially with the girls, and four of them have commenced to pray. Miss A. has thus far spent all her time out of school hours in working with and for the females, especially the school girls.

We have some 300 copies of the gospel according to St. John, and about 800 copies of the hymn-book, unbound, and Mr. Taylor, our other teacher, makes himself useful in the book-binding department out of school hours.

I have not visited any of "the region that lieth round about" as yet. At this season the Indians have nearly all left for their winter's hunting ground, and could not be found. Brother Ryerson directed me to continue to employ the men that had formerly been in the employ of the mission; so that we now have two men with a view to make repairs on the mission premises, which are much needed, and I find my presence necessary to superintend these repairs. The mission house is good inside, but the roof is bad. Mrs. H. took up more than one gallon of water from under our bed, that beat in during one rain-storm. This was what came in in one room. Our store-house and kitchen must also have new roofs put on them, as they are covered with nothing but spruce bark, and it has been on from the first establishment of the mission. Our mission-house needs weather-boarding, or it will soon be gone. Our church and school-house and printing-office are fine buildings, well shingled, weather-boarded outside, and ceiled inside, and all nicely painted both inside and out.

These will endure for many years without repairs.

We have two men engaged, at £30 per annum, and they furnish themselves with all but fish. They are Indians belonging to the place, are members of the church, and are industrious men. One of them is a pretty good carpenter. We have the labour of these men for 2s stg. for each working day, and they find themselves. They are good sawyers.—In time I shall send them to the woods to saw boards. Our boards sawed by hand will cost us about £2 10s or so per 1,000 ft.

I do not understand the Cree language well enough to make it profitable to visit among the pure pagan Crees in the surrounding region. Those here nearly all understand Chippewa, more or less; still we have no suitable man for an interpreter. These two languages are constructed on precisely the same principles; but there are very few words that are exactly alike in both languages; at the same time two thirds of them are so nearly allied that after a little experience they can be understood. On learning this language the whole ground has to be sounded over, and word by word examined. One of the greatest difficulties I experience is when two words are the same in sound, but different in meaning, in the other language; for instance, *omau* in Chippewa is *this place, here*; *omau* in Cree is *this thing*. I hope to be able to preach in Cree in the course of the year. This will be necessary for me here on the borders of the countries inhabited by these two tribes. On first meeting the people from these two tribes do not understand each other at all. With these two languages at my command I could go any where from Labrador to the Rocky Mountains, and preach to all the tribes. The object to be obtained is worthy of the greatest effort; and I am working night and day to accomplish it.

Our most worthy friend and neighbor, George Barnston, Esq., has interested himself, with the other gentlemen of the Company, and annually raised some £8 10s, which is distributed in prizes among the School children. In these and other respects we experience the benefit of the friendship and patronage of the Honourable Company. Thus far I have seen nothing to convince me that

Mission operations will cost any more here than in Canada. There is much Mission property here of various kinds. We have a pretty good garden, and hope to have 100 bushels of good potatoes.

All well and in good spirits.

P. S. September 15th, there was a pretty hard frost, last night, for the first time, and our potatoes and other things are killed.

GARDEN RIVER.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Wm. Case, dated Alnwick, July 28th, 1854.

In my last I stated that "GARDEN RIVER" was among our most promising and prosperous Missions. My reasons for this opinion are.

1st. Its position will exercise an influence for good or evil, on several surrounding bands of Indians, both in Canada, Hudson's Bay, and Michigan.—Garden River is directly on the *highway* for communication with Owen Sound, Manetoolan, the various trading posts on the north shore of Lakes Huron and Superior, and the south shore of Superior, including *Nu-we-jah-me, Iovoy Washkey Bay* (Rev. Mr. Shaw's charge,) *Keway-we-nong*, and numerous tribes west and south. In the conversion and salvation of the Indian tribes, the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Wesleyan Methodist Church knew no political boundaries, each assisting other with men and means. The former commenced, and for many years supported our Canada Missions, and we in return commenced their Missions in Michigan, and still afford them Indian laborers in the work.

2nd. A large portion of the Indians at Garden River not only received the Gospel readily, but from a degraded, indolent, drunken, pagan tribe, became a *sober, praying, and industrious* people, showing an example in these virtues of the Gospel, worthy of all commendation.

In many other places we are shamed by their filth and indolence. At Garden River, there is no wandering for the chase, their children are at school, and their families are comfortable through the whole year. They must, of course, become intelligent and useful, exhibiting the design of the Gospel for the life which now is, as well as that which is to come.

3rd. The work of grace is progressing most favourably; of the 57 families about 20 are Methodists; about 20 are Catholics; about 14 are Pagan; and a few have attached themselves to the Church. The first are a sober, pious, and industrious people, and these virtues are advancing on each of the other bodies, through the faithful labours of our Missionary and his faithful assistant.

In closing these remarks, I most earnestly recommend that pecuniary assistance be afforded to put the Mission beyond embarrassment, under which the Mission is now labouring, for want of means to liquidate the debts necessarily incurred in the buildings for worship, the Missionary's family and family of the Teacher.

My next will show the influence this Mission is exercising in that country, and the opinion entertained by intelligent and respectable persons, both travellers and residents.

GRAND RIVER.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Wm. Ryerson, Chairman, dated Grand River, September, 1854.

In my report of last week I mentioned the general sickness with which we were afflicted, since which, I am sorry to say, our affliction has increased both in its extent, and especially in its fatal results.

Last Friday we buried two, a brother and sister, both the heads of large families, and both among our oldest members of the Church; the one, Sister Hess, the widow of the brother whose death I mentioned in my last; the other,

J. Carpenter, an old leader, and one of the best missionary collectors on the Mission.

I am happy to say, both of them were not only blessed with an assurance of the Divine presence and favour, and perfectly resigned, but more than resigned; they were, especially the latter, triumphant and rejoicing. One of the last expressions of Bro. C. was, "I am not sorry the Lord is taking me away; I am ready, I am prepared to go, only one thing makes me feel pain here, (laying his head on his breast) makes me feel sorry in my heart; it is, I pity my poor wife and helpless children; I feel sorry to think when I am gone there will be no one to take care of them, or get anything for them." On being told he must give them up to the blessed Saviour, and leave them in his merciful hands; that he would care for them and pro-

vide for his poor wife and children as well, and better than their poor dying father could; he replied, with a smile of confidence and hope, "that is true, I know it."

We yesterday buried another of our people, and there is a strong probability, I might say, to all appearance, certainly, that within a few days we shall lose two or three more; two of whom are our old and faithful members; the one a chief and leader, the other the wife of a local preacher.

Our teacher, Bro. Detlor, and wife and daughter, have all been down; I am told to-day they are better.

It seems as if the whole church was about to be swept away; I hardly know what to do, or what course to pursue. I never felt more discouraged and oppressed, or more doubtful as to the path of duty.

QUEBEC DISTRICT.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. B. Slight, A.M., Chairman, dated Sherbrooke, October 31st, 1854.

Our Financial District Meeting was held at Sherbrooke, on the 25th inst. The ministers were all present except Brother Pollard, who, we deeply regret to learn by letter, was detained by personal and family affliction. Our meeting was profitable to ourselves, and, I trust, of some use to our work.

Among other business we reviewed the ground belonging to this District yet unsupplied with ministers, and the profitable resources of each part. As the result, we found a pressing need for seven additional preachers, without including Gaspé. An investigation of these several cases elicited some things of a highly interesting character. You will undoubtedly be pleased to learn the particulars, and I will therefore give you a short sketch.

Point Levi, from its proximity to Quebec, and from the fact of its being the Terminus of the Grand Trunk Railroad, as well as from other causes, is likely soon to become one of the most important places in Canada; and from these considerations, as well as from their appeal to us for a supply some time ago, it is very desirable that they should have immediate attention.

Chaudière is important from its agricultural qualities, but much more so from its mineral wealth. Gold mines are there in operation, which even now yield a very handsome dividend.

The *Leeds Circuit*, from its extent, and the disposition of its several parts, is utterly incapable of being managed by one minister. The work is naturally divided into three parts, and each part would afford full work for one minister, with a promising society to each to commence with. It is very desirable that this circuit should be divided into three. The County of Megantic has increased its inhabitants of late years beyond any in Canada, and has still the prospect of continuing to increase. Our esteemed Brother Armstrong has succeeded in erecting a parsonage, scarcely second to any, almost free from debt.

Dunville is a beautiful village; rapidly improving with the whole surrounding country; without a minister of any denomination. Already we have three or four societies in the country places. There is a pressing demand for a minister to be stationed in that place.

Melbourne Circuit, like Leeds, is so extensive, that it is impossible for one

minister to do justice to any part, and the efforts which must be put forth to afford it an inadequate supply, are of a killing nature to the incumbent. It is proposed to set off Kingsey and Durham as a new circuit. In Kingsey there are slate-works established, and it is said, next July, 1000 men will be employed there. Many of those who are already there are Methodists, from Wales. The G. T. Railroad runs through the back part of Durham, with a station. The whole country is rapidly filling with settlers. A gracious work has already been in progress there; and two good classes are established in that neighbourhood.

Dudswell, to include Westbury and Ham, will afford ample employment for

a minister—they have long since applied for one.

I may say that, on close examination, it was ascertained that there could be scarcely a doubt entertained, but that each of these places would at present sustain an unmarried preacher.

We were gratified to learn from Mr. Pollard, that he had already procured a young man for Point Levi, and that he expected to be able to procure another, whom we agreed should be appointed to Chaudiere. But the other places are equally pressing, and we cannot rest contented until we see the whole supplied. If supplied, we trust an abundant harvest of souls would be the result, and God would be glorified.

THE INCOME OF 1854.

The unavoidably imperfect calculation at the Conference of the proceeds for the year of our Missionary Society made £7300, the total amount, but sums since received have, we are gratified to record, brought the amount up to £7539 14s 4d, leaving, with the excess of the previous year, in the treasury £2206 15s 5d. A balance in hand is a necessity of the Society, which every one does not sufficiently appreciate, unless considerable interest is to be paid, which is an evil; for during a number of months no monies are received from the Branch Societies, and yet the support and progression of the Society's Missions must be secured. This year the balance is specially providential and necessary, and the hearty liberality of the contributors calls forth our grateful acknowledgments. A reference to the Report for 1854 will shew that last year the Society had 77 Missions, and 122 Missionaries of every class; this year the Missions have been increased to 91, and the Missionaries to nearly 150, including brethren sent to stations not fully supplied at Conference. This year, five stations, new to us, are occupied in Hudson's Bay Territory,—Norway House, Oxford House, Lac-La-Pluie, Edmonton, and Rocky Mountains, and the Pic; and the respected Deputation to the Bay Missions months ago wrote that another band of Missionaries should be sent into the Territory as soon as ever practicable; and several Chairmen of Districts are urgent for more labourers in destitute localities. Of the Territory we observe, that its moral and educational necessities, so impressively exhibited by the Deputation; its remoteness, and aboriginal poverty and peculiarities render an immediate, large additional expenditure a duty. The more extended the operations of the Society, and the more numerous its wants. And Christians will see that the more devout their intercessions, and generous their contributions, the more increased and important are their obligations to others. The ordinary and ceaseless expenses of the Society are heavy, and next year what are now extraordinary will become alike ordinary

—giving place, we expect, to others then extraordinary. Thus are our friends enabled by a Gracious Power to accelerate the inspiring locomotion of “the stone cut out of the mountain,” and they and many are honoured and benefitted.

AN AFRICAN APPEAL.

Though it was not, and is not our intention to make the “Notices” a vehicle of *general* Missionary information, for reasons which are obvious; we said in the introduction to our first number, when stating our *Wesleyan* object, “It will be a matter of solicitude to select from the Parent Society’s publications, intelligence tending to excite lively feelings, and a nobler purpose to promote the welfare of unenlightened men of every nation.” Our relationship to that Society makes this a grateful duty. We seek the gratification and edification of our readers, by the publication of *Canadian, Hudson’s Bay, and Home Wesleyan Missionary* intelligence.

At a time when the Missionary platform in city and settlement is attracting crowds, and nearly two thousand collectors, adult and juvenile, are devising liberal and lovely things for the Saviour, and from the far east to the far west of Canada, the benevolent feelings of Wesleyan friendship are rising and swelling, the following letter from the *English Notices* for December will touch and thrill many a heart. It comes from a Chief of the Baralongs in the new Republican Orange River Territory, inhabited mostly by boers, or Dutch Farmers; the occasion of it is the erection of a Wesleyan church, thirty-four by ninety feet, to cost £500; Her Majesty’s Special Commissioner, to whom it is addressed, says, “It will be a pleasure to me to assist you with some means towards the completion of this laudable work;” and the Rev. Joseph D. M. Ludorf, in sending the letter to the Committee in London remarks, “To us it was of great service, as it procured us £100 towards the building.”

Moroko is the writer, and it comes out pleasantly enough in Mr. Ludorf’s communication, that the Chief’s eldest son was about to marry a daughter of the Christian chief Sechele, of Kurunan, the valued station of the Barnabas-like Mofatt, whose “Southern Africa” has charmed the Christian world.—We present this specimen letter, or rather, this flower from the African desert, to all who admire exquisite beauty, and who—with thanks to God for the savour of Jesus’ name among a pagan people—can regale themselves with the odoriferousness of native genius, and the chaste eloquence of christian love:—

To Sir George Clerk, Bart., Moroko
Chief, which governs the Sovereignty.

Thaba Nchu, January 23d, 1854.

OUR GREAT (FRIEND),—When our mother, the Queen of England, sent her Government into this country, she showed us her power.

And after the thunder of the gun was silent, we saw her gathering her children, the shy ones, under her wings; we saw her building a strong enclosure for

them by laws coming out of an old (mature) heart, which (laws) are death to the transgressor, and peace to the righteous. Here we perceived her glory.

That’s not all. We found her to be a nurse to little children, and a provider for their fathers. We beheld her constructing *kraals* of milk for the lambs, —houses of instruction,—and searching for Pastors for the sheep, to fatten them

in the House of God. This made us understand her *goodness*.

Now I come nearer. How is it, our great (friend), and shall we at no time (never) behold the goodness of our mother among us? She, indeed, built for the rich ones houses, great, for prayer; but for us, the poor, will she not also build one? Our house is fallen down; we have tried to erect another one, but did not succeed for want of means.—Now, it is a long space (time) that we stand in the sun, and are killed by perspiration. And our hearts feel bitterness (sorrow, suffering), because all men (in these parts) have a house of instruction, and we are without, having no helper. Are, then, the Boers alone children of our mother's love? because, for them she has built many churches. Or has our mother only one breast? has her heart left off sending milk into both

her breasts? I think not. But we have no one who takes an interest in us (or tells her of our wants).

Therefore, you, our great (friend.) I write to you this day, saying; Write (engrave) the name of God, and of the Queen of England, on the village of Thaba 'Nchu, by erecting for us, the poor, a house of truth. And when we shall be old, and our children's children ask us, "What mean these names?" we shall tell them, "This is the heritage we got from our mother of England; she has built it as a memorial of her love to us." Then they shall bless her and yourself. Our enemies, they, too, will read those names, and be afraid to touch us, seeing we have such a powerful, glorious, and good provider.

I remain the servant of the Queen, and of yourself,

MOROKO.

From the English Wesleyan Missionary Notices.

F E E J E E .

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Joel Bulu, dated Lakemba, June 19th, 1853.

MY FATHERS,—I, Joel Bulu, your son. I write in great love to you, the fathers who govern in our Society in Britton. My love to you is great indeed; and I earnestly wish and desire that it was an easy thing for me to go and meet with you, that these eyes of mine might look upon your countenances, and that these two hands of mine might take hold of your hands and shake them, and that thus might grow and abound my joy by my beholding the faces of my dear fathers. Thus do I make known my thanks to you, my fathers in England. Thanks for your love to me. Thanks, thanks, thanks, for your love which is manifested in your sending us Missionaries to Tonga to preach Jesus unto us. This has been of great good to me, and to all in Tonga. We were in darkness, but the great light has shined; we were sitting in ignorance, but true wisdom has arrived; we were as people dead, but has come unto us the "great salvation;" we were just ready to fall into hell, but now we are preparing for heaven. Thanks for your great love to us, and for your collecting your riches that you might send the word of God to

Tonga. Thanks for your love, which has led you to pour out your prayers for Tonga; and I know that your prayers for Tonga have been answered; for I am a Tonga man, and I can bear testimony to the value of the holy Scriptures, and of the labours of the Missionaries. I was a sinner; but I did not know this until I heard the preaching of Mr. Thomas from the Gospel of Matthew, xiii. 30. But when I heard, my heart was pierced, and I awoke up quickly from the sleep of sin, and I then knew that I was the chief of sinners.—I then knew that the wages of sin was death, and I began to repent. I was greatly afraid and pained and I was much ashamed; and my mind was distressed and troubled, and I knew not as then what I should do to be saved. I longed, and cried, and poured out my prayers in secret, and confessed my sins unto God. My food was bitter to me, I could not relish it; but I drank my tears and ate my sorrow in fear of the consequences of sin, lest they should fall upon me and crush me before God. I continued thus until the day when Mr. Turner appointed a lovefeast for the Leaders

and Preachers, and I was there; and when I heard the Missionaries relate the state of their own souls, and heard them explain how they received the forgiveness of sins from the Lord, I then knew that it was by faith in Jesus. I was enabled to believe then in Jesus from the very root of my heart; and I relied upon his blood, and believed in His death, that I might be saved; and immediately the great love of God came to me from heaven, for there was heard by the ears of my soul the great voice which sounded in me, and which seemed to say, "Thy sins are forgiven thee, and thou art reconciled unto God, and have peace through Jesus." And this was made plain to my soul that I was saved; for the Spirit bore witness with my spirit that I was saved. Then began to spring up in my heart my love to the Lord, and my love to the people, and to the Missionaries, and to all men. Thus do I present my thanks to you. Thanks for your sending us the Missionaries to preach Jesus, by whom I am saved; and since then I have desired to preach Jesus. I was sent to be the head Teacher of Feleton, and there God made me useful. Mr. Thomas wrote to me that he wished me to go to Uvea, to teach the people there. I was glad, and wished to go quickly. But when my father and my relations heard of it they wept much, and tried hard to hinder me; but I was unmoved by them. They then said the people would kill me, for they had just killed eighty-five persons of our *lotu* from Niuva, who had gone to persuade them to become Christians. I answered, "It will be very good to die in doing the will of God." And when I got to Uvea, the Chiefs and people consulted to kill us; but the Lord was with me, and He delivered us, and we were as persons saved from death. They commanded us to leave the island, which we did, and returned to (Tonga) Vavau, and remained there a little, when letters were sent from Mr. Cargill and Mr. Cross in Feejee, begging for teachers to go and assist them. When I heard this, waters came down from my eyes; for my heart did burn with love to Feejee. I went home, and immediately Mr. Thomas sent a man to say he wanted to speak with me. I went to Mr. Thomas's house, when he made known his mind

to me; which was, that he wished me to go to Feejee. I replied quickly, that it was very good indeed, for that I had given myself as a sacrifice unto God to do His will.

On my arrival in Feejee, I saw the great wickedness there was in every place; that it was indeed the land of Heathens. But I endeavoured to do the work of God with a zealous and persevering mind. I was sent to Nalotoki, and the people embraced religion; and during my stay there, which was not very long, my work was blessed.

The Missionaries then sent me to Vativati, that I might be near the printing-press; and while I lived there, many began to *lotu*, and some began to repent, and then they were baptized, and religion grew much there. But there were some who would not renounce Heathenism; these left, and went to live at (Leva) Rewa. The chiefs were not wishful to *lotu*; but some of the people did, and lived as Christians. The thing was very difficult, because of the war, therefore we removed from Rewa to Vewa, and after this I was desired by Mr. Hunt to go to Nandy. When I got there some began to *lotu*; and while I remained there, religion grew much, and many persons became religious. The Lord poured out His Holy Spirit in the manner of olden times; thus it was that many were converted unto God. Sinners repented of their sins, hard hearts became soft, the dark minds were enlightened, and the foolish were made wise, and those who were dead spiritually were quickened, and the cursed were blessed.

About this time came Mr. Watsford and Mr. Ford, and then that land became a blessed land. And when the Missionaries made me a helper to the great work, I more fully gave myself to the Lord, and to His servants, to do with me just as they saw proper. They sent me to Ono, to which place I went cheerfully; and when Mr. Lawry came and set me apart to the great work, my mind was still more attentive to the will of those who were over me in Feejee. If we had twenty more Missionaries, then we should be comfortable in Feejee; but we have now only seven; therefore you will do well to take this into your wise deliberations,

and thus show your love to poor destitute Feejee: for great is the work here, but very few are the labourers. Thus do I write to you my whole mind.— If the Missionaries wish me to go to any Heathen place, I am ready to go there; should they command me to remain where I am, I am willing to do this also.

My prayer is, that you will continue to help us; for the cause of the devil in Feejee trembles, and is very weak.— Many have been saved here, and I hope you will remember us, and determine to send plenty of Missionaries to Feejee.

This is the end of my writing to the fathers and governors of our Society in England.

THE ANNIVERSARIES FOR 1855.

It is a cause of rejoicing, that the anticipative language of the last Annual Report, relating to the approval and liberality of our Canadian Connexion and its friends, is being strikingly verified, so far as our knowledge extends, at the Anniversaries throughout the country. The incorporation of Eastern with Western Wesleyan Methodism, and the addition of Hudson's Bay, created a new occasion for prayer and effort,—presented new demands; and thank God, has called forth new financial resources. The attitude of the Connexion is lofty; the aim of our people is lofty. Neither space, nor the late moment at which we write, allows an enumeration of the Anniversaries which have gone beyond their former doings. Last year the total Income exceeded the expectations of many. This year will surpass the last. Yonge Street Circuit, which was first in amount then, is likely now to present to the Society £300. The position of our Church is admired; the importance of her vast Providential Missionary vocation is better appreciated; the spirit of sanctified benevolence is more widely diffused; prayer for the Missions more frequent; the tone of the platform more hallowed, intelligent, and impressive; and the new and needed publications of the Society welcome and useful. We have seen on some recent occasions churches and school houses crowded; and youthful energies infused into the aged; and the young offering freely to the Lord; and widows and orphans deserving the Saviour's commendation; and the stalwart sons of toil going "beyond their power," "willing of themselves;" and the wealthy asking, "What shall I render unto the Lord?" and members of other Churches nobly casting their gifts into the Wesleyan treasury; all grateful to Him who has hitherto accomplished so much for the Society; now excites to brighter hopes; and promises "that his Name shall be continued as long as the sun."

THE PARENT MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Parent Society has again remarkably displayed its vitality at the late Leeds District Anniversary; for the voluntary offerings of the people amounted to £2,000; and the proceedings were heightened in their character by "the devotion of three promising youths to the Foreign Service." This we learn from the English *Notices*; and the *N. Y. Advocate* of January 18th, says, "On Tuesday evening, December 26th, there was an ordination of Missionaries in the City Road Chapel, London, on which occasion four young men—William Simpson, Samuel Hutton, Samuel Smith, and John Preston—were set apart for the Missionary work. The former is destined for India, and the other three for China.

The latest English *Notices* are full of interest. The prospects of religious liberty in France are brightening much. Salvation is obtained by many heathens on some Missions. Loud cries for more Ministerial help come from old and new fields of labour. Last September His Excellency, Sir Charles Hotham, Governor, visited the gold fields of Australia, and laid the foundation stone of a new Wesleyan School House at Sandhurst. And in August last His Excellency, the Governor in Chief of the Gold Coast, attended with the officers of his staff, and numerous merchants and gentlemen, the funeral of the Rev. George P. Brown, a Native Assistant Wesleyan Missionary; and the Rev. Mr. Freeman writes, "the many tears shed over and around his grave told that he lived in the affections of the people." The veteran Missionary, who went to the South Seas in 1825, the Rev. John Thomas, with his family has again left his country for the distant Friendly Islands. Thus the Parent Society vigorously proceeds in its important work.

WESLEYAN MISSIONARY PUBLICATIONS.

The Report of the Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society, for the year ending April, 1854, published at the Wesleyan Centenary Hall and Mission House, is as usual rich and refreshing in its contents, and in reading it and other reports we have readily assented to a statement made in Exeter Hall last May, at the Annual Meeting of this Society, by President Lomas: "I must say I think that the periodicals coming under the class of religious Reports take rank among the most important productions of the day." Here are "Laws and Regulations," and "Instructions to Missionaries," which have contributed incalculably to give to the Parent Society's operations great extent, stability, character and influence. Have we in Canada nothing to learn? Here are the names of the members of the General, Medical, and Missionary-ship "Committees," ministerial and lay, select indeed for wisdom and integrity. Then comes the "Report" proper of all the Society's Missions in every part of the world,—lengthy it must be, and laboured in detail for correctness it is, as every report ought to be, but the facts and extracts make every page redolent with a spirit that sends this truth to the christian heart, Wesleyan Missions exist to spread scriptural holiness. The Report and other periodicals of the Society must require great attention; and we conceive, that though the Missionary Secretaries freely and ably do the work, the time cannot be distant when will be confided to an assistant officer the specific duties of Editor to the Missionary Department.

Here, too, we have most useful "Statistical Tables," which give you at a glance the labours done since 1769. Then we have "Appendices," comprising Letters from Missionaries, Proceedings of Australasia and Polynesian District Meetings, Communications from Fcejee, Official Correspondence with the British Government, &c., all deeply disinteresting, and corroborative of an oft-repeated opinion that the Society is loved and effective at the ends of the earth, and commands attention from the highest authorities. Then come former Donations and Benefactions, Legacies and Donations upon Annuity,—then the Contributions for the year, among which some of the most handsome amounts are from Missionaries themselves,—the entire financial records unequalled in munificence, we believe, by those of any unestablished

Missionary Association of any age or nation. The English Report embraces all its Receipts, amounting to £114,000, in only 122 octavo pages. The Canada Report at present occupies 100 pages with between 7 and £8000. The "Balance Sheet" is evidently drawn up with great care, and proves to a demonstration, that immense as is the expenditure, this Society pays less per Agent than any other Missionary Society. The £4000, and upwards, paid for various, and numberless Missionary publications, and Missionary Boxes, &c., is, to us, a very acceptable item, and accounts, with other means for the Society's great financial success. It has trials, for bad men oppose only what is good; but the Report fully convinces us, that the Society's greatest trial is, not to be able, for lack of other funds, to enter every door which a wise and wondrous Providence has opened in her sacred and transcendent career of usefulness.

The Wesleyan Missionary Notices, Wesleyan Juvenile Offering, Quarterly Papers, and Illustrated Map of the Friendly Islands, received lately at the Conference office, from the Mission House in London, are precious publications, and exemplify the solicitude of the Parent Committee to satisfy their supporters, and give unchecked impulse to the diffusion of "grace and truth" in the world. We cordially recommend them to Canadian readers, old and young, whose sympathies link them to universal humanity; whose prayer is, that God may be known upon earth; and whose joys most abound when intelligence comes—as in these publications it does—that Christ is triumphing over Heathenism.

ADVANCEMENT.

On a number of the Domestic Missions special religious services have already been held, and resulted very satisfactorily, and on other Missions there are good hopes of spiritual prosperity,—of which we expect to receive full particulars for the Notices. The Rev. Luther O. Rice, of Dunnville, writes, "The prospects of the work of God in this extensive Mission are in many respects very encouraging, but especially in the town of Dunnville." The Rev. David Hardie has had an unusual season of grace, and a large increase of members on the rugged Sherbrooke Mission, where the esteemed Metcalfe used to walk from place to place carrying his saddle-bags. And the Rev. E. White, of Sandwich, says, "Besides the effort we are making to build a church in Windsor, we have two other brick churches on hand in the country. We have had some special services lately, and about twenty have united on trial."

But notwithstanding an increase of Ministerial assistance, with which Providence has favoured the Connexion since Conference, several letters state a lack of such assistance on certain Missions. One of the most urgent duties of the Wesleyan Church at present is, to offer prayer specifically adapted to the demands for additional labourers in destitute localities, that there may soon be a sufficiency of husbandmen to occupy the fields which need and invite, and would repay, immediate attention. "Lord of the harvest!"

Convert, and send forth more
 Into thy Church abroad;
 And let them speak thy word of power,
 As workers with their God.

TO SUPERINTENDENTS AND OFFICERS.

It is hoped that the Annual Reports, Notices, Juvenile Cards, Appeals, and Collecting Books, sent to all the Circuits and Missions in December, have been promptly and judiciously distributed; and should the distribution in any instance not have yet fully taken place, it is requested that no time may be lost in completing it. They are of value only in circulation and use. An article to "Superintendents and Officers," prepared for the Notices, was inserted in the organ of the connexion, Dec. 20th, to be in time for the first Branch Anniversary Meetings, containing needed and important suggestions in relation to future Circuit Missionary proceedings; and we respectfully and earnestly call the attention of *all* the esteemed brethren concerned to them, begging to intimate, that they should be *carefully kept for future reference*, to secure uniformity, punctuality, and efficiency in the Society's financial operations, and enable us to obtain, what is always desirable, the full approbation of a greatly augmenting body of intelligent and liberal supporters. The religious prosperity, and large reported Income of last year must gratify—as they do us—the ministers, officers, collectors, and friends. To God be offered fervent praises, and more forcible supplications; and will He not do for us "greater things than these?" His promise be the basis of expectation and of effort!

AN INDIAN BOY.—Brother Charles Halfmoon, a faithful native labourer at the Munsee Mission, thus writes respecting a child:

DIED, on the 2nd of October, aged 5 years and 8 months, Little Samson, the son of Edward Skenidoo, and grandchild of Doctor John; Br. D. John is one of the best members of our Church, and an exhorter and class-leader; and he led his little grandchild in the knowledge of prayers, and the little boy learned to pray, and to ask blessings before meals. The little boy, before the sickness came upon him, one day said to his mother, "mother, I want to go home?" The mother said, "where you want to go?" The little boy said, "Mother I wants to go home to heaven?" The Mother said, "No, you need not go away from me; and if you go away and leave me behind, I would be lonesome and sorry after you." Little Samson said again, "Mother, mother, I must go home; heaven is my home?" Poor little Samson—he got sick in a short time, and while he was in the midst of his afflictions, he was enabled to rejoice in Christ, and he raised his little arm and showed that he was happy in God

The "NOTICES" will in future be sent *immediately* on publication to every Circuit and Mission,—when possible, in parcels from the Book Room, and when that course is not feasible, by post; and we rely on the judgment and promptitude of all the Ministers for such a disposal of the increased number of copies sent as will *best* subserve the gospel and Wesleyan purpose for which the publication has been commenced; hoping that its acceptability and utility will ere long render it necessary to give what is now quarterly a more frequent publicity.