

Teachers' Department.

Sabbath School Scripture Lessons.

FEBRUARY 17th, 1856. Subject.—THE WOMAN OF SAMARIA. For Repeating. For Reading. John iii. 18-21. | John iv. 1-26.

FEBRUARY 24th, 1856. Subject.—THE NOBLEMAN'S SON HEALED. For Repeating. For Reading. John iv. 20-24. | John iv. 27-54.

Congratulatory Address to Dr. Forrester.

As soon as it became known to the Pupil Teachers and students in attendance at the Provincial Normal School that the degree of Doctor of Divinity had been conferred upon the Rev. Alexander Forrester, by the Princeton University, a meeting of the male Pupil Teachers was held and a Committee appointed to draw up an address of congratulation to Dr. Forrester upon the honour which had been conferred upon him.

The following address was accordingly prepared, signed by all the Pupil Teachers and Students, sixty-four in number, and read and presented to Dr. Forrester in presence of the assembled school by one of the Pupil Teachers who had been appointed a committee for that purpose.

To the Rev. Alexander Forrester, D. D.

We the undersigned Pupil Teachers and students of the Provincial Normal School, respectfully beg leave to present to you our sincere congratulations upon the well-merited honour recently conferred upon you by a celebrated Institution of Learning, belonging to a country pre-eminently distinguished for her appreciation of the blessings of Education.

It affords us the higher gratification to tender you our congratulations on account of the favoured position which we occupy as pupils under your instruction. Your varied and commanding talents, your ardent and well-directed zeal in the noble cause of Education generally, and the untiring energy and superior ability with which you daily discharge your important duties, as Principal of the Provincial Normal School have secured our highest respect our unlimited confidence and our lasting gratitude.

We rest fully assured that your labours are destined to prove of incalculable value, not only to the teachers who may be trained in this Institution which is honoured by your presidency, but also to this land of your adoption in all times to come.

Entertaining these sentiments in reference to your position as the Head of this Institution combined with the conviction that the distinctive honour with which you have been invested, has been won by your learned researches into the sublime truths of your sacred profession, we respectfully solicit your acceptance of this imperfect expression of our congratulation.

Hoping that the blessing of Almighty God may crown all your labours with abundant success, we remain in the sentiments of profound esteem, &c.

[Here follow the names of 64 students.]

To this address Dr. Forrester made a suitable reply:

He expressed his determination to devote all his time and energies to the promotion of Education in the land of his adoption. And trusted that the honour so recently conferred upon him by the College of Princeton,—one of the most celebrated and venerable seats of learning in the States would only have the effect of stimulating him to yet greater exertions in this important work. He dwelt on the many advantages of the arrangement which connected the offices of Superintendent of Education and Principal of the Normal School, and hoped that the time was not far distant, when by the blessing of God on his labours and those of his Colleagues in this Institution he would see, not only those now before him, but many of their successors occupying important positions, as the trainers of the youth of their native land, diffusing the blessing of Education far and wide—all carrying out the same uniform system and animated by the same principles and ends. In conclusion, he begged to thank them sincerely for their congratulations.

[By special request from the Athenæum.] Royal Acadian School.

On Tuesday, January 22nd, His Worship the Mayor, Hon. Mr. Bell, Robert Noble, Esq., J. Williamson, Esq., J. Cogswell, Esq., and other gentlemen of the School Committee, attended at the School room, for the purpose of formally transferring the superintendence of the Institution from Mr. S. Selden to Mr. J. S. Thompson.

Subsequent to some preliminaries, Hon. Mr. Bell, chairman of the committee, read and presented an address to Mr. Selden, to which a suitable reply was given.

One of the pupils of the School then came forward, and read and presented an address, from the pupils, to Mr. Selden, who returned a suitable and impressive reply. His Worship addressing Mr. Thompson, made some very pleasing and gratifying remarks, concerning the course hitherto of the school, and the expectations for the future. Mr. Thompson replied. The pupils sang some verses, and on suggestion of Mr. Noble, gave three hearty cheers for the Queen.

The School has been eminently useful as a popular Educational institution of the city, and we hope that its efficiency will continue and increase.

The addresses presented to Mr. Selden are subjoined:—

Halifax, 21st Jan'y, 1856.

DEAR SIR,—

We, the President and Committee of the Royal Acadian School Society, cannot permit the connexion, which has so happily existed between us to be severed, without expressing to you the regret with which we learned your determination to resign the situation of Superintendent of this establishment, the duties of which you have fulfilled for the last twelve years with credit to yourself and entire satisfaction to us.

Under your charge this old and popular public School has continued to flourish, and we have marked with much pleasure the value of a systematic course of training, both in the moral and physical improvement of the children; and the excellence and soundness of the education imparted to them; and it gives us much satisfaction in the knowledge that many of those who received their entire education in this school are now useful and worthy members of society.

We wish you every success in the new sphere of usefulness in which you are about to engage, and trust that you may long be spared to maintain an honorable and useful position in society.

We remain, dear sir,

Your obedient servants, James C. Hume, Secty. H. Bell, Presdt. J. Williamson, Robt. Noble, John Metzler, Arch. Scott, Jas. C. Cogswell, John Gibson, J. H. Anderson.

To S. SELDEN, Esq., Acadian School.

Sir,—

The pupils of the Royal Acadian School, on the occasion of your bidding them farewell as Superintendent of the School, would express the respect which they entertain for your character and services, the regret they feel at your leaving the more active field of education, and the hope that you will occasionally visit and otherwise renew your acquaintance with the School. They would also very kindly wish that you may enjoy abundant prosperity and happiness, in the avocation to which you now devote your time and attention.

(Signed for the School.)

Edward Marshall, Wm. Lindsay, Henry Blyth, John Osman, Edward King, Wm. Snow, Robert Walker, John Beazley, Mark Maddison, James Angus, Edward Kelly, Thomas Maddison, Francis George Beazley, Henry Holloway, John King, Rupert Spike, Charles Cornack.

Selections.

Canada.

Few countries in this "wide wide world" can show such extraordinary progress as this highly favoured country.

In the British Parliament, May 6th, 1791, the "Constitutional Act" for Upper Canada was passed, and during the debate thereon Mr. Chancellor Pitt said, "as there was at most only 10,000 inhabitants in Upper Canada, including men women and children, he thought 18 members in the present state of the Province, was about a reasonable proportion of those who were fit persons to be chosen members of the House of Assembly, and could spare enough time for due attendance."

This I believe is the best authority that can be found as to the population of Canada at that period.

The first reliable census of the population

was taken in 1830, previous to which date the population was differently estimated by different individuals, and from different dates. The following is the most correct list that I can find:—

Table with 4 columns: Year, Population, Year, Population. Rows: 1791 (10,000), 1800 (51,738), 1810 (73,492), 1820 (119,645), 1825 (158,027), 1830 (221,567), 1835 (346,115), 1843 (437,441), 1841 (465,357), 1848 (723,332), 1850 (791,420), 1851 (952,004).

By the above it will be seen that the increase for the 10 years preceeding the last census, was 486,647, or 104.58 per cent! From official documents I learn that by the census of 1840, the population of the United States was 17,007,453, and in 1850 23,091,488. Showing an increase of 6,022,035 in the 10 years, or 35.27 per cent. Thus shewing from the most unquestionable authority, that our country increases very nearly three times as fast as the United States! And it is admitted on all sides that we Canadians are only just "waking up," and that our increase for the years that are to come, will be still greater than it ever yet has been, but suppose that it should increase only at the same rate, for the next 50 years it would be as follows:—

Table with 4 columns: Year, Population, Increase per cent, Population. Rows: 1851 (932,004), 1861 (1,952,088), 1871 (3,961,856), 1881 (8,082,192), 1891 (16,557,672), 1901 (32,564,851), 104, 990,084, 2,019,771, 4,130,333, 8,405,480, 17,147,179.

By the above it is seen that if we increase for the next 50 years at the same rate, as we have done for the last 10, we will then have a population larger by upwards of ten millions, than there is now in the whole United States.

Allow me to close this short communication by an extract from the Boston Post, of April 1852.

"Ninety years ago, when all Boston, and Massachusetts, and the Colonies, and England, were full of bonfires and rejoicings on account of the acquisition of it from France, all Canada all Upper and Lower Canada, had but a population of 50,000, now it has 1,580,000! Or it is twenty-six times larger than it was in 1760. Can this country say as much? Our population then was 1,500,000, which multiplied by this ratio of increase would give us 39,000,000, only 20,250,000 of which we have now. Again take another comparison. Our free population in 1860 was 5,000,000 it is now 20,000,000, or four times the number. Upper Canada in 1806 contained 60,000, it has now 791,000, or more than ten times the population. The same order of facts will be seen by looking at the growth of some of the cities. Toronto in 1842 contained but 4,000 population, at this time it has 30,000. Now, Boston between 1840 and 1850 increased 45 per cent, while Toronto increased 95 per cent! This population are rapidly surrounding themselves with all the peace triumphs of the age. Plank roads are pushing aside the old corduroys, and railways are already on their heels. They shew that within a few years its population, industry, commerce and progress have been almost without a parallel."

Since the above was written 1250 miles of Railway have been completed, and 800 miles more are under contract.

Canadians have much, very much, to be thankful for.—Ch. Messenger.

As ye go, Preach.

ONCE, while on a missionary tour, on crossing the Cheviot hills from Northumberland to Scotland, I called at a shepherd's house to visit his wife, who was at that time under affliction. Not being acquainted with the hill road from that place, the good woman, on leaving, sent her servant girl with me to direct me on the right way. She was quite a young person, and careless about her soul. As we parted, I thanked her for her kindness in showing me the way to get to Scotland; I bethought me that probably she was ignorant of the way of salvation, and put to her this question, "Have you yet begun to care for your soul?" The poor, simple, thoughtless girl looked surprised, and confessed she had not. I simply quoted, Isaiah iv. 6, "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near." and asked her to think seriously about it.

Years passed away, and I heard no more of

the girl until, in prosecution of my missionary work, in a hill district in the south of Scotland, I providentially met with her, a grown up woman, who had been married for some time, and was now a widow. But now her "Maker was her husband," and she, as far as man could judge, was a "new creature in Christ Jesus." In conversation with her about divine things, I found that text I had quoted to her, and to which I had called her earnest attention, had never left her, and that by it she was awakened to seek Christ Jesus, until she found him as her own Saviour.

Dear Christian reader, be careful never to allow Christless souls to leave your company unwarned and uncounselled with regard to their everlasting salvation. Be ever sowing, and in due season ye shall reap.—Missionary Journal.

Temperance.

Prohibition in New Brunswick.

PUBLIC MEETING.—Pursuant to notice by the High Sheriff, in compliance with a requisition previously addressed to him by a large number of respectable inhabitants of this city, a public meeting was held at the Court-house on Wednesday last, at noon, for the purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning the Legislature for a repeal of the Law prohibiting the importation and sale of Intoxicating Drinks."

Owing to the Circuit Court being in session, the Court-room could not be used for holding the meeting, and the Common Council Chamber—the use of which had been offered by the proper authorities—not being considered sufficiently capacious, the Sheriff decided that the meeting should be organized out-of-doors. This decision on the part of the Sheriff, gave rise to some misunderstanding and confusion, as a great many persons, in anticipating that the proceedings would take place within the walls of the Court-house building, had from an early hour in the day, occupied the City Court Room,—the occupants of the room being mostly, we believe, friends of the Prohibitory Law—who, considering the meeting outside, presided over by the Sheriff, illegal, organized their assemblage, passed resolutions, made speeches, &c.

At 12 o'clock, the High Sheriff opened the meeting (of which Geo. Blatch, Esq., was requested to act as Secretary) by reading the Requisition addressed to him; immediately after which, the Hon. Chas. Simonds, (formerly for many years Speaker of the House of Assembly,) moved the first Resolution, which was seconded by William Jack, Esq., Barrister-at-law; and is as follows:—

"Whereas the act to prevent the importation, manufacture and traffic in intoxicating liquors, which came into operation on the first day of January instant, is arbitrary, unjust and oppressive in its enactments, and is in consequence creating hostile feelings between different portions of the people of New-Brunswick, thus disturbing the quiet and well-being of society;

And whereas, in its operation, the said act is ruinous to many of Her Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, and is utterly inconsistent with the privileges of a free people;

Therefore, Resolved, as the opinion of this meeting, that every constitutional means should be used to procure the repeal of the said act, and the passing of an act to regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors, and prevent the abuse thereof, by establishing a well-considered, judicious and stringent license system."

Both gentlemen pressed the Resolution on the attention of the meeting in eloquent and well-received speeches.

Mr. Lawrence moved the following Amendment to the Resolution; and was followed in support by Messrs. Porter and DeMill, the former of whom was the seconder of the Resolution.

"Resolved, That in the opinion of this Meeting, the Prohibitory Liquor Law deserves a fair and impartial trial by the country, and, therefore, it is not expedient to petition the Legislature for its repeal."

In speaking to this Amendment, Mr. Porter said, that as this was an out-of-door Meeting, he considered it was not the meeting convened by the Sheriff, and that therefore he was merely speaking on sufferance, and had no right to speak at all.

The Sheriff explained why the meeting was held in the open air—at the same time insisting that it was his right to call the meeting wherever