



much encouragement in a peculiar sort of missionary work in Ireland, and had preached in the open air in most of the large Roman Catholic towns in the south-western and midland districts of Ireland. Having returned from one of these missionary tours, I attended, to a considerable assembly in Dublin, the acceptance and usefulness that had marked these out-door itinerant labours. One lady in the audience was peculiarly struck with the mention of some things connected with the distribution of tracts, and wished to speak with me after the meeting. She inquired whether I had seen a tract containing a portion of one of the Epistles of Peter to which I replied in the negative. She said that she had seen it recently, and it had struck her as being suitable for distribution in Roman Catholic districts in connection with open-air preaching; and she offered me a bundle of them. I took them with me on my next missionary trip. On the Sunday, I preached in a Roman Catholic town to a large number of Irish; and I may mention for your encouragement, that while so engaged a number of Roman priests and a Roman bishop passed by sufficiently near to within the sound of my voice. Not one of the people binned from their standing, but turned round and listened to the proclamation of the Gospel from my lips. The time was, when, at the sight of a Roman priest, Paddy would have taken leg-bail, and been off (laughter) or would have felt the lash of the priest's whip for listening to a Protestant preacher. But that is not the case now. These men stood their ground, and listened with great interest. On the following day I proposed preaching in the open air in a small town at some distance off, intending afterwards to go to a still further distant town in the evening. I took with me a large number of the tracts, stuffed them into all my pockets, and was truly an interesting figure. When ascending the steps of the Court-house—for it was market-day—the people were leaving, and I saw several very interesting-looking fellows gathered around the rails, who had furnished themselves, not with cards and pencils to take notes, but with cabbage-leaves and brick-bats, which they had picked up in the streets, and with which they seemed to be prepared for adding notes of emphasis of a very peculiar character. I looked at them with both my eyes. I said: "Now, boys, some of you know, I dare say—and if you don't know I'll tell you—that I preached in Carlow yesterday, and there was a great crowd. I had to speak loud. I know you are kind fellows, and if you come inside the rails, I shall not have to speak quite so loud now as will be necessary if you remain where you are." They did not expect such an invitation; and they contrived to come within the rails. Some three or four females, who knew that I was going to do some good, and stood with me on the steps of the Court-house, and were prepared to assist me in singing. I said, "Now, boys, if you will be very quiet, we will sing; and I then commenced by giving out two verses of that beautiful hymn—

"When I survey the wondrous cross,  
On which the Prince of Glory died."

We sang the verses, and then said, "We are going to offer up prayer, and I wish you all to remain quiet." They did so; at its close, I told them I was going to give them a sermon of St. Peter's. A sermon of St. Peter's! They knew not what to do. I read parts of the 3rd and 4th chapters of the Acts of the Apostles, and expounded them. I showed them that there was one of St. Peter's sermons, and that there was no mistake about its being correctly reported, that it had infallible authority, though it was written before the time of the Pope. I went on to expound the sermon and apply it. I commenced by showing them, that the religion of Peter was the preaching of salvation through the blood of Christ, and that its object was to turn them away from their iniquities. I recommended, this as Peter's religion, and assured them I hoped that it would be theirs. Before I had gone on very far, the cabbage-leaves and brick-bats had gone to their appropriate places—and the crowd listened with great attention. Prior to the congregation dispersing, I announced that I had some portions of a letter of Peter's, and, if they would allow me, I would give them a few. "Letters of St. Peter," said one, "where did you get them?" "Well, wherever I got them, would you not like to read them?" They responded, "We would." I then distributed a bundle of tracts amongst them, and as I passed through the crowd, and drew them from my pockets, I was growing,

"Small by degrees, and beautifully less."

fill my pockets were emptied. I had then two miles to walk to meet the coach, and one of them asked to carry my coat. When I got to the coach-office, having been mistaken first for a physician, and secondly for a priest—by going to a house where there was a poor man who had been taken ill, though by-and-by the mistake was discovered: I was thus saluted, "A tract, y'r reverence." This arose from the idea that, at the coach-office, where my travelling-bag was waiting me, I might have more tracts. Several had arrived before me, and were waiting to apply for them. There was a fair being held at the end of the town, and some of those to whom I gave an additional tract, went and held up the treasure they had received. The subject having excited great interest, a crowd was collected, and as the coach left I went away with their hearty blessing and three cheers for St. Peter's preacher! Some time afterwards, in a distant part of the county, I was asked whether I was Mr. King who preached in such a place? when on replying yes, a lady told me that a friend of hers had applied to her, requesting her to interest her female friends in order to raise money to fund a large number of Roman Catholics with copies of the Scriptures, saying that they had been busily and industriously seeking for the Word of God to read, ever since I had preached "St. Peter's sermon," that Christian females had taken the thing up, and were endeavoring to procure copies of the Scriptures without applying to a Society, for the purpose of averting inquisitorial interference, and that they might not be prevented from exercising their right to inquire into the study of the Word of God. So far for the results of preaching in the open air, and the effort to distribute tracts, and this expedient of a gracious female, in suggesting a way by which her and her friends might be most useful.

IV. THE HAND OF THE AVENGER STAYED.

Hans Egede was the first missionary to Greenland. Against the most earnest entreaties of his friends, poorly provided for such an undertaking, he left his quiet home and parish in Norway, and with his wife, who long clung to her native land, and with tears, tempted the fortunes of her self-devoted Hans, together with four small children, sailed for the bleak, comfortless shores of Greenland. For seventeen years he toiled on, without a single convert. During this time no imagination can conceive the misery which this noble man and his afflicted family were called to suffer. They were subjected to the grossest insults, and the most cruel persecutions, at the hands of those they had sacrificed all to benefit; while they were, at the same time, disappointed of expected succours from the continent, and reduced oftentimes to the last extremities. All this Hans had preached to the ignorant and besotted Greenlanders the doctrine of the fall of man, and such kindred subjects as he supposed should be first understood. As the last resort, these subjects failing to arrest their attention, he began to preach Christ crucified; and from that hour, to the indescribable joy of the missionary, converts began to multiply in every direction. The Danes have continued a mission there from that time to the present. The following incident is taken from the diary of Hans Egede Saabye, a grandson of the celebrated Hans Egede:

"It has ever been a fixed law in Greenland, that murder, and particularly the murder of a father, must be avenged—About twenty years before the arrival of Saabye, a father had been murdered in the presence of his son, a lad of thirteen, in a most atrocious manner. The boy was not able then to avenge the crime, but the murderer was not forgotten. He left that part of the country, and kept the flame burning in his bosom twenty-five years, no suitable opportunity offering for revenge, as the man was high in influence and many near to defend him. At length his plan was laid, and with some of his relations he returned to the presence of the murderer, who lived near the house of Saabye, there being no houses unoccupied, where they might remain, but one owned by Saabye, they requested it, and it was granted, without any remark, although he knew the object of their coming. The son soon became interested in the kind missionary, and often visited his cabin, giving as his reason, 'You are so amiable I cannot keep away from you.'—Two or three weeks after he requested to know more of 'the Great Lord of Heaven,' of whom Saabye had spoken. His request was cheerfully granted. Soon it appeared that himself, and all his relatives, were desirous of instruction, and ere long the son requested baptism. To this request the missionary answered, 'Kunuk, (for that was his name) you know God; you know that he is good, that he loves you, and desires to make you happy; but he desires also that you shall obey him.' Kunuk answered, 'I love him, I will obey him.'—His command is, 'Thou shalt not murder.' The poor Greenlanders were much affected and silent. 'I know,' said the missionary, 'why you came here, from your relations, but this you must not do, if you wish to become a believer.' Agitated, he answered, 'But he murdered my father!'—The missionary, promising to 'kill my only one.' But this was not enough. 'Thou shalt do no murder,' Saabye insisted was the command of the Great Lord of Heaven. He exhorted him to leave the murdered in the hand of God, to be punished in another world; but this was waiting too long for revenge. The missionary refused him baptism, without obedience to the command. He retired to consult his friends. They urged him to revenge. Saabye visited him, and, without referring to the subject, read those portions of scripture and hymns teaching a quiet and forgiving temper. Some days after, Kunuk came again to the cabin of Saabye. 'I will,' said he, 'and I will not; I fear, and I do not fear. I never felt before, I will forgive him, and I will not forgive him.' The missionary told him, 'When he would forgive, then his better spirit spoke; when he would not forgive, then his unconverted heart spoke. He then repeated to him the latter part of the life of Jesus, and his prayer for his murderers. A tear stood in his eye: 'But he was better than me,' said Kunuk. 'But God will give us strength,' Saabye answered. He then read the martyrdom of

Stephen, and his dying prayer for his enemies. Kunuk dried his eyes and said, 'The wicked man! He is happy; he is certainly with God in Heaven—My heart is so moved, but give me a little time; I have brought the other heart to silence, I will come again.' He soon returned with a joyful expression, saying, 'Now I am happy! I hate no more; I have forgiven; my wicked heart shall be silent.' He and his wife, having made a clear profession of faith in Christ, were baptized and received into the Church.—Soon after, he sent the following note to the murderer of his father: 'I am now a believer, and you have nothing to fear,' and invited him to his house. The man came, and invited Kunuk; in turn, to visit him. Contrary to the advice of friends, Kunuk went, and, as he was returning home, he found a hole had been cut in the kajak (or boat) in order that he might be drowned. Kunuk stepped out of the water, saying, 'He is still afraid, though I will not harm him.' What a noble example of self-conquest! What an illustrious exhibition of the power of the gospel!

V. THE NEW MISSIONARY SHIP, JOHN WILLIAMS.

On June 5th, agreeably to previous announcement, a large number of the friends and supporters of the London Missionary Society assembled at the London-bridge wharf, to take leave of the missionaries. At an early hour a number of highly-respectable persons had assembled, crowding every avenue leading to the packet. At half-past nine o'clock the Star steamer, which had been engaged to convey the missionaries, with their wives, &c., to the ship, started, having on board between four and five hundred individuals, among whom we noticed several of the directors of the London Missionary Society, the secretaries of the society, the Reverend Messrs. Tidman, Freeman, and Arundel. Nothing particular occurred worthy of notice on the arrival of the steamer, except that, whether the John Williams had been needed, as soon as the vessel was descried, the greatest interest was excited, and, on arriving alongside of her, but one expression escaped the lips of all—'Oh! what a beautiful vessel!' She is, indeed, a fine ship, and, with her flags flying, presented a gay scene. The vessel is elegantly fitted up, and in the chief cabin were perceived the portraits of Williams and Moffatt, by Mr. Baxter, in splendid frames, presented by that gentleman to the ship. The tonnage of the vessel is 296 tons; length, 103 feet; breadth, 24 feet 8 inches; 16 feet deep in the hold; and has 10 state-rooms. The steamer having been fastened to the vessel, preparations were immediately made for the missionaries to leave. Previous, however, to doing so, an opportunity was given to all on board to take a final leave of them. They sat at the hinder part of the steamer, when the whole of the company passed by, bidding them an affectionate adieu. At the conclusion of this, a short service was held in the centre of the packet. The Rev. J. Hunt having given out the hymn, 'Go, ye heralds of salvation,' &c., the Rev. T. Binney most affectionately addressed the missionaries, becoming, as he said, the voice of utterance to the many hearts that surrounded him. 'Now,' said he, addressing the missionaries, 'is the time to fortify yourselves, by relying upon those great principles which can alone sustain you. Initiate the first great Missionary, who left the bosom of his Father, and came to earth to redeem us. If any man love his father or mother more than me, he cannot be my disciple. By leaving friends and family, you show your love to Christ. Think of his love, and we will call you by his name. Rely upon God's Spirit for aid while preaching the glorious Gospel to the heathen. Believing in the efficacy of prayer, we will offer up fervent prayer on your behalf. May you be faithful unto death. Remember that John Williams should have died as he did that have disgraced his name. Rather let us hear anything about you than that you have proved unfaithful.' Mr. Binney said there was something very interesting about the ship—those for whom Jesus had manifested, when on earth, the most tender regard. 'May the Lord be with you, and bless you!' The Rev. J. Arundel then offered up solemn prayer, commending the missionaries, with their families, as well as the captain and crew, to the Divine protection and favour. The scene now presented was one of the most affecting kind. The moment of separation had arrived, the time when the last shake of the hand, and when the last expression of farewell must be given. The missionaries having been placed on board the ship, the sails were unfurled, and the vessel glided through the waters, the Star packet keeping company with her for several miles, till she reached Gravesend, where she dropped her anchor. Several hymns were sung, alternately, by the missionaries on board the ship and the company in the steamer. About three o'clock, the Star sailed round the ship, the company on board giving three times three cheers, which was immediately returned by the John Williams. The vessel was soon left behind, and the company returned, highly gratified by the day's proceedings, which were so well arranged that nothing occurred to mar the pleasure. The children's missionary ship, purchased by the gifts of Sunday-School Children, is now on her way to the Southern Seas, and will be accompanied by the best wives and prayers of innumerable. We shall conclude this notice by quoting a verse from one of the hymns sung on the departure of the 'Camden,' which had carried to New-Zealand, John Williams the martyr-missionary:

"Dawned from the southern breeze,  
Her canvas swells the breeze,  
Here parting divider the foam,  
Impatient of delay,  
And waving friends there,  
A look, a last farewell to say,  
To breathe the parting breeze."

[From the Belleville Intelligencer.]

We are indebted to Mr. Thomas Webster, for the printed copy of a letter, addressed by him to Dr. Luckey, in answer to a letter published in our last. Mr. W. requests us to publish it, and we regret in this instance not being able to comply with his wish. His letter occupies six columns, and we cannot devote so much of our space to the consideration of quibbles, for in fact such is the tenor of Webster's letter. To this consideration we come the more readily, because Mr. W. can publish, or re-publish his letter, in those columns, which are entirely devoted to a free and full consideration of all the says for his church. And, certainly, it is rather modest of him to request us to re-publish his letter after it has appeared in the *Victoria Chronicle*. We certainly cannot discover anything in it which should induce us to allow our regular practice of publishing nothing second-hand, which might be written to his credit. And Mr. W. may rest assured, that we are not to be trapped into circulating some of the vilest abuse that can be vented against a man, merely because the individual does not agree with Mr. W. in politics. But we have given his letter a careful perusal, and it is fully evident that he writes altogether from hearsay, and that hearsay must, from the first, be the main point. He alludes to the Conference of the Episcopal Methodist Church in America refuse to recognize him or his church as any portion of the Methodist Church, and consequently the grave question of legally solemnizing matrimony by their preachers is at once raised and settled. We are indebted to Dr. Luckey's letter, in the light of this question, given by us, for explaining the decision. The *West-England-Methodists* claim to be the Methodist Church in Canada, formerly known as the Episcopal Methodists. The body to which Mr. Webster belongs puts forth a similar claim. The law of the land determines in favour of the former. Then it is thought proper and expedient to appeal to a religious body, and the American Conference is appealed to, and again the Wesleyan Church is sustained, and the body now designating itself Episcopal Methodist is declared to have no existence as a Methodist Church in Canada. Then we contend, if they have no existence as a Church, they have no legal right to solemnize Matrimony. And we consider this question of sufficient importance to induce us to call particular attention to the fact. And in addition to the legal disqualification, there is a consideration apart from that which should have its full weight with all those who regard the marriage ceremony beyond the mere forms of temporal duties. If the Marriage ceremony is regarded as a religious rite, then it must be fully evident that those persons cannot perform the duties who are not ministers of the Church, according to the discipline and order thereof. For example, Mr. Webster will not deny, that although a Minister may have received the regular license, that such Minister has a right to continue to solemnize Matrimony after he has been read out of the Society. And surely he has not to learn that such is the fact with a leading Minister of the body to which he belongs. We have nothing to do with the question as to whether the body to which he belongs, further than we are fully convinced that the so-called Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada has no existence, either according to the law of the land, or Methodist polity. And this being the case, they can have no right to solemnize Matrimony, even though they may by representation in the Court of Quarter Sessions to grant them a license; for if the law is applied to the fact, that license cannot make them such, and they do a grievous wrong in persisting in a course which constitutes most tell them can only lead to serious evils and degrading immorality.

The *Belleville Intelligencer* is fully warranted in saying that the Methodist Episcopal Church has no existence in Canada; either according to the law of the land, or Methodist polity. The inference that the editor draws from this fact, that the persons calling themselves Methodist Episcopal preachers 'have no right to solemnize matrimony, even though they may induce the Court of Quarter Sessions to grant them a license,' is a very serious matter, and ought to be decided in one way or another, so that longer doubtfulness of the legality of the rite so administered may be removed. Concerning the reply to Dr. Luckey's able and satisfactory letter, our opinion may be easily conjectured. We have taken the pains to read it, and for the privilege are indebted to our friend the *Victoria Chronicle*. Observing various expressions implying a hand in the doings of the party in 1834, as 'We considered it an insult to Mr. Wesley—' We had no idea of being transferred from one church to another—' It never professed to organize—the question arose, Where was this man before 1831? The late-comer, or course, must write 'altogether from hearsay.' After such a rebuke from Dr. Luckey, silence became him, and not this tedious and bold loquacity. 'All that could be said on the one side of the question was said before this 'Thos. Webster' felt himself of consequence in the party; and all that he has said has been merely the echo of voices before him. We thank the *Intelligencer* for setting the matter in a true light before the inhabitants of the *Victoria District*.—*Edif. Guard.*

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

Wigan in the Forest. Irish Conference. Free Church and the Wesleyans. On Light Reading. A Letter from the Warwick Mission. The Established Church in the West India, Ireland, &c. Various Canada Intelligence, &c. Annals of a Greenlander. Miscellaneous Items. Another Baptism Litigation.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have received the friendly letter of W. M. C. The advice offered is very good, and the promise made we hope he will keep. In respect to another particular, we say, Com.

CHRISTIAN GUARDIAN.

Wednesday, July 31, 1844.

We shall not consider our materials for making an interesting and useful paper of the *Christian Guardian* sufficient, until we have a good number of correspondents among the subscribers and readers. The value of a periodical depends, in a great degree, on the quantity as well as quality of original matter which it can expect to receive. It is not appropriate time for receiving as well as giving. Contentual giving and not receiving will in time exhaust any man's stock of thought, however capacious his mind, and however enriched it may be. The cry of sameness will soon reach his ears, as it does those preachers of the Gospel who lazily rest on the pernicious principle of giving and not receiving. An editor's correspondence comes as a great auxiliary in furnishing the public with original matter. The editor's pen is not sufficient, and therefore he looks abroad for help, and craves the aid of others.

The *Christian Guardian* looks for assistance in this respect from ministers of the Church whose organs it is, and from others of its friends, whose leisure and disposition may prompt them to use their pens in its behalf. We invite them to be glad to receive the co-operation of all. Does the question arise, 'What topics would you have us write on?' If so, we have no objection of offering some hints. 1. A standing topic of correspondence has ever been, in the *Christian Guardian*, the religious state of the country. A very useful subject, but one that we hope will on no account be neglected. Let us hear from every circuit, at least once, during the year. Let us hear from every mission carried on by the Conference; and the more frequently useful accounts are presented to the public, the more interest will be felt in the cause of Missions. 2. Obituary intelligence is another standing topic. On this subject we have already spoken; and we hope that the request in the *Christian Guardian* of July 10th will not be disregarded by our brethren. 3. Accidents of occurrences having interest for some class or other of the public, or furnishing some useful moral, will be very acceptable. We have an instance in the paper to-day from a correspondent. We have now ministers on seventy-nine circuits and missions, extending over nearly the whole surface of U. Canada, and every small part of the Lower Province, that part especially lying the River Ottawa from the seignior of the Lake of the Two Mountains towards Montreal to the farthest inhabited township west towards Lake Huron. In so large a field of operation, innumerable occurrences must weekly take place which might be used for the public good. Let our brethren in the ministry and others seize on many of these, and at their leisure forward us the accounts. Another reason for this is, the common danger of domestic intelligence in the Canadian newspapers. The conductors of some of them seem to mind every other country on the face of the globe but their own. There is not a paper we see that is not full of what we call foreign intelligence. It is true, there is a reason for this; editors cannot have agents in every township, or even in every district. But the *Christian Guardian* is above every paper in the country for agency; and might be the first paper in the province for useful and faithful Canadian intelligence, if the numerous agents it possesses would correspond with the office as is desired. 4. Literature affords many a subject on which our intelligent friends might exercise their pens, and literary articles we should gladly receive. 5. Descriptions of the various parts of Canada, with the population, would be read with great interest. The Canada Company is sending circulars throughout the country to obtain descriptions for the purpose of forming a Gazetteer for Canada. But many things might be written for the *Christian Guardian* which would not be necessary in a Gazetteer. 6. Poetry is what we wish to encourage. If any of our Canadian poets have original pieces, coming from true poetical genius—the offspring of the imagination and the heart—on being received, we shall gladly insert, and allow the writer all the honour which the public is willing to afford. 7. We have no objection to articles of a controversial nature, if penned in good temper. Theology is rife with such subjects, and our brethren can make their judicious selection. We have now offered hints on some topics, for articles on which we shall be ready to open the columns of the paper. But we do not limit our correspondents to these subjects; if they please, let them take what they like.

Considering the youth educating at Victoria College, the probationers and other young ministers in the Wesleyan Church, and other intelligent youth in the Province, and that there is no convenient Provincial medium by which their thoughts can reach the public, we are desirous of having the *Christian Guardian* more than ever become such a medium; and thereby we shall encourage the growth of a sterling class of Canadian writers already begun. If we can encourage and assist the young itinerating ministers of the Church in rousing and expressing latent thoughts, we shall be particularly glad.

In conclusion we have three observations to make. 1. We shall not exact the name of a correspondent, if he chooses to write anonymously; but if he give his name, he will find it not to his disadvantage. 2. Our correspondents must not burden the Book Establishment with postages; for we cannot afford it. Let every one pay the postage of his letter, and consider the honour of appearing in print more than equivalent to the expense. Let them remember, too, that we have the means of punishing any deviation from this rule, by denying the publication they wish. 3. Communications to the disadvantage of the character of the *Christian Guardian*, or of any of our contributors, will not appear. But, if, by revising a communication, and making it suitable our object, we are allowed, much or little, our correspondents must not complain. Hoping soon to hear from our brethren and friends, we conclude the subject for the present.

IRISH WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.—The Wesleyan-Methodist Conference for Ireland is this year held in the city of Dublin. The sittings were to commence June 25th. The Preparatory Committee began their work Friday morning, June 21st, at ten o'clock, when the Committee of Chairmen met to examine the Finances and Returns of Members. It appears that the funds are better than might have been expected from the state of affairs during the last year; and that the numbers in Society are about 400 more than that year last, besides nearly 600 Emigrants. The School Committee met at one o'clock on Friday also, when a resolution was passed, to be brought before the Conference, respecting the adoption of means to extend the schools in Ireland, if possible. A long conversation ensued, in the prospect of establishing a School similar, in some respects, to the one at Sheffield, or at Taunton. Thomas Shillington, Esq., of Portadown, brought forward the subject in a very lucid and satisfactory manner. A resolution was passed to bring the matter before the Conference. The whole of the day on Saturday was occupied by the Stationing Committee, preparing the draft for the Conference.

A Wesleyan Missionary Meeting lately took place in Edinburgh, over which Sheriff Moncrieff presided. Some of the ministers of the Free Church assisted, as Drs. Cunningham, Camlisch, and Buchanan. We are glad to observe the kindly feeling existing between the Free Church ministers and the Wesleyan ministers in England. Dr. Cunningham, in his speech, made three or four observations which we shall copy, in order to set the present position of the Free Church still more fully before our readers. Relative to the doctrine of the Church and to himself, he said—'We are Calvinists; and though I am somewhat more disposed than I once was to regard with favour, and treat with kindness, all who adhere to the great leading truths of the gospel, all who hold the head—yet I must say for myself, that all my present convictions are tending rather in the direction of a stricter than of a looser Calvinism.' Yet, though Calvinists, they could give the right hand of fellowship to their Wesleyan brethren, who differed in doctrine from them, because the latter maintained the fundamental principles of the Gospel, and because proofs that God's presence was among them existed. Said he—'I have no hesitation in saying, that our Wesleyan brethren—the Wesleyan Missionary Society—having been honoured of God to maintain the great fundamental principles of the everlasting gospel, and He having given them many visible and palpable tokens of His presence with them—we are not to be slow to receive in order to brotherly and Christian intercourse, and cordial co-operation in promoting the cause of our common Master.' He believes that the Arminianism of Methodism was evangelical, and altogether free from the infection of the Pelagian heresy. A very important concession! Ought it not to lead to some alteration in the ordinances of the Free Church, the forms of which denounce Arminianism as a heresy, and which the ministers promise to eschew. The following are the speaker's words—'I believe that the great peculiarity of the Arminianism of Wesleyan-Methodism, that which warrants us to regard it as being really evangelical, and distinct from what is commonly called and

understood by Arminianism,—is that it is thoroughly and altogether free from any taint of the Pelagian heresy—(food cries of hoar, hear, from the Wesleyan deputation, consisting of Drs. Newton and Aider, and Mr. Scott)—that our Wesleyan friends not only hold the proper divinity of Christ, and his vicarious atonement, but also the total corruption of human nature, the absolute necessity of regeneration by the power of the Holy Ghost, and especially the Sovereignty of God, in the dispensing of the blessings of redemption.'

He is pleased to make a contrast of the Wesleyan ministers with the ministers of the Established Church of Scotland, and to declare that the Free Church pulpits will more readily be opened for the former than the latter.

'I must say, that with men who hold these great principles of Christian doctrine, who not only profess, but believe them, I reckon it a far more warrantable thing, and more delightful and beneficial thing, to hold friendly Christian intercourse, and to engage in schemes of mutual co-operation, than with the ministers of a church who, with the profession of what Calvinists would hold to be a sounder creed, virtually less out in the substance of their preaching these great truths. (Applause.) And I have no hesitation whatever in saying this public opportunity of saying, that I believe the great body of the Wesleyan ministers and missionaries to be not only men of greater piety, and higher Christian character, but that they embody in their preaching a greater amount of scriptural truth, and set forth with more honesty and boldness, than the great body of the ministers connected with the Established Church of Scotland, and the Arminian and Pelagian heresies. (Loud applause.)

In reference to the same subject, the Rev. Mr. Scott, President of the Conference, who spoke after Dr. Cunningham, remarked—'I have listened with great pleasure to the Christian and brotherly sentiments uttered by Dr. Cunningham. There are two other points which we shall now notice. The first is, that Pelagianism is no part of Methodism. But whether the British method taught and held the sentiments which are attributed to him is a question. Mr. Watson reminds us that his opinions are transmitted through the pens of his opponents. And a late London *Watchman*, remarking on Dr. Cunningham, says:—'He also pointed out the important distinction between the evangelical Arminianism which Wesleyans avow, and that Pelagianism or Semi-Pelagianism with which they are sometimes so unjustly charged. If Pelagius really held the tenets imputed to him—(we say, if, for the accusations against him rest mainly on the testimony of his high antagonists, that passionate and censorious Sturz Augustinus) if he really held the doctrine of original sin, and maintained that man can, by any power inherent in his own nature, perfectly obey the law of God and work out a title to eternal life,—then was Dr. Cunningham demonstrably right in the assertion that 'Wesleyan-Methodism is thoroughly and altogether free from any taint of the Pelagian heresy,'—as free as the most rigidly Calvinistic system that ever was propounded.'

The second point is, that some articles have appeared in the *Free Church Magazine* which carry a discordant response to the one of Dr. Cunningham's speech. Arminianism is declared a heresy, because it adopts the doctrine of Universal Redemption, and not in the doctrine of Pelagius, which are repudiated by the Methodists. The *Watchman* says, in reference to a late article in that Magazine—'We are constrained, however, to observe, that the article which has just appeared in the *Free Church Magazine*, in which Dr. Cunningham's catholic statements, and to give uncalculated offence to the adherents of the doctrine of Universal Redemption. 'Arminianism' is distinctly represented as the maintenance of the belief that Christ died for all men, and that doctrine the designation of *heresy* is unscrupulously applied. 'That Christ died equally for all men,' we are plainly told, is a *heresy* in opinion. This anathema is cast upon the doctrine of Universal Redemption, and the writer, who is strengthened by the authority of the *Free Church Magazine*, says, 'We may take the liberty of saying,' observes the writer, 'if by these phrases be meant that Christ, by his death, has so far satisfied justice that God can, or may, in consistency with the honour of his moral perfections and government, extend salvation to all men, if he pleases, or upon condition of their faith in the Gospel, we are humbly of opinion that this is a *heresy* in opinion.' This anathema is cast upon the *heresy* previously denounced.

Without the teaching of the Magazine will have more influence than Dr. Cunningham's speech. If the spirit of the former be continued, we fear the brotherly disposition so happily begun between the Wesleyans and the Free Church cannot long continue. We in Canada, of course, come in for the same charge of heresy as our brethren in England. We admire the ministers of the Free Church on various accounts; and if we exhibit that in them which might be improved, it is with the desire that the Free Church may be increasingly efficient, and not with the design of laying a hindrance in its way.

The following incident is communicated by a correspondent, and is worthy of attention and imitation by the novel-readers of the day. The desire for fictitious works, and works whose tendency is to strengthen the evil inclinations of the heart and the mind, is certainly increasing in Canada. Two facts will confirm the observation. 1. The large import of what is termed 'light reading' by our Canada booksellers both from England and especially from the United States. 2. The quick sale which such books find. They do not lie on the shelves of the shop, as do the immortal works of the writers of high intellect and brilliant imagination of the present time and former ages. Shame on the prevalent feminine taste! If the pernicious taste continues and increases among the Canadian youth, as we fear, the mass of the next generation will consist of mental babies of the one sex, and womanish men of the other.

Mr. Editor.—Upon the last leaf of paper I will give you a fact you may insert where you please. A young couple had gone to begin the world in the wilderness. The bride had form, but neither of them had the power of godliness. Upon the day I united them they resolved to live as *heretics*. From that day forth, as I had preached a few times; the family that was read by me, there were further sacrifices to be made—the groom had seen some high life in different parts of the globe, and among other things, had his bracket furnished with a splendid supply of novels, story-books, play-books, and Arabian and some winter-entertaining tales. One morning I entered the new mansion, the wife looked at the first book on the bracket, looked long, and said—'the happy wife says, 'I have good news for you; look at the bracket. There, see! William took his library down, one by one, and after taking a last look at them, put the bindings of each of them together to give the fire all the advantage possible; piled them one by one thereon, and stood smiling over the heap till the last was burnt; and then exclaimed, 'Now, if I had read my Bible as much as I have read these, I would have been a different man to what I am to-day.' And now they are both soundly converted to God. In Apocalyptic days (Acts xiv. 19) they did the same; there is this difference, they tell the 'price' but not the number; we tell the number but not the price. Twenty volumes were consigned to the flames, and though brilliantly gilded and splendidly bound, the fire had no more respect to them than it will have to those garnished with 'purple and fine linen,' though they may fare 'sumptuously every day.' There is an incessant cry after novelty in the literary world.—Books must be short, newspaper articles must be short, sermons must be short, every species of reading must be short; and if a book, or an article, or a sermon have not a heavy measure of good material, why, we say too, the shorter it is the better it is. But the cry is not against the poor literature of the day, and true enough there is an abundance of it, but against all literature, good and bad. The literary attention of the age, and it seems in most reading countries, is a poor weak faculty, soon flagging, and crying for diversion. Nor is it to be wondered at, considering the infantile food which the mind receives. Our forefathers, two centuries back, could devour a folio in a week, and ask for more; but a folio would afford the growing scholars of this day, whose reading must be cut up by the hour, and who are so much engaged in the trifles of stamping and gilt. However, though we speak thus of the general taste of the day, there is dissembling class—a dissembling class from the popular literature, as well as a dissembling class from the popular and fashionable churches of the day. There are men in Great Britain, in the United States, and even a sprinkling of them in Canada, who oppose the prevalent literary effeminacy; and men, too, who have their followers. Their works are of the high intellectual kind, and deep as the reason of man can well go, and extensive as the thought of man can reach. Such authors are the literary physicians for the literary world, so sickly and squamous; and their works are the powerful tonics necessary to correct the disease and strengthen the weak stomach of the public.

moral or immoral influences toward every point of the compass. The iron horse, whose sinews are steel, and whose provender is fire, is off for Washington and Buffalo, St. Louis, and New Orleans. His unceasing thunder, louder than that of the cannon, echoes among our hills all day long. In less than time it will come from London to John O'Grass, the news from the other hemisphere is borne over one-half of this. The mail-bag with its teeming sheets is dropped in every city and village of a territory 1500 miles square! The columns of the 'Chronicle' and the 'Times,' read at Monday's breakfast in London, have not only intervening Sabots before they arrive in New-York, but also the news of Boston and New-York; and ere the Acadia sea Holyhead again, they are 1500 miles further on, in the seasons and vicinities of Louisiana. Everything seems to conspire to arouse and excite the public mind, and reading it will have.

How immensely important then is it, that the reading furnished be of the right kind; such as may contribute to purify, enlarge, and immortalize the soul; rather than to dissipate, pervert, and debase its elevated nature. The public mind is indeed alive, and eager in its curiosity, and open for any impression which the pen of the ready writer may entamp upon it. Probably newspapers are sought after and read more than all other writings. Through these the true patriot or philanthropist may give the impress of his own pure spirit to many thousands at once. And when it is considered that the course of a fortnight, let throughout the United States and throughout Europe, and in a few weeks more throughout the civilized world; it can surely be regarded as no mean privilege thus to give utterance to a word of truth and love to mankind. That word or that paragraph may contain but one idea; but that idea will continue to expand, it may be hoped, with happy influences; 'beyond the bounds of earth and time.'

"The sun is but a spark of fire;  
A meteor of the sky;  
The soul, immortal as its Sire,  
Can never ever die."

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE REV. WM. DICKEY.

Wesleyan Mission, July 20, 1844.

To the Editor of the *Christian Guardian*.—Rev. and Dear Sir,—I can say, by the help of the Lord, we keep still advancing. I have taken in upwards of twenty since Conference returns. It is one year ago this day since I began my labours here; since then I have taken in about thirty since Conference returns. Now we have fifty-three members; ninety-nine communicants; and three hundred of a congregation. Our house of worship is too small; and, seeing about forty outside who cannot gain entrance, we are devising schemes to build a larger one. Several classes have thrown off side-arms, and many new ones have been formed. This year we had a total of four hundred and thirty-four; more than I could not manage upwards of thirty appointments; and if time and circumstances would permit, I could have nearly as many more.—The Sabbath-School department is doing well. I have obtained 23 word of books; but what are they among so many. There are nine schools exercising a good influence; and I regret they are so ill supplied with books. Last night my wife and I sold 100. I must print the almanac with the pen, if nothing else could be done to save the increasing progress.—Temperance is advancing—piety advancing—congregations increasing—and our Mission may now be called a Circuit.

Weekly Chronicle.

CANADA.

Secretary's Office, Montreal, July 20, 1844.—His Excellency the Governor General has been pleased to make the following appointments, viz.—John Godfrey Sprague, to be Registrar of the Court of Chancery, in Upper Canada, in place of William Hepburn, Esquire, resigned. Secker Broome, to be Official Principal of the Court of Probate, in Upper Canada, in place of William Hepburn, Esquire, resigned.

His Excellency the Governor-General has contributed £20 to the funds of the Mercantile Library Association of Montreal, and £50 to the Mechanics' Institute.

A rumour has been very prevalent to-day that Mr. Draper has at last tendered his resignation,—a step which it has been long expected that the hon. gentleman would take. Will this lead to a dissolution of Parliament? We hope that the electors in all parts of the Province will be on the alert.—*Pilot*.

We learn that Mr. Baldwin's reception in the Counties of Kamouraska and Rimouski was most gratifying. The people en masse turned out in each parish and accompanied the hon. gentleman from one end of it to the other; in carriages, waggon, and on horseback. Lower Canadian gentlemen have stated that they never before witnessed such enthusiasm, and it was not confined to the County of Kamouraska. The *Bismarck* has been sent to Montreal in all parts of the country through which he passed.—*Idif.*

His Excellency's Reply to the Pastors and Delegates of the Congregational Churches of Eastern Canada.—'I am greatly obliged to you, Gentlemen, for your welcome to Montreal, and for the kind wishes that you express towards me. One of the most anxious desires of my heart is, that this extensive Province may enjoy peace and prosperity; and if mankind were always guided by reason, there would be abundant ground to expect with confidence that happy result; for in no region, I believe, on the face of the earth, have the people the welfare of the Colony as an object in no country is civil and religious freedom more fully possessed. Being in principle an advocate for those blessings, and opposed to the political exaltation or distinction of any Church over another, I aim at justice to all. I rely on those, to whatever denomination they belong, who are loyal to the Queen, and to the Mother Country, as the best and the best way of securing to this portion of the British Empire. I thank you for the assurance of your hearty support in every measure that may appear to you to be for the Divine glory, the public good, and the honour of the Saviour, whom all Christians must recognize and adore, as the Head of



