

together, to form as it were, a sort of short-hand sentence.

4. "Our own our native tongue," may claim a passing word.

The basis of the English is the Saxon, which constitutes our own mother tongue. It is enriched by words from many others. Perhaps the following have poured most largely their treasures into the nervous Saxon, to form the modern English; the Welsh, Danish, Norman, Greek and Latin, French, Spanish and Italian. It is consequently of Teutonic, Gothic, and Celtic origin. The English is the most simple in its construction, of all the European forms of speech. Its words are subject to fewer variations and deflections from their original form, than any other. In this it most strikingly connects with the Greek and Latin, and many of the living modern tongues. It is a peculiarity of the English that it throws its accent further back or nearer the beginning of the word, than any other. The Greeks and Romans accented no syllable further back than the antepenult, or third from the end.

The Greek is greatly superior to the English in the great variety of arrangement of which it is susceptible, in its copiousness and the harmony and diversity of its sounds. The graceful variety of its dialects give it also great advantages. From its plastic nature, it could adapt itself with vastly more ease than the English to every variety of subject, from the most common and familiar to the most majestic and sublime. The Latin, though a language of great beauty, is of a more fixed character, is more stately and grave.

The French is very copious for what is delicate, gay, and amusing, and is most happily adapted for conversation. It is, however, in some degree inferior to our own in poetry and the higher subjects of thought; whilst the English displays its power on themes that are grave, and in the expressions of the stronger emotions of the mind. Language, indeed, ever receives a tincture from the national character of the people who speak it, as Dr. Blair so correctly remarks. The vivacity and gaiety of the French, the thoughtfulness and gravity of the English, are deeply impressed on their respective tongues.

March 17, '58.

LICTEUR.

For the Christian Messenger.

Acadia College.

Are the operations of Acadia College to be suspended? This is an oft repeated question; but it yet remains to be solved. We do not ask "Is our beloved Institution to prove a failure—to be known in our history as a mere abortion?" This problem has been already solved by "good men and true," who planted the seed with care, nourished it in its early development, and with mighty wrestling sought the Divine blessing. They conceived a noble idea, they made a vigorous effort,—and now behold the result! We need not refer to the magnitude of the undertaking, or to the sacrifices made,—Acadia, as it is, speaks volumes.

But now the alarm is heard. The "Child of Providence," is in danger. Its guardians have anxiously watched its growth; they have sought a remedy for all its disorders; they have been unremitting in their attentions;—but these attentions cannot save it; and so they have appealed to the sympathies of its friends. The alarm has resounded east and west—What is to be done? We imagine a host is ready to reply, and to act with right good will. What seems at present a calamity, shall, we trust, eventually be found to be its greatest blessing. While we are sanguine with regard to the future, we are solicitous for the present.

Permit us, then, again to inquire: Must the doors of Acadia be closed for a year, or even for one term? Must its lecture rooms be deserted, and its inmates compelled to abandon a spot they hold so dear, to seek in other lands that which should be provided for them in their own?

A number intended to matriculate last autumn, but, for various reasons, thought it better to wait another year. The most of these, we believe, with others, in course of preparation, are anxiously expecting the commencement of the coming year, for then they hope that their long cherished wishes shall be realized. The writer acknowledges himself to be one of these. It was with some concern that he read the announcement from the Governors that has already been referred to by a number of your correspondents.

We have had about as good an opportunity as any other, at least for years past, of becoming acquainted with the working of the Institutions at Horton. Although immediately connected with the Academical department, to the efficiency of which we cheerfully give our testimony, yet we have become sufficiently acquaint-

ed with the Professors in the College to be assured of their ability and faithfulness. If its patrons allow it to continue in operation with its present staff of Professors, or with any others equally competent, we shall be delighted to find a home within its walls. If otherwise, we must, though reluctantly, seek the sympathy of strangers.

Will you then, Sir, permit us to enter our protest against the measures proposed, and in behalf of a class whom we may be permitted to represent, entreat the Governors to make at least one more effort,—to employ some yet untried means, and especially to beseech all who desire the progress of education, and the welfare of the rising generation, to come manfully forward in the present emergency, and thus prevent a failure disgraceful as disastrous.

Brethren, you are not called upon to make such sacrifices as have heretofore been made. Even if you were, you should cheerfully meet the responsibility and discharge with pleasure the duty that God and your country demand. Talk of sacrifices! Who among us have deprived ourselves of aught for the benefit of the College we hold so dear.

There lies in a remote corner of the Wolfville Cemetery, the dust of one who spent the best of his days in its service, and that with but small remuneration; one who toiled unremittingly for its welfare till death called him from this scene of labor. Professor Chipman made a sacrifice—he devoted HIMSELF—nor did he ever withdraw the offering. His name is enshrined in the memory of thousands. The monument erected upon his grave implores for Acadia. Let it not appeal in vain.

Some valuable suggestions have been given and plans proposed, by which the College may not only be relieved from its embarrassments but be placed in future beyond the reach of want. Much can be accomplished by united action. Let the friends of the Institution combine and persevere in their efforts—and good results will assuredly follow. The mite of every poor man in our denomination combined with the donations of the wealthy will swell the amount to the required extent. Who will not assist in so glorious an enterprise? Who will not give according as God hath prospered him in so good a cause? "There is that giveth and yet increaseth, there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty," both declarations are emphatically true in the present instance. Let the friends of the College see to it. With its prosperity their own is connected. Many a blessing has it already conferred upon them: they will yet receive them more abundantly, if they are but faithful to its interests. Athens was called "The Eye of Greece." In a higher sense is Acadia the Eye of the Baptist Denomination in these Provinces. How zealously should it be guarded! how tenderly cherished.

Cannot the Governors elicit the sympathy of the churches? Is not every pastor in the land ready to cooperate? Are there not persons in every section of the country willing to devote a few days at the least to the soliciting of subscriptions, or the carrying out of any suitable scheme that may be proposed? They, if solicited by the proper authorities, may do the College and its agents material service.

There are means within reach that, if rightly employed, will bring our College affairs to a happy consummation. We rejoice that the friends of "King's College" have succeeded so well in its endowment. We set them the example, but they have outstripped us in the race. It remains for us to follow after.

We fear, Sir, that we shall weary your patience and that of your readers, we will therefore proceed no farther. We could hardly have said less. We would like to say much more. May the clouds quickly vanish, and a brighter prospect open before us.

EMITHUMIA.

Annapolis Co., March 18th, '58.

For the Christian Messenger.

Acadia College.

DEAR SIR,

There can be no difficulty in sustaining Acadia College if there is only a willingness to do it; and to doubt this would be to cast, tacitly, on the Baptist Denomination a most dishonourable aspersion. There may be some misapprehensions coupled with some mistakes of those whose constant aim has been to aid the College. These misapprehensions will be removed in proportion as men shall become acquainted with all the *et ceteras* of the affairs of the College; and as for the mistakes that have been made, where is the head that will not at some time give pain to the heart? When the character of the men, who have from the beginning of this enterprise been mainly its directors, shall be

considered—their disinterested and self denying efforts—who will not acknowledge but that they have acted from disinterested motives, and according to the best of their ability? If so, what more can we ask—and who, so full of empty show as to make the misapprehensions and mistakes of others—a pretext for withholding that which they professedly would otherwise give.

All who have written lately on this subject have shown with clearness how easily the entire sum of twenty thousand pounds may be raised; so easily that one is disposed to say it were a wicked neglect not to do it, and yet it has to be borne in mind, that the present emergency is the special point just now to be provided for. The Endowment is in good hands. The Agent is settling up old subscriptions and collecting new, and will, it is hoped, accomplish his mission, of which he speaks with assurance. Let these others turn their attention to the *daily bread*, while he, (the Agent,) is sewing for the future. A portion of our misapprehensions have arisen just here. The husbandman has often to anticipate a portion of his harvest—he must eat even while he sows, and if he is not otherwise provided for, he must draw upon the unripe fruit. So with our College finances. The salaries of those who labored for her as Agents and teachers, had to be provided for, even while the endowment was being raised. Thus the funds of the endowment were to a small amount anticipated before it yielded any income. In not suspending the College until the endowment had been completed, and had become productive, may have been one of the mistakes of her friends, few, I think, will so judge, when all things are duly considered. But admitting this, there must of necessity, have been some provision to meet the expense of raising the endowment—whence could this be made—if not from the funds subscribed towards the endowment. Can men labor and wait from sowing to reaping without bread? Can men toil and labor from *subscription time* to *income time* without their hire? We all know they cannot; and it wants only a few considerations like these to remove a host of misapprehensions from the minds of some of the best friends of Acadia. Her friends have not been unjustly appropriated. The best that men, in their position, of the soundest judgment, could do, has been done. Let then, we say again, attention be turned to the present necessities of the College. An income is wanted to meet the present amount of expenses. To lessen these will so materially affect the efficiency of the College as to render suspension very much more desirable.

This income can be raised. Let it be raised, say for the three years while the endowment is being completed, and a regular income matured therefrom.—Let this annual income be provided for by the close of the present term, and we then shall be prepared to turn our strength towards the greater sum at our Associations. A great advantage arising from this course will be, that the sums subscribed towards the endowment will be kept in tact, entirely free, to form a principal for investment. We need not be discouraged, at a time when wealthy churches are thinking of founding not merely scholarships but a *professorship*. Thoughts like these ought rather to move our souls in prayer to God that these may be only the precursors of a generous consecration of his rich benevolence bestowed on multitudes.

March 23, 1858.

For the Christian Messenger.

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

[From our Special Correspondent.]

London, March 11, 1858.

FRANCE, AND ITS AUBROGLIO.

MR. EDITOR,

The trial of the would-be assassins is over. It was a mere mockery of justice. The accused were subjected to an inquisition of private examination: the presiding judge browbeat the prisoners; unsparing and lying slander was let loose against them, in their antecedents. In fine, the trial was such as would only find a parallel here in the days that "Menno" writes of and Macaulay chronicles; and such a one as was to be expected from that rule which, having first chained men's mouths and trampled on individual freedom, includes even the sacred bench of justice in its coercions, and becomes judge, jury, and prosecutor.

All but one are sentenced to death, and will probably suffer to-morrow, with all the extra indignity accorded to paricides.

Their guilt was undoubted; but the treatment is not excusable on that ground. For one, Felice Orsini, sympathy is manifested, in con-

tradistinction to his associates. There can be no excuse for his deed; but it was prompted by deluded notions of patriotism. Viewing the wrongs of his country as cemented by Napoleon—regarding him alike as an usurper in France and a foreign foe to Italy—and brooding over these things till reason and right became distorted, he arrived at last at a conclusion that the removal of Napoleon would free Italy, and sacrificed his own life willingly to a mistaken dream of patriotism. To an Italian, unhappily, the law of assassination is less repulsive than to others; and hence the crime.

We palliate not the offence. Even a tyrant's life is beyond the law of the dagger; much more so, when, to strike, must involve innocence as well. And guileless Eugenie was side by side with the Emperor, and crowds of spectator's were involved in the injury. So let the judgment stand, but not the gratuitous mockery and insult which accompanied it.

A great feeling is prevalent, that to spare the lives of these criminals would do more to prevent similar occurrences—more redound to the Emperor's security, and gain him the sympathies of the nation—than their execution. But counsellors otherwise minded surround the throne; and, even if the Emperor were willing personally, it is much questioned whether he dare, can, or will, act on his own judgment.

Meanwhile, the rigorous measures of repression which dated from that attempt continue in full force. Several hundreds of persons, convicted and arrested, none know why, except the spies and inquisitors of the Tuileries, have been brought down to the coast for shipment and transportation to a locality which is almost certain death. When the gossip of a barber's shop, and the prattle of a village scandal-monger, are cause of arrest, who shall say what the crime of those evicted ones is—who shall say how long France will bear such doings?

In spite of all prevention, one outbreak has occurred; and revolution is so contagious in France, that one hardly knows what importance to attach to even such a feeble attempt as the following, though suppressed:—

"On Saturday evening last a party of forty men surprised a small post of infantry at Chalons. They next attempted to obtain possession of the railway station, crying "Vive la Republique!" as they advanced; but were driven back by the station-master and the railway employes. "The insurrectionists then took up their position at the head of the bridge, with the view of cutting off all communication with the barracks, thus compelling the officers who reside in the town of Chalons to force their way through to reach the barracks. The garrison promptly turning out, after a sharp struggle, succeeded in dispersing the rioters, and making prisoners fifteen of their number."

This is the account given by the *Moniteur*, which would of course strive to represent the affair in a trivial light. But it may be far more important than shown, and be but a beginning of many more such events, which only await a favourable opportunity for far more important émeutes. And, in reflecting on how soon Louis Philippe was hurled from his throne—adding, also, the greater exasperation of France now—surmise may find free scope, without extravagance, as to the duration of the Empire.

But the Emperor has come forth in a new light. A pamphlet has just appeared—nominally from the pen of a Councillor of State, but really deriving its inspiration from the throne itself. The document begins thus:—"We believe there is a duty to be fulfilled towards public opinion; it consists in making an impartial and calm voice be heard amid the passions which have been for a moment unjustly excited in England. We are confident we shall be understood on the other side of the Channel. We shall be sparing of observations; above all, we shall recall facts." It next traces the relations of England and France—from the accession of Louis Napoleon as President up to the present time, and endeavours to show that, while the Legislative Assembly, at that period, was hostile in feeling towards England, he himself appreciated and upheld a cordial alliance between the two countries. It gives extracts, with detail, from revolutionary pamphlets and speeches published and spoken in London; and recounts discoveries made in Paris, by the police, of criminals from London. It disclaims any attack on the right of asylum, and then relates the attempt of the 14th of January:

"In London it was made a pretext to awaken national susceptibility, and to misrepresent the conduct and intentions of the French Government. People were made to believe that France demanded of England and of the neighbouring countries to renounce the right of asylum, a sacred right, which she respects and practises."

The old story is then adduced, that London is a nest of crime, where the doctrines of assassination are openly proclaimed and received with tolerance. "In London there are held meetings where