



Provincial Wesleyan

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 1856.

Close of the Conference.

The second session of Conference terminated on Saturday the 25th of June, and we have this week the pleasure of laying before our readers some details of the proceedings of that body, from the period to which the Report contained in our last weeks' issue extended, up to the close of its deliberations and labours. Many interesting facts will meet the reader's eye, and many more of our attentive correspondents - many facts most gratifying in their character as showing the present vitality and power of Methodism, and indicating the elements of its future prosperity in these Eastern provinces of British America. The generous offers of our fellow-townsman G. H. Starr, Esq., will, we trust, result in the permanent supply of Wesleyan ministrations to a Wesleyan congregation in Dartmouth; and the appeal which we observe is about to be made, under the sanction of Conference, on behalf of a new Wesleyan Church in St. John's, Newfoundland, we feel justified in being confident will meet with a liberal response from those to whom it may be addressed. Our exhortation, and we would press it faithfully and frequently, is, Let Methodism not fail of the men or the means for prosecuting its great work, that of spreading Scriptural holiness throughout the land.

The prosperity of the Educational Institutions at Sackville has always been so great, they have received, as they merit, such conspicuous marks of public confidence and favour, and so judicious and praiseworthy has been the management of their affairs, that we are quite prepared for the announcement that "the reports of the financial, literary and religious state" of these Institutions was "entirely satisfactory," and elicited from Conference an expression of "high appreciation of the invaluable services" of the Principal, Governor, Preceptors, and the teachers both male and female. The most gratifying feature in these reports unquestionably is the mention of that work of grace in the hearts of many of the students, which gives us the happy assurance that the improvement of their mental faculties will be sanctified by its pervading influence.

Our readers will remark that the solemn duty of improving the recent adverting dispensation, through which we have been called as a Church to pass, devolved upon the Reverend Richard Knight, and most fitting it was that he who had served the greatest number of consecutive years as a Missionary of the Wesleyan Society should on so mournful an occasion as the removal by death of its senior secretary be selected to pay this public tribute to his memory. - The preacher's audience on such an occasion should be the whole Connexion, and we are indulging the hope of being the medium of communicating to his discourse. We cannot put down our pen without a single reference to the grand future pointed to by the Rev. Wm. Ryerson, in his parting address to the Conference, when Methodist throughout the vast territory under British dominion on this Continent shall have one comprehensive external organization, as it now has one purpose, feeling, and faith.

We have been promised a full account of the interesting ordination service at St. John, and this it is our intention to furnish next week to the readers of the Wesleyan.

Proceedings of the Conference at St. John.

MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 23rd. The Conference was re-opened by the usual devotional exercises, and the reading of the Journal of Saturday's proceedings. Rev. T. H. Davies then informed the Conference of a very liberal offer which had been made to the Halifax District Committee by G. H. Starr, Esq., that in order to meet the pressing spiritual wants of Dartmouth, he would give £50 annually for five years, towards the support of a Wesleyan Minister there, and if necessary would defray the expenses of a young man from England, for that interesting youth from the thanks of the Conference, and passed unanimously. A committee was appointed to make out a plan for the proper organization of a Conference Auxiliary Missionary Society. Another Committee composed of Messrs. Peck, Temple, and Pickard, was appointed to draft a plan for the uniform conducting of the business of District Meetings, both financial and ordinary. The Brethren Wilson and Pickard were appointed to prepare an Address to the Conference. After the transaction of some routine business the meeting adjourned.

Most of the remaining part of Monday, both sessions of Tuesday, and part of Wednesday, were taken up with business of a private nature. But on Monday afternoon the Rev. Wm. Ryerson embraced an opportunity of giving to the Conference a most interesting explanation of a plan which is in contemplation for the division of the Canada Conference into two or more Conferences, and for the federal union of these with the Conference of Eastern British America.

The Ordination service was held in the Centenary Church on Monday evening. The occasion was one of deep solemnity and hallowed feeling; but presuming that its details will be otherwise communicated, the writer forbears entering upon them.

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The following Resolution concerning our Official Organ was then adopted - That the Conference records with pleasure its high appreciation of the very credible manner in which the Provincial Wesleyan has hitherto been conducted, and especially during the past year. Its well selected articles of religious intelligence, the Conference is persuaded have rendered that paper more popular and useful. This publication is therefore commended to the patronage of our friends as a valuable means of communicating important instruction to their families.

As the despatch from Canada could not remain until the close of the Conference, they bade farewell to the brethren on this afternoon. The scene was not less affecting than edifying. The venerable William Ryerson again offered some salutary counsel, urging upon our infant connection those principles of conservation and habits of economy which are always necessary to the stability and progress of a new organization. He thanked the Conference not only for their kindness to himself personally, but for the unmistakable proof which had been given of their attachment and love to his fellow labourers. He adverted to the great interests involved in their union, and for the federal union of these with the Conference of Eastern British America.

The Ordination service was held in the Centenary Church on Monday evening. The occasion was one of deep solemnity and hallowed feeling; but presuming that its details will be otherwise communicated, the writer forbears entering upon them.

On Tuesday Evening also a service of a peculiarly affecting character was held. The Ministers having proceeded in a body from Germain Street to the Centenary Church, were addressed by the Rev. R. Knight, on the subject of Dr. Beecham's death, from 1 Cor. xv. 28. Next morning the thanks of the Conference were presented to Mr. Knight for his excellent and appropriate address, and the request was made that he would furnish a copy of it to the editor of the Provincial Wesleyan, for publication in that periodical.

Wednesday Afternoon. The Report of the Worn Out Minister's Fund was read, and adopted; as also the Report of the Committee upon the formation of a Conference Auxiliary Missionary Society. The same evening, a public meeting was held, a notice of which is elsewhere communicated.

THURSDAY, JUNE 26th. Session opened in the usual way. A letter was read from the Trustees of the Wesleyan Church at St. John's, Newfoundland, requesting permission for application to be made through the Conference, for subscriptions to aid in

the erection of their new church - it was resolved that such permission be granted. The draft of the Address to the British Conference was read, and adopted, subject to a few changes suggested by the Conference. A draft of the Pastoral Address was also read, and adopted, subject to certain additions suggested in like manner. Meeting Adjourned.

Thursday Evening Meeting was opened with prayer. The Committee for the Supernumeraries' and Minister's Widow's Fund was appointed. The Report of the plan for the management of the Book Room affairs, was submitted from the Book Room Committee, and having been considered section by section was adopted. - The Committee for the present year was then appointed.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27th. Conference opened in the usual way. Report of Committee to form a plan for the Children's Fund was read and adopted. A draft of the Address to the Canada Conference was read and adopted, subject to certain alterations and additions.

Friday Afternoon. The Minutes of the Annual Board Meeting of the Trustees of the Mount Allison Wesleyan Academy, together with the various Reports of its Officers were read; and resolutions, embodying the views of the Conference with reference to that Institution, passed. These resolutions claim the attention of the Wesleyan Connexion in the Lower Provinces, and they are therefore transmitted in full for publication in the columns of the Provincial Wesleyan.

That the minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Mount Allison Wesleyan Academy, and the valuable Reports of the Principal, and of the Governor and Chaplain, as also the balance sheet of the Treasurer being highly satisfactory, are cordially approved by the Conference. That the thanks of the Conference be most respectfully presented to the Rev. H. Pickard, A. M., for his untiring and successful devotion to his onerous duties as Principal, during the past year.

That the thanks of the Conference be most respectfully presented to the Rev. E. Evans, D. D., for his diligent, faithful, and efficient services as Chaplain and Governor of the Academy, during the past year.

That the Conference would also express its grateful appreciation of the excellent management of the Board of Trustees of the Academy, and especially of the ceaseless assiduity of the excellent Treasurer, C. F. Allison, Esq.; and records its great gratification because of the healthy and prosperous financial condition of the Institution.

6. The Conference having attended to the entirely satisfactory reports of the financial, literary, and religious state of both Branches of the Mount Allison Wesleyan Academy, cannot withhold the expression of its high appreciation of the invaluable services of the Rev. Humphrey Pickard, A. M., the Principal; of the Rev. Ephraim Evans, D. D., the Governor and Chaplain; of Miss Mary E. Adams, the chief preceptor, and of all the other teachers both Male and Female.

The Conference rejoices that it can fully commend the Mount Allison Academy to the unshaken confidence of heads of Families and all friends of Christian Education, and would respectfully urge on the members of our own Church and congregations especially the great propriety and desirability of seeking for their sons and daughters the advantages of a sound, complete, and Christian education, which the Academy



