

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Report of the Executive Committee of the Nova Scotia Baptist Education Society, for the year ending June 6th, 1858.

The friends of Horton Academy are called to review the progress of their much-loved Institution, through another year. In more than thirty years the interest of this Institution has been kept before the public eye, its advancement constantly watched, and rejoiced over by the friends of religious Education.

During the year now past, the Staff of Teachers has been as heretofore, with the addition of Mons. Pèpe, Professor of Modern Languages, in Acadia College, who has given regular instruction in the French Language.

The Committee lament their inability to continue this arrangement. Their engagement with Mr. Hart, whose efforts for the well-being of the Institution are all the same, yet continues.

The Branches taught are as follows:—

In the English Department: Spelling and Defining, Reading, Penmanship, Mental and Written Arithmetic, Book Keeping, English Grammar, Analysis, Histories of England, Rome and Greece, Geography—with Globes and out-line Maps, Chemistry, Natural Philosophy, Physiology, Boardman's and Greenleaf's Algebra, Legendre's Geometry, Zoology, Elocution, and Composition.

Classical Department: Andrew's Latin Grammar and Reader, Arnold's First and Second Latin Book, Caesar, Virgil's Aeneid and Cicero's Oration, Greek, Kubner's Grammar and Exercises, Jacob's Greek Reader.

French Department: Two Classes. Books used: Valere's, Ollendorff's and Ahn's Grammar, and Dr. Tiva's Elementary and Classical French Reader.

The attendance has been as follows:— Whole number in Mathematics during the year, 40; in Latin, 45; in Greek, 23; in French, 22. Whole attendance through the year, for a longer or shorter period, 103. Greatest attendance at one time, 61. Least, at one time, 43. Average attendance, 52.

The following extract from the Report of the Principal will be read with interest. "The first half of the past year was a period of great trial and difficulty. The former steward was compelled to relinquish his position. To maintain the discipline of the School, we were obliged to separate from the Institute, several insubordinate pupils. The result of this last painful, though necessary exercise of authority, has been evidently beneficial. The term now closed, has been much more encouraging and prosperous, and the Boarding House in the hands of the present steward, Mr. Coldwell, has been conducted in a very satisfactory manner. The pupils have been distinguished for their moral and industrious habits, and for their strict obedience to the requisitions of the Institution. The Matriculating Class, seven in number, have in particular exhibited an extraordinary amount of industry and zeal in their course of preparation for College, and it is particularly gratifying to say that all the members of that class are professors of religion, and have during their connexion with the Academy exemplified the sincerity of their profession.

Those connected with the teaching department are extremely desirous to see a large increase of pupils, so that their own influence and that of the Institution may be more extensively increased. Notwithstanding the attendance at the Academy has always been small for an Institution belonging to so numerous a denomination, yet it is gratifying to state that during the past seven years the whole number that have been enrolled as members of the Academy for a longer or shorter period, amount to nearly three hundred. Of this number fifty-two have been admitted to Acadia College and one to King's College, Windsor."

In our report of the preceding year your Committee distinctly brought the subject of attendance to the notice of the denomination, and urged the necessity of increased exertion, to enlarge the number attending the Academy. It will be seen that the number is yet by far too small for a denomination of such numbers and means as the Baptists of Nova Scotia.

Are our brethren and friends not yet aroused to appreciate the worth of a sound and thorough

course of instruction, such as your Committee have long and faithfully laboured to provide? Your Committee trust that the day is not distant when the Baptists of Nova Scotia will understand how closely their best interests, both spiritual and temporal, are interwoven with a sound religious Education.

That an Institution like Horton Academy, founded and sustained, especially for the dissemination of learning among the people, should adapt itself to the enlarged demands of the times, must be seen and acknowledged. The Committee have kept this adaptation fully in view, and yet determine, under the sustaining and guiding hand of their Heavenly Father, by diligent effort to suit the Institution to the peculiar necessities of the day.

In this, however, they need the co-operative sympathy and efforts of their brethren.—Here may be found the great, perhaps the only real occasion for anxiety or distrust. A course of Academical instruction, second, your Committee feel assured, to no other in these Provinces, is provided at a rate of expence, that must place it within the range of multitudes, and yet, those, with whom is the ownership of Horton Academy, too often allow their sons to grow up and enter upon the duties of active life, destitute of that mental and moral culture, which is here efficiently provided, and cheaply offered.

In our efforts for sustaining Acadia College, it is of the highest consequence that Horton Academy be well supplied with pupils. We may secure a large endowment for the College, and place there a large staff of learned professors; but unless the College Halls are well filled with students the splendid Endowment and learned Faculty will fail in giving that eclat which are secured by the large number and high character of its students.

In the great work of Education we should therefore take hold of the Academy, it should be the point of our departure and end of the work on which to begin. Fill the Academy and the Academy is sure to fill the College.

Your Committee trusts that our Churches, and especially the ministers and active brethren, will view this matter in its true light, and that ere long the youthful talent, abounding in our land, will be seen in large numbers, congregating at this Institution, so worthy of the prayers and support of the entire Baptist body.

Your Committee would remember the many tokens of Divine love vouchsafed at various periods, to Horton Academy, as high incentives to continued perseverance, and as a motive to draw around them, the cordial and united assistance of all, interested in succeeding generations. The Financial condition of the Institution will appear from the Treasurer's Report.

A. S. HUNT, Sec. N. S. Baptist Education Society. June 10th, 1858.

Nova Scotia Baptist Education Society, in acct with JOHN CHASE, Treasurer.

Table with columns: Date, Description, Amount. Includes entries for Dec 31, 1857, June 9, 1858, and July 1, 1858.

Table with columns: Date, Description, Amount. Includes entries for July 1, 1857, and July 1, 1858.

JOHN CHASE, Treasurer. Wolfville.

NOVA-SCOTIA BAPTIST EDUCATION SOCIETY.

President, Rev. Wm. Chipman. Vice President, Rev. Chas. Tupper, D.D. Secretary, Rev. A. S. Hunt, A.M. Treasurer, Rev. Jno. Chase. Executive Committee, Rev. E. A. Crawley, D.D., Rev. I. E. B. B., Rev. Wm. Burton, Rev. J. M. Cramb, D.D., Hon. Jas. W. Johnston, Caleb R. Bill, Jas. W. Nutting, Wm. Johnson, Simon Fitch, Lewis Johnston, M.D., Jas. R. Fitch, M.D., Jno. W. Barss, and Ward Eaton, Esquires.

For the Christian Messenger.

MESSRS. EDITORS,

I recently furnished for your list of Deaths a notice of the decease of the first-born son, and only child of Mr. John and Mrs. Elizabeth Downey, of Lower Aylesford. The following extracts of a letter, addressed to them by a female cousin, may be consolatory to their bereaved parents.

Ever yours in Christ, C. TUPPER.

"WILMOT, May 5th, 1858.

"Dear Cousins,—I did not learn of your afflictive bereavement until three days afterward, and then I felt as though I could scarcely believe that your dear child had indeed been riven from you

I have been intending to write every day since I came home, but have been prevented until an unoccupied hour this evening gives me an opportunity. But, what shall I say? Alas! I feel as though I hardly know how to offer you any consolation. I would only remind you that your dear sick child is now a sainted spirit: that he has forever laid aside his weak body, and that his purified soul, free from the shackles of mortality, is now at rest in the bosom of God. I do not think, dear cousins, that this affliction, with which Divine Providence has visited you, is other than very severe. No. Having experienced the pain of parting from dear friends myself, I can conceive of the bitter anguish you must feel in this bereavement you have been called to suffer, in having lost your dear little Elson. I should not say lost, for he is doubtless only removed to a more congenial atmosphere, where his pure spirit can forever expatiate in its own element of love. He was very sweet, even when clothed in his garments of clay: how lovely must he be now disenthralled, and washed from all the stains of original corruption. If children are angels, what a gentle, loving little angel is he! You had the privilege of assisting in his training for that heavenly state; and perhaps your Lord and his saw that it was no longer safe to trust him away, even in a tender mother's hands, and so he has taken him to himself. Blessed child, so soon escaped from the turmoil and temptations of life, spared the conflict, yet enjoying the victory; receiving the crown without bearing the cross. O my dear cousins, do you repine if his Lord thought it best? I trust your Elson is not dead, but lives, and will live forever. He is not lost, but safe at home, in his dearer Father's house. I trust that he who knows better how to administer consolation than any earthly friend will not forget you now, but fill up the void he has made with his own fulness.

Yours affectionately, M. O. P.

For the Christian Messenger.

Foreign Missions. Burmah.

[The following interesting extract is from a communication received by the Rev. Dr. Tupper, Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, from the Rev. A. R. R. Crawley. The letter, like the one published a short time since in our columns, was "Saved from the wreck of the sea." It was with great difficulty we were able to decipher its contents. We judge from its appearance that it had lain some time in the water. It affords most gratifying evidence that the labours of our first missionary Burpe, although they were but for a brief period, yet were not in vain. The seed that he sowed is now appearing and bringing forth fruit, giving proof that the promise in Isaiah lv. 11, is herein realized, and affording encouragement for us to hope that the whole prediction in verses 8 to 13 will be speedily fulfilled.—ED. C. M.]

"DONABEW, Jan. 14th, 1858.

"My dear Dr. Tupper,—You will observe by my date that I am not at present at Henthadab, the Head Quarters of our Mission. Donabew is a large Burman town, about forty miles below Henthadab. From my first arrival in this country it was represented to me as most desirable to establish a good active native preacher at this place. And as I became better acquainted with my field of labour and more familiar with its wants, I at once perceived that it was a most important post, and demanded at least one assistant permanently stationed there. But owing to the depression under which the funds of the Union have labored for several years it has not been in my power, until now, to supply the want. Thanks to the liberal contribution of the churches in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Donabew will now have a good, experienced native preacher to break the bread of life to its thousands. This is the third man whom I have engaged since I received your letter, informing me of the donation. The names of the other two I have already communicated to you. The name of the Donabew assistant is Moug Thet Nau. What makes it necessarily fitting that this assistant should be supported by the Baptists of N. S. and N. B. is the fact that he first heard the gospel from the lips of their missionary, bro. Burpe, and he was undoubtedly converted through his instrumentality. Brethren, your sacrifice and labor of love was not in vain. Your missionary though dead yet speaketh—he did not die before his work was done. And who shall say that there are not other seals to his ministry?

"Moug Thet Nau comes to me with excellent recommendations. Rev. Mr. Stevens, of the Rangoon mission, speaks of him in substance as follows, 'I was particularly pleased with his relation of his Christian experience,—as manifesting evident marks of the work of the Spirit.' Alluding to his qualifications for preaching he says; 'I am much pleased with his mode of preaching, and his explanations of Scripture.' He has spent a number of days with me here, and I am quite delighted with his apt and forcible illustrations of the truth, and with the promingency which he gives to his cross at all times.

"There is already a nucleus of the Donabew church, consisting of two members, and I trust, through the ministrations of Moug Thet Nau, and the earnest prayers of his distant supporters, very many may soon be added.

"I have in view two more men, whom I hope to be able to engage. I shall then have five assistants at work, and supported by your fund. Were it not for this fund, the probability is that I should now be laboring single-handed.

With kindest regards, believe me, Very respectfully yours, ARTHUR R. R. CRAWLEY."

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation Visit at New Minas.

On Wednesday, May 28th, the brethren and friends at New Minas, and the places adjacent, after a very short notice, circulated by two or three of the whole-hearted friends of Christ's cause, convened at the house of their Pastor, heavy-laden with all sorts of good things, especially needful for incipient house-keepers. Notwithstanding the day was rainy, and that no public notice had been given, my house was filled with willing donors, whose contributions, in money and other articles, amounted in value to about £25. Such a donation from a small Church, only organized a year ago last spring, is well worthy of a conspicuous place in your paper; and is a substantial evidence of their belief in that too often neglected declaration of the Scripture, "The laborer is worthy of his hire." Language can but faintly express the gratitude we feel for this liberal donation, and for the many other marks of kindness which we have received from our friends during our short connection with them, and we sincerely hope that the union which is now made may long continue to be happy and unbroken.

THOS. W. CRAWLEY, Pastor.

Death of Rev. J. H. Vinton.

The Boston Watchman & Reflector gives the following account of the death of this well known missionary in Burmah:—

A letter was received at the Mission Rooms on Friday of last week from Rev. E. A. Stevens, of the Rangoon Mission, containing the startling intelligence of the death of Rev. Mr. Vinton. We are permitted to make the following extract:

"April 1. Who knows what a day may bring forth? Yesterday Bro. Vinton died! and we deposited his remains this morning in the Mission burying-ground by the side of Bro. Ingalls! The intelligence was almost as astounding to us as it is now, no doubt, to you. Night before last was a week since he returned from a tour among the Karens, the last two days of which he was particularly exposed to the sun, which at this season is very powerful. He rode both days all day long and on his arrival was evidently feeling the effects both of the heat and the fatigue. I saw him on Thursday evening, when he seemed more exhausted than I ever saw him before, and we were all afraid of jungle fever. Fever did supervene, but the doctor was decidedly of the opinion it was not jungle fever, but a bilious attack, and assured some of us there was no imminent danger, that Mr. V. was doing well, much better indeed than some other cases he was attending of the same kind. But two nights since there was a change, which confounded the doctor and caused him to say after watching his symptoms for an hour, that he could do no more for him. He continued through the night, and expired about 7 1/2 A. M., on March 31. 'What a calamity!' is the exclamation from almost every lip. All feel that Bro. Vinton was a hard worker and an able and successful missionary. All feel, too, that we have lost to the mission and to the world a man of prayer. He possessed unusual mental activity, and indomitable perseverance, and was wholly consecrated to the work in which he was engaged. Mrs. Vinton bears the bereavement with more composure than I expected, but she perhaps can scarcely be considered as having fairly recovered from the shock the suddenness of the event is adapted to produce, although from the first appearance of the fever, she seems to have anticipated with a strange degree of confidence the fatality of the attack. Surely this is the hand of God, and we should look devoutly and humbly to see what He intends to accomplish by it. May we all walk softly before Him."

The words of so discriminating a man as Mr. Stevens are worthy of special note at the present time. Mr. Vinton has been under a dark cloud for several years. Misapprehending the aims of the Executives of the Union, and misunderstanding in turn by them, he became alienated from the Union, and lost the confidence and esteem of some of the most intelligent and judicious of his brethren at home. But the missionaries most intimately associated with him in the field, give in common with Bro. Stevens an undivided and unqualified testimony to the fervor of his piety, the unreserved devotion of his life to the missionary cause, and the wonderful success of his labors.

If Paul and Barnabas, so warmly attached to each other, and so devoted to the common Master, could not continue to labor together, it is not wonderful that a missionary and executive, separated by thousands of miles, as well as by idiosyncracies of temperament, and conscientious views tenaciously held, should part in carrying forward a common work. A great missionary has fallen. His loss will be deplored by thousands of Karen Christians to whom he has been a spiritual father. Let all at home, who have been inclined to censure his more recent policy, remember his devotion and labors with gratitude and esteem, and forget his failings, covering them with the mantle of a large and generous Christian charity.

COST OF TOBACCO.—Dr. Coles has said that church members in American churches expend every year, five million dollars on tobacco? This sum would furnish means to more than a dozen of our Missionary Boards?—Zion's Herald.