

The Provincial Wesleyan.

Published under the direction of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of Eastern British America.

Volume XXIII.

HALIFAX, N. S., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1871.

Number 33

THE MANCHESTER CONFERENCE. PREPARATORY COMMITTEE. (From the London Watchman.)

Friday, July 21st.

EDUCATION OF PREACHERS' CHILDREN.

The committees of ministers and lay gentlemen entrusted to review the various departments of Methodism, and to make recommendations to Conference, have begun their work to-day. In the morning the educational arrangements for preachers' children were considered. Methodists, with good reason, rejoice in the Kingswood and Woodhouse Grove Schools. Among the alumni of these institutions are the President and the Secretary of Conference, and many of the most distinguished ministers and laymen. The report read this morning sustains the high reputation of the schools. They tell of an unusual number of pupils, or former pupils, who have gained high academic distinction. To the instances referred to in the report Dr. Osborn added an allusion to the splendid success obtained at the last matriculation of the London University, at which the first and second places in the honours list were occupied by young men from Kingswood and Woodhouse Grove. Parents, while rejoicing in such educational advantages for their boys, will be equally glad to know that the health of the pupils has been good, and that disciplinary arrangements are highly commended.

The need long felt that similarly efficient schools should be established for preachers' daughters is at length being met. The Five Elms School at Clifton, placed under the control of Conference twelve months ago, has already accomplished good work. Very favorable reports were given of the recent examination of its pupils. A second school, to be called Beech Hill, in the same locality, will be ready to receive forty girls within a week or fortnight; and, by the noble generosity of John Fernley, Esq., a third will soon be available at Southport. The building, the walls of which are already rising, will cost about £7,000. Thanks were cordially voted to Mr. Fernley, and, in speaking on the subject, Dr. Osborn commended to others, having similar means, the example of that gentleman, in making, to so considerable an extent, his own hands his executors.

During the morning various suggestions were made for the improvement of the Kingswood and Woodhouse Grove Schools. It was urged by Mr. Sanderson, Mr. Bunting, and others, that more competent junior masters should be employed. Mr. Fowler thought the two schools might well be combined in one large institution, somewhat on the plan of the national public schools. He also recommended that the course of study should differ, after a certain point, in the case of boys likely to be devoted to professional pursuits, and those likely to engage in trade. Mr. S. R. Hall expressed a caution against Methodist preachers too frequently seeking to prepare their sons for the legal and other professions. The want of capital to embark them in business created a temptation to this course, but it was often attended with danger. Dr. Osborn denounced the statement that the schools did not now serve to prepare the boys for any calling to which they might subsequently be devoted. He also deprecated the disturbance of the present system by another. On the motion of Mr. Fowler, a recommendation was made to Conference to appoint a Committee to enquire concerning any methods by which the efficiency of the schools may be promoted.

GENERAL EDUCATION.

The Education Committee of Review met in the afternoon. In opening the proceedings the President exhibited sundry sheets of foolscap containing, he said, the names of 748 gentlemen, connected in one way or other with the Committee, or invited to attend. He playfully asked if the list should be called over. This was not done, but the reference reminded those present of something which might have been in danger of forgetting, and that the right to vote or speak in the Committee was limited. The number present was very large, and included not a few gentlemen whose names have obtained honorable prominence during the past few months in connection with the London and several provincial School Boards. The Minutes of the Committees held during the year were read by Mr. Oliver. They told, *inter alia*, of the steps taken to supply the unusual demand for teachers occasioned by the opening of many new schools, of arrangements for bringing "The Children's Home," that already well-known and popular institution for training destitute and neglected children, into association with the Committee; and of the purchase of admirably suited premises in Battersea, made to increase the accommodation for training teachers. There are 638,000 children in Wesleyan Sunday-schools, an increase of 16,017. The increase in the day-schools, stimulated by the working of the education act, has been yet more remarkable. In 141 new day-schools have been opened, and the total number now is 887. In these schools 150,765 children are taught, showing an increase of 21,655. Mr. Clow, in an instructive report, gave the result of his inspection of Wesleyan schools. The point upon which the report dwelt most emphatically was the necessity of special effort to maintain the high religious character of Wesleyan day-schools. At least half an hour morning and evening, should be given to Bible reading and exposition, and to the study of the catechism. The report on Sunday-schools was "taken as read," it will appear in our columns shortly.

Mr. J. Hargreaves referred with satisfaction shared by the entire meeting, to the restoration of Mr. Oliver, after his lengthened absence, to comparative health. He moved a resolution, which after conversation was agreed to, urging reasons why the efficient inspection of our day-schools, especially in regard to religious instruction and influence, should be provided for as early as possible.

Mr. W. W. Pocock, in seconding the resolution, spoke of the danger lest, by the pressure of secular results, the religious and moral element in the schools should be attenuated; and urged in favour of denominational inspection the example of other Churches. He stated incidentally that nearly a quarter of a million of money is expended annually in Wes-

leyan day-schools, and that of that amount probably £100,000 comes from Methodist people either in subscriptions or school fees.

Mr. Holland insisted that there were two sides to this question of denominational education, and was proceeding to argue that its development in the country would tend rather to further the interests of Romanism and of the Ritualistic party than of Methodism, when Mr. T. P. Bunting interposed with a call to order on the ground that Mr. Holland was wandering from the point before the Committee. He deprecated very earnestly the reopening of a question that had been practically closed. The President ruled against Mr. Holland, suggesting that he should defer his remarks until the consideration of the next resolution.

Mr. W. Williams said that the duty of caring for the religious instruction in their day-schools devolved especially upon the pastors.

Mr. S. R. Hall suggested that it would be wise where School Boards existed to hand over their schools to the Board, and to employ their resources in multiplying institutions for the training of teachers. Against the former course Dr. Rule earnestly protested. The most important conversation of the morning arose on a resolution proposed by Mr. Rigg in favour of the establishment of a second Training College. In an elaborate speech Dr. Rigg urged the necessity for such an institution. According to the ordinary arrangements, which required a two years' training, they could receive at Westminster College only 70 students annually. Already they had twice that number of applicants year by year whom it was most desirable to accept. This number would rapidly increase. It would be objectionable, and a serious dereliction of duty, for Methodists to leave these young people to seek training in colleges where injurious ecclesiastical influences might be brought to bear upon them, or where they would be without pastoral oversight. Dr. Rigg proceeded to deal with the question of finance. He showed that by charging an entrance fee, and with Government aid, the cost of supporting the additional students might be provided. Premises, admirably suited for a new College, had been recently offered for sale at Battersea, and had been purchased on behalf of the Committee. The present Westminster College would be reserved for male students, and the new College when opened occupied by female students. It was not proposed to provide for the purchase and adaptation of the new premises by an immediate special effort, but gradually. An addition of £1,000 a-year to the Education Fund would enable the Committee to do this in a few years. This he thought not an unreasonable amount to expect. The resolution was briefly seconded by Mr. Chubb, who created a smile by referring to himself as being, like his friend, Mr. Holland, a defeated candidate for the School Board. He thought they should fall in their duty to God and the country if they neglected to exert themselves to the utmost to train Methodist teachers.

Mr. Holland did not wish to re-open the general question, but would prefer transferring Wesleyan schools to the care of the School Boards to accepting aid in the way of payment for denominational schools. The latter course would subvert the interests rather of the Church of England and of the Roman Catholics. He thought that ultimately national training colleges would be established, and indicated how in his opinion, provision could be made for the pastoral oversight of Methodist students attending them.

Mr. Stevenson, of Newcastle, supported Mr. Holland's view.

Professor Williamson, who stated it was the first time he had been privileged to attend the Conference Committees, supported, in a speech of great beauty and power, the proposal for a new Training College.

Mr. Alderman Barlow followed on the same side, and further gave to the meeting a pleasant sensation and secured loud applause by not only expressing his admiration of the Children's Home, which he spoke of as being at once an orphanage, a reformatory, and an industrial institution, but by offering to place at the disposal of the Committee, rent free for seven years, a farm and house in the neighbourhood of Holland, and by adding that at the end of that time it was found to be serviceable, he would probably present it. Mr. M'Anlay, Mr. Hay, and Mr. Cooper warmly supported the proposal for a new College, and the resolution was heartily passed.

On the motion of Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. M'Arthur, a resolution in favour of the Westminster Memorial Chapel was passed, and those districts and circuits in which little or nothing had been done towards raising the required amount were urged to speedy liberality in this matter.

The meeting closed with well deserved thanks to the Principal of the Westminster College, and to the secretaries and other officers of the Education Committee.

SATURDAY.

There were two points of interest in the proceedings of the Institution Committee. First, a proposal, which passed unanimously, in favour of the appointment of a third and thoroughly well qualified ministerial tutor to the Didbury College; and secondly, a conversation, somewhat aside from the objects of the meeting, but of great interest on the work and qualifications of local preachers. This subject was introduced by Mr. W. W. Pocock, who dwelt upon the need of ministers giving more attention to qualifying local preachers for their work. It was pursued at considerable length, in his own quiet style, by Mr. T. P. Bunting. Mr. Bunting urged that in the whole of their local preacher system there was needed a thorough and effective radical reform. The system of selection on the plan was wrong; and many were retained who had ceased to be efficient. It was a fact that in not a few cases illiteracy and eccentricity were passports to popularity. These things might well account in part for the sad fact that this year decrease stared them in the face. Serious investigation should be made into the whole question, and Mr. Bunting urged this upon the attention of the Conference.

Mr. Downing deprecated the substitution of Methodist pulpits of essays, or of merely learn-

ing day-schools, for warm-hearted extempore preaching. Dr. Osborn agreed with Mr. Downing that Methodism would lose its hold on the country were it ever to forego the power of extempore preaching; but he maintained such preaching might well be conjoined with learned exposition, and referred to Dr. Clarke and Mr. Benson as eminent examples. The system of local preachers was essential to Methodism, and every effort should be made for their improvement. The difficulties were great, and he should be glad to hear suggestions as to how these might be overcome. Sir Francis Lyett insisted upon the importance of their ministry being distinguished for holiness of heart and life. He expressed regret that the progress made in London during the last ten years had not been greater. Mr. G. Lidgett suggested that candidates for the office of local preacher should be required to pass the regular ministry before being required to pass the quarterly meetings of their respective circuits.

THE SABBATH OBSERVANCE COMMITTEE.

The attendance at the Sabbath Observance Committee is seldom large; it was this year smaller than usual. Probably Saturday afternoon is for many an inconvenient time. In the absence of the President, the Rev. W. Shaw occupied the chair. The report, read by Mr. Baker, reviewed the state of public feeling and opinion with reference to the Sabbath, and described the action of the Committee in support of efforts made during the year for the diminution of postal labor on Sunday, and for suppressing the liquor traffic on that day; also with reference to the Sunday Trading Bill and the Sabbath Observance Act. An interesting conversation followed, during which earnest protests were made against the Sunday liquor traffic, and exhortations to use every effort for its suppression. The question of using the railway or other modes of public conveyance on the Lord's day was also discussed. One or two of the speakers appeared disposed to condemn such use in all cases; others, while equally strong in their condemnation of Sabbath desecration, thought that public conveniences might under some circumstances be used by those attending the house of God or going to distant places to preach without blame.

MONDAY.

The elaborate and very able report read this morning by Mr. Edwards, showed that the work of chapel building and enlargement is carried on throughout the country with undiminished zeal. It is reason for great encouragement that so large a number as 255 erections have been completed at a cost of £228,364, and that debt on Wesleyan trust property has been cancelled to the amount of £22,284. Towards the total of these large amounts £216,000 has been raised. Mr. Shaw might well suggest that such facts should be taken into consideration by those who, from the decrease in numbers which they sorrowed to have to report this year, argued that Methodism was coming to an end. We will not attempt to follow in order the various speakers of the morning, but will give the principal points discussed. Mr. A. M'Arthur and Sir F. Lyett spoke of the spiritual destitution of the metropolis, and of the difficulty in their chapel-building efforts even to keep pace with the progress of the population. Sir Francis gratefully thanked the Conference for appointing the Rev. Gervase Smith Secretary to the Metropolitan Chapel Fund, and the Methodists of the Province for the liberal response they had made to the appeal on behalf of London. He went on to say, amid the applause of the meeting, that £26,000 had been subscribed, that already four chapels were being built, and that he hoped, before the end of the year, the number would be raised to ten.

A conversation upon chapel-building seldom fails to be enlivened with discussions on the subject of style. Such discussion arose this morning. One excellent lay gentleman referred to some of the chapels in Cornwall as exceedingly unattractive in appearance. This he called up Mr. Downing, the representative of that district, who during these Committees, has proved himself one of the most ready and of the most effective speakers among the laymen of Methodism. He asserted that though Cornwall could not boast Gothic chapels, and he for one did not desire them, yet that substantial and commodious buildings, suited to all Methodist purposes, were abundant. Mr. Brailford admired the exterior of Gothic buildings, but thought that in nine cases out of ten the preacher there was heard with difficulty. Mr. Prest said there was other causes besides the adoption of the Gothic style for preachers not being heard. Mr. H. H. Fowler protested against even indirect attacks on those who built the chapels they deemed best. He indicated his own preference for Gothic architecture, and advised the Committee against attempting to resist the progress of taste. The speech of the morning was that of Dr. Osborn. He admitted the right of those who built chapels to determine the style they should adopt, but suggested that chapels should be designed, not for singers, but preachers, and that care should be given to their acoustic properties, and to ventilation. He knew no chapel better suited for Methodist preachers than that in which they were assembled. He especially insisted, with great unctiousness and power, on the necessity of having chapels in which lovefeasts and prayer-meetings could be advantageously held. Were these services to fail, their chapels would soon be of little value. Let them keep up the old spirit of Methodism, and Methodism would be more than a match for Ritualism; but if they went into a competition in regard to architecture, they would be out of the contest. Mr. Bunting the meeting opened a practical suggestion. He called attention to the fact that the fund for loans in aid of new erections, founded at the last Manchester Conference, was now exhausted. He expressed a sentiment to which we would be glad were their practical responses. It was desirable, he said, that some general fund should be for the nation, on a smaller scale, what Sir Francis Lyett had done for London.

HOME MISSIONS.

This afternoon Mr. Prest delivered the report of the Committee upon Home Missions, containing a cheering statement of progress made during the last twelve years. He then

moved a resolution asking, on behalf of the fund, a larger income, and added a few words urging that the optimistic tendencies, and the efforts to spread sectarianism in our large towns, could be counteracted only by zealous Christian effort.

Sir Francis Lyett pleaded the claims of London. He drew a startling picture of the religious destitution of Paddington, where, amid a population of 100,000, there is no Methodist chapel, and where the united efforts of all denominations have provided sittings in church and chapel for only 30,000 persons. He suggested improvements in the management of the Home Mission Fund, and wished that chairmen of districts might be set free from circuit work. He mourned greatly the decision of numbers, and hoped Conference would be right to appoint a week of humiliation and prayer. He wished that in London they could build a hundred instead of fifty chapels. After Sir Francis had finished his very earnest and telling address, the President gave to it great emphasis by announcing that, in addition to £200 a-year for home missionary ministers in London for three years.

Mr. Gervase Smith insisted that the income of the Home Mission Fund should not be less than £100,000 a-year, and gave instances of conversion resulting from home mission efforts. Among other anecdotes he told how he had once been privileged to hear a clergyman preach a faithful and evangelical sermon before the Queen; the sermon over, the clergyman made an appeal on behalf of the Church Missionary Society, and in doing so read extracts from the Wesleyan Missionary Society's Report. Mr. Smith told how this appeal was responded to by the members of the Royal Family, and closed an eloquent but discursive speech with invocations of blessing on the Queen.

Mr. S. R. Hall regretted that superintendents could be overburdened with what was called circuit business. Such business had increased greatly during the last few years. That a minister's time should be so much occupied in preparing schedules, in attending Committees, and in the management of day schools, was a serious obstruction to success. He thought the ministers selected for home mission work ought not to be young men in their probation, but married men of seven or eight years' standing, and suggested that in their case, as in that of foreign missionaries, the principles of itinerancy might be modified. To succeed in such work, especially in large cities, required a life consecration.

Dr. Rule wished for certain changes in the administration of the work in the army and navy. Among other things, he indicated his opinion that Methodist army chaplains should receive Government pay, but that Mr. Prest strongly deprecated, assigning as chief reasons that Methodist chaplains would sacrifice their independence, and lose the prestige they now enjoyed with the soldiers.

Mr. Atkinson moved a resolution in favour of holding home missionary meetings in all our chapels, and establishing juvenile home and foreign missionary associations in all our circuits. He was followed by Mr. M'Anlay, who dwelt upon the spiritual good resulting from such meetings. He thought Christian men had no reason to fear the abounding wickedness of the present day. Better, indeed, to have to do with the wicked devil of infidelity than the dumb devil of indifference.

Mr. Pocock put in an earnest plea on behalf of the neglected rural districts. He spoke in illustration of a town in Surrey which had no Methodist chapel within a distance of twenty miles, and where they had little reason to think evangelical truth was preached at all. He strongly urged that home missionaries should be relieved from circuit engagements, and devoted solely to aggressive work.

Mr. Stephenson, of Newcastle, lamented the large number of professed members of Society who are never present at class-meeting, and after passing votes of thanks, the meeting proceeded to the Children's Fund. Some conversation arose with reference to the schools for ministers' daughters, and also on the difficulties which beset the arrangements in Cornwall. Mr. Nichols and Mr. Downing, the lay representative of the district, urged that the rating should be according to the number of ministers instead of members. It was ultimately recommended that the assessment should be made in the same manner and at the same rate as last year.

TUESDAY.

During the Preparatory Committees which close to-day, again and again has the fact of decrease been alluded to, in a tone of deep seriousness, but by no means of discouragement. Exhortations to humiliation before God, to earnest prayer, and to renewed consecration have given a high religious tone to the proceedings. The meeting of this morning has been a fitting—might almost say a glorious finale to the series of Committees. The heavy rain that fell did not prevent the gathering of large numbers at the opening, and as the session of the Conference was this morning formally opened at the Oldham Street Chapel, Manchester. More than seven hundred ministers were present. The Conference was opened by the singing of a hymn given out by the President, and the reading of the Scriptures by the Secretary, and prayer. After these devotional exercises the first business of the Conference was at once proceeded with—viz. the filling up of those vacancies in the legal consecration through death or superannuation, which have occurred during the year. When a member of the legal hundred has been superannuated four years, he is deemed to be superannuated, and his place becomes vacant. It was found that in Great Britain there were five vacancies, one occasioned by death and four by superannuation; in Ireland, two, one occasioned by death and one by superannuation. These vacancies were then filled up as follows—the first being by seniority, the second by nomination, and the remainder alternately:—James Grose, by seniority, in place of Elijah Toyne, deceased.

OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

MANCHESTER, July 26. The one hundred and twenty-eighth annual Session of the Conference was this morning formally opened at the Oldham Street Chapel, Manchester. More than seven hundred ministers were present. The Conference was opened by the singing of a hymn given out by the President, and the reading of the Scriptures by the Secretary, and prayer. After these devotional exercises the first business of the Conference was at once proceeded with—viz. the filling up of those vacancies in the legal consecration through death or superannuation, which have occurred during the year. When a member of the legal hundred has been superannuated four years, he is deemed to be superannuated, and his place becomes vacant. It was found that in Great Britain there were five vacancies, one occasioned by death and four by superannuation; in Ireland, two, one occasioned by death and one by superannuation. These vacancies were then filled up as follows—the first being by seniority, the second by nomination, and the remainder alternately:—James Grose, by seniority, in place of Elijah Toyne, deceased.

THE FIRST MANCHESTER CONFERENCE.

The Conference which has already virtually commenced, and which will be formally opened in Manchester to-morrow morning, is the hundred and twenty-eighth annual assembly of the kind, and the fifteenth which has been held in Manchester. The first Annual Conference was opened on the 25th of June, 1744, at the Foundry in London. On that occasion, besides John and Charles Wesley, there were present the Rev. John Hodges, Rector of Wrentham; the Rev. Henry Piers, Vicar of Buxley; the Rev. Samuel Taylor, Vicar of Quinton; and the Rev. J. Meriton. Their conversation related chiefly to doctrinal points; but the last day there was a discussion on points of discipline, in the course of which the Church of England was defined as "the congregation of English believers."

was supplemented by Mr. Simpson, who explained that the action of the Society, against caste had tended to separate from them, many who formerly had been members, but, by doing so, had rendered the church more pure, and who also spoke of the care the missionaries take to guard the door of the native ministry against any but truly converted men. The Rev. W. J. Davis, announced as the author of the *Kafir Dictionary* and Grammar, also spoke as a returned missionary. He described the wonderful development of the work of God in South Africa.

Among other references to the financial state of the Society, Mr. Boyce dwelt almost pathetically upon the practical difficulty of reducing expenditure, and then cheered the meeting by the information that next year the scheme for freeing the chapels in the West Indies from debt would be completed, and that then the circuits in those islands would be placed in the position as circuits in England. Dr. Johnson wisely suggested that greater pains should be taken in preparing the reports and in making the arrangements for many of their meetings; and Mr. Alderman Barlow that the system of weekly and monthly subscriptions should be more steadily worked.

Italy was prominent in the speeches, as it had been in the report. Mr. Arthur who was greeted with long continued applause, told how he had held the first Methodist prayer-meeting in Rome in the bedroom of his hotel in 1856, and how ever since he had been looking that Rome should be the head of a Methodist mission. Mr. M'Mullen, of Dublin, said that an eccentric but excellent Irish minister was wont to close his fervent missionary addresses by anticipations of a Methodist Conference to be held in Rome. Mr. J. S. Budgett had visited Italy, and could describe the admirable premises occupied by our mission in Padua.

Nor were the expressions of sympathy with the new and great work that now opens in the Eternal City merely verbal. Mr. Perks read a note from Mr. Fernley, which elicited loud cheering, announcing that that gentleman would give towards the purchase or erection of a chapel and other mission premises £5,000. Mr. Heald expressed his willingness to follow so noble an example, and promised a like amount. The announcement of these munificent gifts was received with great enthusiasm, but the excitement of the meeting did not rise to its highest point until Dr. Osborn described, with great emotion, the marvellous progress made by Methodism since the Conference was first held in that chapel. He called upon all to strike the same spirit of praise to that infinite goodness which had made them a people. Their Missionary Society in 1833 was not one-third of what it now is, either in the amount of its income or in the number of missionaries it sustained. He felt that God was among them still. But we will not attempt to indicate even the principal points of this speech. It produced a remarkable effect upon the magnificent assembly to which it was addressed; and when Dr. Osborn described how the Committee of the Evangelical Alliance in its early days, when any remarkable manifestation of the divine favor had been granted, were accustomed to once to sing "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," all rose to their feet and joined in heartily singing the *Doxology*.

Mr. J. S. Budgett rose after Dr. Osborn, and having referred to the incubus of debt which still burdened the Society, offered £1,000 towards its reduction. His example was followed by other noble gifts.

And now came the close. Mr. T. P. Bunting, in grateful terms, moved the thanks of the meeting to the President for his conduct of those Preparatory Committees, and then according to his wont, indulged in references to the election to take place to-morrow. Presently his tone became serious and even solemn, as he spoke of the illness of one who, had he been amongst us, would probably have been the elect of his brethren. Mr. Bunting's words we hope, will reach Mr. Va ey. They express with felicity, the feelings of many thousands of our Israel.

THE FERNLEY LECTURE.

We have just listened to Mr. Pope's lecture on "The Person of Christ." We could describe the vast congregation that crowded Grosvenor-street Chapel, and could tell how they were held spell-bound by the lecturer for an hour and a half, and how gloriously the close they joined in singing Dr. Watt's beautiful hymn of praise to Christ, repeating with heart and soul the verse—

Jesus is worthy to receive,
Honor and power Divine;
And blessings more than we can give
Be Lord for ever thine:

but as yet we have no words at command in which to describe the lecture. We simply thank God for the grace given to the preacher so to extol the Lord, and for the rich unctious that attended the word.

DEFINITION COMPREHENSIVE ENOUGH TO SATISFY DEAN STANLEY HIMSELF.

It was a touching incident which fell under the notice of a Christian lady lately at a railway station. She saw a husband bear his invalid wife in his arms from the car. As clasping his neck she was borne to a carriage, she remarked to a friend who stood near, in tones of unexpected cheerfulness, "You see I come as I went." Weak and helpless she had gone, weak and helpless she had returned; but alike in going and coming she had rested within the strong arms of him who loved her. And this not the daily experience of every saint? How feeble in himself, yet how upborne of Christ! "Without me ye can do nothing," says the voice of Jesus. "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me," exclaims the apostle. "When I am weak, then I am strong."

I COME AS I WENT.

Be not angry that you cannot make others as you wish them to be, since you cannot make yourself what you wish to be.

John Tindall, by seniority, in place of James Loutit.

Charles Garrett, by nomination, in place of Samuel Fiddian, superannuated.

John Gay Wilson, by seniority, in place of William Box, superannuated.

Benjamin Bayley, nominated by the Irish Conference, in the place of John Greer, deceased.

Wallace M'Mullen, nominated by the Irish Conference, in place of Thomas T. N. Hall, superannuated.

The Conference then proceeded to the election of its President and Secretary. The following is the result of the elections:—

FOR PRESIDENT.

John H. James, D.D. 201
Luke H. Wiseman 198
Charles Haydon 46
George T. Perks, M. A. 19
Gervase Smith, M. A. 5
Joseph Hargreaves 4
George Scott, D. D. 2
James H. Rigg, D. D. 2
W. W. Stamp, D. D. 2

FOR SECRETARY.

Luke H. Wiseman, M. A. 354
George T. Perks, M. A. 41
H. W. Williams 20
Gervase Smith, M. A. 14
Samuel R. Hall 5
Charles Haydon 4
John Bedford 2
W. T. Radcliffe 2

THE FERNLEY LECTURE.

This lecture was delivered in the Grosvenor-street Chapel, Manchester, last evening, Tuesday, July 25, by the Rev. W. B. Pope, to an overflowing congregation. The subject was "The Person of Christ." The following summary and appeal, which we present in the Lecturer's own words, will convey some idea of the outline and purpose of the lecture, which the crowds of ministers and lay gentlemen from all parts of the Connexion, who were assembled on the occasion, felt it to be their great privilege to hear:—

Here, then, I take farewell of this wonderful subject; the most unworthy who ever approached it. We have considered the testimony of Scripture to the constituent elements of our Saviour's Person, and the undivided unity of the God-head. We have seen the manifold bearings of this truth on Christian theology; not without some side references to the great controversies which have been waged in the Christian Church from the beginning. We have seen that the knowledge of the mystery of Christ cannot possibly be described by any in this world, although possibly in the next; but it is essential to our Christian integrity both in belief and practice. And now it remains only, my beloved brethren, that we turn from the doctrine to Himself, and confirm to our own hearts all that has been said, by one common act of reverent contemplation. Let the Epistle to the Hebrews which corresponds to the Gospel of St. John teach us. After the first five chapters have shown that Christ is truly divine by his own testimony; and before the writer proceeds to dilate upon all the utterances of "the Apostle and high priest of our profession"—"With what unspeakable paths does he call upon his readers to 'consider' this wonderful Person! To that consideration of our Lord's undivided Person, the Holy Spirit this day challenges us all. 'Us all,' I say, not only those whose highest dignity and chief privilege it is to be students and ministers of Christ's mysteries, but all who bear the Christian name, who are holy brethren in Jesus, and partakers together of the heavenly calling. The ministerial prerogative may not be yours, the knowledge of the mysteries of faith may be denied you, but, my beloved brethren, Christ be longs to you all. He is the common property and heritage. He is mine. He is yours. He is everyone's. He is present in our midst this evening, going forth upon all who touch Him. There was no prerogative in that ancient Galilee which is denied to this place. Virtue went forth and healed them all. So let it be now! Help us, O Lord, to turn our eye of contemplation to Thee. My fellow sinner, make your peace with Christ this night. My fellow Christian, if He has become dim to your vision, let Him rise before you in all His glories this night! If your faith has become dull, cast such a look upon Him as will make Him your own. If your love and loyalty have grown cold within you, O let them flow back with a rush of tumultuous fealty to-night! For He is ready to receive you. He is present in our midst; look down upon us and to bless us; to renew within us our devotion, and to seal upon all our hearts His blessing. And when you have gone from this place, and the virtue of this service and ministry has gone with you, then consecrate yourself afresh to this immortal study—to this knowledge that cannot pass away—until, having beheld the glory of the Lord as reflected from His Word, you are changed into the same image, and reaching the beatific vision, see Him as He is, to whom, in the unity of His Person, and in the unity of the Father and of the Holy Ghost, be all night, majesty and dominion ascribed for ever and ever. Amen.

(From the Methodist Recorder.)

THE FIRST MANCHESTER CONFERENCE.

The Conference which has already virtually commenced, and which will be formally opened in Manchester to-morrow morning, is the hundred and twenty-eighth annual assembly of the kind, and the fifteenth which has been held in Manchester. The first Annual Conference was opened on the 25th of June, 1744, at the Foundry in London. On that occasion, besides John and Charles Wesley, there were present the Rev. John Hodges, Rector of Wrentham; the Rev. Henry Piers, Vicar of Buxley; the Rev. Samuel Taylor, Vicar of Quinton; and the Rev. J. Meriton. Their conversation related chiefly to doctrinal points; but the last day there was a discussion on points of discipline, in the course of which the Church of England was defined as "the congregation of English believers."

DEFINITION COMPREHENSIVE ENOUGH TO SATISFY DEAN STANLEY HIMSELF.

It was a touching incident which fell under the notice of a Christian lady lately at a railway station. She saw a husband bear his invalid wife in his arms from the car. As clasping his neck she was borne to a carriage, she remarked to a friend who stood near, in tones of unexpected cheerfulness, "You see I come as I went." Weak and helpless she had gone, weak and helpless she had returned; but alike in going and coming she had rested within the strong arms of him who loved her. And this not the daily experience of every saint? How feeble in himself, yet how upborne of Christ! "Without me ye can do nothing," says the voice of Jesus. "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me," exclaims the apostle. "When I am weak, then I am strong."

I COME AS I WENT.

Be not angry that you cannot make others as you wish them to be, since you cannot make yourself what you wish to be.

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General Intelligence.

Henry McDaniel, of Sherbrooke, St. Mary's, met with an accident on Saturday which caused his death.

SCOTT'S RAY.—On Monday, 21st ult., boats were seen at Wells Point, believed to be fishing, or preparing to fish, contrary to law.

ACCIDENT TO MR. TILLEY.—Yesterday, as Hon. S. L. Tilley was walking quickly down the steps in front of his residence, in St. Andrews, the heel of his boot caught and caused him to fall, turning the right foot and ankle outward and fracturing the outer or smaller bone of the leg, about two inches above the ankle.

ACCIDENTS.—W. R. Watson, Esq., of Charlottetown, met with a very serious accident, in consequence of the breaking of a rotten bridge on a road leading from Newington to Murray Harbor Road, near the gate of Mr. Edward Robertson.

MR. GEORGE CRAWFORD, of Tryon, was drowned in Pugsaw Harbor, on the 31st ult., by the upsetting of a boat in which he was proceeding as a schooner.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.—His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, by his advice to the Executive Council, has been pleased to make the following appointments, viz.:

IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND.—To be Registrar of Deeds and Assessor of the same, James Parrish—R. B. Dickson, Esquire.

BEQUESTS.—We learn from the Church Chronicle that among the minor legacies, the late M. B. Almon, bequeathed to the Diocesan Church Society \$1200 for general purposes, and \$400 to the St. John's Society.

SMALL POX.—The Windsor Mail says that the village of Monkville, near Windsor, has several cases of small pox. The disease was taken into the settlement by a captain who came from England in the late summer.

THE CIRCUS.—We understand that the Circus people who have recently visited Halifax have treated with contempt the law of the land and the law of God.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday last a man named Joseph Henry was run over by a train on the New Brunswick and Canada Railway, near his home, in York County, N. B.

FOUND DROWNED.—The St. John Telegraph of Friday says.—The body of Mr. William McCoy, who was missing since Tuesday night, was found by Messrs. James Lockhart and William Nixon yesterday afternoon, between four and five o'clock, a few feet from the shore of Tilson's wharf.

ORDINATION SERVICES.—Last Friday evening the Rev. Hugh A. Robertson was ordained by the Presbytery of Halifax as a Missionary Evangelist to the South Sea Islands.

BEFORE THE DOCTOR COMES.—Under the above heading Harper's Bazar published some time ago a series of articles describing the proper course to pursue in cases of accident &c., before medical aid arrived.

RECEIPTS FOR PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN.—To 15th August, 1871. From Rev. W. H. Hebert, \$2.00; From Rev. J. A. Twedy, 1.00; From Rev. I. N. Parker, 1.00; From Rev. R. N. Ingham, 1.00; From Rev. R. E. C. 1.00; From Rev. A. B. Huestis, 1.00; From Rev. A. S. Martin, 1.00; From Rev. C. E. Grosvenor, 1.00; From Rev. D. C. Cameron, 1.00.

THE DUBLIN RIOT.—A FULLER ACCOUNT.—DUBLIN, Aug. 6.—A great riot broke out in Dublin to-day, and created consternation among the inhabitants.

DUBLIN TO-DAY, and created consternation among the inhabitants. The rioters originated in the prohibition by the board of works of the proposed Fenian amnesty meeting, which was organized by Mr. Smyth, member of Parliament for Westmeath.

THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE of the Wakefield District will, (D.V.) meet for the transaction of its business on Wednesday, 23rd August, at 9 a. m., in the vestry of the Church at Wakefield.

THE FINANCIAL MEETING of the Truro District will be held (D.V.) at Truro, on Wednesday, August 30th, commencing at 9 a. m.

THE FINANCIAL MEETING of the St. John District will be held (D.V.) in the Wesleyan Church, at St. Stephen, on Wednesday, the 30th August, commencing at 10 o'clock, a. m.

THE FINANCIAL MEETING of the Fredericton District will be held (D.V.) in the school-room of the Wesleyan Church at Fredericton, on Wednesday, 30th of August, to commence at 9.30 a. m.

THE FINANCIAL MEETING of the Wakefield District will be held (D.V.) at Wakefield, on Wednesday, August 23rd, at 9 a. m.

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FINANCIAL DISTRICT MEETINGS. WAKEFIELD DISTRICT. The Financial Committee of the Wakefield District will, (D.V.) meet for the transaction of its business on Wednesday, 23rd August, at 9 a. m., in the vestry of the Church at Wakefield.

ANNAPOLIS DISTRICT. The Financial Meeting of the Ministers and Circuit Stewards of the Annapolis District will be held (D.V.) at Lawrenceton, on the 11th of August, Wednesday, Aug. 23rd, 9 a. m.

TRURO DISTRICT. The Financial Meeting of the Truro District will be held (D.V.) at Truro, on Wednesday, August 30th, commencing at 9 a. m.

ST. JOHN DISTRICT. The Financial Meeting of the St. John District will be held (D.V.) in the Wesleyan Church, at St. Stephen, on Wednesday, the 30th August, commencing at 10 o'clock, a. m.

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MOUNT ALLISON WESLEYAN College and Academies! THE first term of the Academic year 1871-2 will not open 6th

Thursday, August 17th. The building of the Northern Pacific Railroad (begun July last) is being pushed forward with great energy from both extremities of the line.

FLOUR. FLOUR. Just landing on steamer "Chase," 200 Bbls. "Ontario" S. Baker's, 100 "Haxall" Sup. Extra.

WANTED. AGENTS everywhere to sell "Father Taylor, the Sailor Preacher," by Rev. Gilbert Haven and Judge Russell.

E. J. MILLER, General Agent of the Seven Western Companies for the following Sewing Machines.

PRICE FROM \$15 UPWARD. Address: Melrose Square, Wilnot, Annapolis County, Nova Scotia.

CARD. DR. DODGE devotes his attention to the Treatment of the Eye, Ear and Throat, also Ophthalmic Surgery, including Diseases of the Eye, Ear and Throat.

NOTICE. CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT. OTTAWA, 3rd Aug. 1871. Notice is hereby given that His Excellency the Governor-General, by an order in Council bearing date 29th July last, and under the authority vested in him by the 3rd Section of the 24th Victoria Cap. 10, has been pleased to order and direct that the following articles, used as materials in Canadian manufactures, be placed on the list of goods which may be imported into Canada free of duty.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA. Monday, 31st day of July, 1871. HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

On the recommendation of the Hon. the Minister of Customs, in pursuance of the provisions of the 8th Section of the Act 31st Victoria, Chapter 6, intituled "An Act respecting the duties on the 3rd Section of the 24th Victoria Cap. 10, has been pleased to order and direct that the following articles, used as materials in Canadian manufactures, be placed on the list of goods which may be imported into Canada free of duty.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS. Every Birth should be registered within 60 days after taking place. PENALTY for neglect, Two Dollars.

NOVA SCOTIA RAILWAY. Reliable and Popular Through Routes from Halifax to St. John, Portland and Boston.

WINDSOR AND ANNOPOLEIS RAILWAY. At Windsor, on the steamer EXPRESS at Annapolis, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, landing passengers in St. John same evening.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY. To all parts of QUEBEC and ONTARIO, and also connecting by Railway and steamers to all parts of WEST and SOUTH.

PIANO FORTES, GABINET ORGANS. Messrs. Peiler, Sichel & Co. Agents for the STEINWAY & SONS, & CHICKERING & SONS, AND THE MASON & GIBBONS, & GEO. A. PRINCE & CO.

ENGLISH, AMERICAN & FOREIGN Sheet Music & Books. A complete assortment on hand, and orders forwarded every week to the various publishing houses.

BAZAAR AT WOLFVILLE! THE Ladies and Friends of the Wesleyan Congregation at Wolfville propose holding a BAZAAR at that place, during the time of the Annual Exhibition of the Fruit Growers' Association.

Lumber, Lumber. THE Subscriber offers for sale, deliverable at "Star Mills," Sheet Harbor.

Dinner & Tea will be provided, and also abundance of REFRESHMENTS. The object of this Bazaar is to liquidate the debt upon the Church, and procure means to paint and furnish the building.

7-30 GOLD LOAN. OF THE Northern Pacific Railroad. Rapid Progress of the Work!

A GOOD INVESTMENT. Jay Cook & Co. are now selling, and unobtainably recommending, a profitable and perfectly safe investment, the First Mortgage Land Grant Gold Bonds of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company.

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Completion of Spring and Summer Stock. CHOICEST GOODS! NEWEST DESIGNS!! LOWEST PRICES!!!

HOWARD, WHITEHEAD & CRICHTON. TAILORS, CLOTHIERS AND OUTFITTERS, No. 185 HOLLIS STREET.

CLOTHES. This department will be found complete with a beautiful selection of West of England Cloths, Scotch Tweeds, Blue Trousings, Super Cassimeres, and Does, Oxford, Cambridge and Fancy Meltons, Blue and Black Venerian Sateens and Diagonals, Cloth, Real Scotch Cheviots, Silk Mixture Castings and Trousers, Silk, Marcella, and Corded Vestings, Dress Livery and equestrian Cloths.

UNDER CLOTHING. Always in stock, superior makes of Silk, Merino, Lamb wool and Cotton Under Clothing at economical prices.

Scarves and Ties. We are now showing a unique selection of these beautiful Goods, comprising the following: Fawn, White, Blue, Green, Red, and Black, and many other styles. Mulin, Fancy and Regatta Ties, Scarves, Fawn and Fawn Bows in great variety.

STRICTLY CASH SYSTEM. places us in a position to offer our Stock at Unprecedentedly Low Prices.

S. HOWARD & SON'S SUMMER NOVELTIES! Modes de Londres, Dresden and Berlin.

CONTINENTAL MILLINERY. Personally and carefully collected from the Most Renowned Milliners in Europe, which, notwithstanding the unavoidable absence of our usual Parisian purchases, will be found to compare with the Newest, most Fashionable and

BEAUTIFUL GOODS pertaining to the present season. Milkado Silks? Every Cent per yard, at S. HOWARD & SON'S, Hollis Street.

THE LORNE CORSET. This symmetrical, glove-fitting Corset, made specially for our Retail Trade—One Dollar Twenty-five cents per yard.

THE BEST KID GLOVE. DENT'S famous Town Made. Unsurpassed for Perfection of Fit, Quality of Kid, and Beauty of Coloring at. S. HOWARD & SON'S, Hollis Street.

Summer Dress Goods. A large, complete and excellent assortment of the most novel and beautiful fabrics, combining exquisite Tinting with Unique Colors.

LADIES' OUTFITTING. 99 GRANVILLE STREET. 99 GRANVILLE STREET. 99 GRANVILLE STREET.

Wholesale Dry Goods. ANDERSON, BILLING & CO. HAVE received per "City of Durham," CASES ASSORTED 6-4 COLORED COBURGS.

British Shoe Store, 138 GRANVILLE STREET. A. J. RICKARDS & CO. HAVE today received a large assortment of Ladies', Misses' and Children's

REMOVAL. AMERICAN HOUSE. Kept by Messrs Campbell & Bacon. THE subscribers have removed from Windsor House, No. 12 Jacob Street, to that new and commodious House,

Now Landing SUGAR AND MOLASSES. 93 BIDS. Barbaodos Grocery SUGAR. 10 Bbls. 50 Bbls. Continental Sugar. 10 Puns Molasses.

JOSEPH S. BELCHER. (LATE GEO. H. STARR & Co.) Commission & W. L. Merchant HALIFAX, N. S.

Particular attention given to the purchase and sale of Dry and Pickled Fish, Flour and West India Produce, &c.

