

If the Normal School were wholly devoted to the work of training teachers, the objection just named would be less serious. But as the youth of Truro and the surrounding country, the great majority of whom are Presbyterians, are accustomed to resort thither for the purpose of an education as ordinarily pursued, having never contemplated teaching as a vocation, the Institution is consequently made largely to assume the character, not of a Normal School proper but of a Presbyterian High School or Academy. Hence the opinion of many Presbyterians that its close proximity to their College, located in the same town, is injurious to the latter, as it attracts to its portals many who should give their attendance at that Institution. And if Presbyterians themselves look upon the Normal School in this light, they should not object to its being so regarded by others. Nor should they wonder that its denominational complexion should make it unacceptable, and as a consequence unprofitable to the people generally. No objection certainly exists to Presbyterians having their own Schools, provided they pay for them; but it is a just ground of complaint that the Normal School which is supported from the Provincial Treasury should conceal beneath its very liberal name, a Presbyterian reality.

But other people, if not disposed to carry their denominationalism so far as Presbyterians are yet denominational—denominational enough to believe that their own Educational Institutions are almost as perfect as those at Truro and as competent to qualify young men and women for instructing the youth of the country. In this fact may be discovered another reason for believing that the Normal School, or any similar Institution that might be founded, can never be adopted by the people at large. Nearly a score of years ago the question of denominational schools and Colleges was settled, and wisely I believe—in the affirmative. Other denominations as well as Presbyterians now patronize their own Institutions. The majority of Wesleyan youth, for instance, go to Sackville while Baptists find their way to Horton. And if the Normal School were far more perfect than it is, or if there were ten instead of one, the different religious bodies would still feel it to be their duty to send their youth to those schools which should respectively represent their own interests most efficiently. So that in the very nature of things, a Normal School in Nova Scotia, can never be of any particular benefit save to the denomination whose interests it most effectually serves.

But the greatest detriment, perhaps, to the success of the Normal School, is that arising from the want of the system of supporting Common Schools by Assessment. This was admitted by Dr. Forrester in his address before the Eastern Baptist Association.

As without this system, it is found impossible, except in a few wealthy districts, to provide sufficient remuneration for teachers, the best teaching talent of the country, is consequently allowed and compelled to seek for itself other and more lucrative employment. In other words, the very inadequate pay that is offered to teachers has the immediate effect of producing a generation of poor teachers—teachers having a small share of natural talent, and that poorly cultivated. It is this class of teachers, consequently, that find their way to the Normal School—at least Dr. Forrester so argued—hence the necessity of so large a proportion of them going out again as third class teachers. And judging from some who have come under my notice, I have thought it would not be amiss if Class No. 4 were added to the scale by which the teachers, in taking their diplomas at the Normal School, are graduated. Besides, if persons of marked mental incapacity constitute the material out of which the Normal School is called upon to fashion school teachers for the country,—if this sort of persons resort to the Normal School—the resort must be that they prove unable not only to grasp and appreciate the training that is given them, but also to apply it when they afterwards attempt to teach others. Therefore it is that some of the Normal School teachers, are found to carry the magnificent system which they have received at Truro about as blunderingly and flourishingly as a ship of moderate capacity would carry the ponderous machinery of the Great Eastern. Hence the irresistible conclusion that so long as Common Schools are not supported by the assessment plan, our Normal School can be of little service in the Education of the country, and may prove an injury. If I were asked, what would be come of the cause of Education if the Normal School were discontinued, I would reply, let it proceed as it did before we had a Normal School; or, until our Educational System as a whole shall become more perfect, let more attention

be given to Normal training in our Colleges and Academies. I am glad to learn that the Baptist Education Society have it in mind, if not exactly to ingraft a Normal Department upon Horton Academy, yet so to arrange its course of instruction that the pupil, while he receives an education, shall in the very act be furnished with the best model of communicating the same to others.

If I were disposed to argue against Normal Schools in general, I might quote high authority for showing that in England, the United States, and Canada their claim to the importance that has been attached to them admits of question.—But this is not my purpose.

In the foregoing I have taken occasion to record my own convictions of our Normal School in particular. Those who would be its advocates must show that it has benefitted the Province educationally to the extent of the *Thirty-three Thousand seven hundred and Eighty-eight Dollars*, which it has cost the people since it was founded—must show that the Education of the Province is more advanced than it was seven years ago, and if so, that this improvement has been effected by the Normal School—must show that the only place and the best place in Nova Scotia for learning what is comprehended in the Education of youth is the Normal School at Truro—must show that teachers from the Normal School have succeeded in their profession better than some who never studied within its walls—must show that some of its No. 1 teachers, than whom Dr. Forrester has said he could furnish no better, have not absolutely failed and their schools gone down under them—must show that the Normal School does not wear a decidedly Presbyterian aspect, and that Presbyterians do not receive at least four to one of its benefits as compared with each of the other religious bodies—must show that our Educational matters might not be improved by a different expenditure of the money that is paid annually for the support of this Institution—all which I beg most respectfully to deny.

In your last I perceive that Mr. Bond has pronounced some strictures on my former letter.—As he or some other may have something to say upon this also, I defer a notice of his remarks until a future time. In my next, with your kind permission, I shall refer to a kindred subject.

Religious Intelligence.

BAPTISM OF THE DEAF AND DUMB.—A Correspondent of the *Watchman & Reflector* says:—

"A friend from Jacksonville, Ill., writes, under date of August 1st: 'Our church has recently felt a ripple on the wave, by the reception, by baptism, of four deaf mutes from the State Asylum in this city. The preliminary examination, as well as that before the church, with the baptism and giving the hand of fellowship, were conducted through one of the teachers, a brother of this church, acting as interpreter. It seemed, on this account, more like the baptism of converted heathen than any thing I had ever witnessed. A very decided and healthy religious influence pervades the above institution. The minds of the pupils are remarkable simple and guileless, being so excluded from contact with very much of the wickedness that is constantly spreading its poison around us. They seem, often, almost to grow into religion from earliest childhood. There was, however, with these, good evidence of the work of the Holy Spirit on their hearts. Their sign for baptism is very expressive, indicating a decided burial and resurrection with Christ.'"

Laura Bridgeman the poor Blind and Deaf Mute who was educated by Dr. Hows, was also baptized on the 6th inst.

We learn that Rev. S. Richardson has tendered his resignation to the Baptist church in North Middleboro', with a view to laboring in the Provinces. We regret losing him from our State, though our loss will be a gain to our colonial brethren.—*Boston Era*.

A NEW ELEMENT IN CHURCH BUILDING.—In the enlargement of one of Strong Place Baptist Mission Chapels, to accommodate a branch church lately set off, the *Examiner* says:—"It is to be made to embrace a Sunday school room, capable of holding 600 scholars, two large church parlors, (in which to develop the how-do-you-do element of prosperity) a pastor's study, and a congregational library. The expense of these changes will be about \$5,000, every dollar of which is already provided for.

BURMAH.

The July No. of the *"Missionary Magazine"* gives some gratifying account of the labours of Rev. A. R. R. Crawley at Henthada. The following is a summary:—

Sabbath Services.—These have consisted of a preaching service in the morning, a Bible class in the afternoon, and a prayer and conference meeting in the evening. During the week also, meetings for prayer have been held almost nightly at the houses of the disciples.

Zayat Labours.—The fire of Dec., 1860 having left the mission without a chapel, it became necessary to make efforts at once to rent a building in which we could have public worship. By aid of private contributions, a good zayat was built in the most populous part of the town. This it was intended should be used as a preaching zayat through the week, while a room in the mission house was occupied as a temporary chapel. But it soon became evident that, in order to attract the heathen to our

services, it would be necessary to hold our meetings in the town zayat. We have accordingly commenced to do so, and with the most encouraging results. The zayat is filled with hearers every Sabbath.

Native Assistants.—The same number has been employed as last year, and all supported by the Foreign Missionary Board of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward's Island. Of the five employed, two are itinerants, and the other three are stationed at Henthada, Taingdau, and Donabew.

Statistics.—Baptized during the year, 7; received by letter, 1; excluded, 3; died, 2. Present total 27; of whom seventeen reside at Henthada, eight at Taingdau, and two at Donabew.

Mr. Crawley closes his account in the following cheerful strain:—

"If the feelings of the missionary may be taken at all as the measure of the present state and prospective prosperity of the mission, then the friends of missions may rest assured that our mission here is in a very prosperous and encouraging condition."

DROWNED IN THE JORDAN.—*Galigani's Messenger*, of Paris, of the 5th of July says:—

"A letter from Jerusalem states that a young American gentleman named Carter, a divinity student was lately drowned in the Jordan. A friend, who had accompanied him from the United States, was a witness of the disaster, but could not afford assistance. The young man, when bathing, was carried away by the rapid current and, after sinking two or three times, disappeared."

It would appear then that there is water sufficient in the River Jordan for purposes of immersion, the assertions of some Pedobaptists to the contrary notwithstanding.

American and Foreign News.

Latest from the States!

(From Telegrams to Morning and Evening papers.)

August 13th, 1862.—General Pope telegraphs that the Confederate forces have retreated across the Rapidan, towards Orange Court House, under cover of the darkness. The Federal cavalry and artillery were in pursuit of the enemy.

The Confederates occupy Malvern Hill, in immense force. General McClellan intended occupying it, with his army, but there had occurred delay of messengers with orders, which gave the Confederate forces time to come up and take possession.

There are rumors afloat at Fortress Monroe relative to the safety of Suffolk, Norfolk, and Portsmouth.

The Confederates state that Breckenridge had attacked Baton Rouge and was repulsed by the Federal forces with heavy loss, in consequence of the iron-ram *Arkansas* failing to come to his assistance.

On the afternoon of the same day Breckenridge telegraphed as follows: *Arkansas* arrived and destroyed two gunboats; also drove off the fleet; and in addition had captured the entire Federal force in that quarter.

Fifteen hundred Guerillas have captured Independence, Missouri.

August 14th.—Jackson's retreat after the battle on Saturday last was precipitated in the extreme. In the confusion he abandoned many wounded men.

Breckenridge and Van Dorn are reported to be concentrating their forces for an attack on New Orleans at an early day.

It is reported that the *Star of the West* has undergone alterations up the Yazoo River and been made a ram gunboat plated with Railroad iron, mounting 22 guns, and named the *Richmond*.

The prize steamers recently brought into New York are to be fitted up forthwith for the service of the Government.

General Lane has taken the field in Missouri, with 5,000 cavalry, with the intention of breaking up the Guerillas.

General Lee, (Confederate,) in a correspondence with Halleck, protests against the recent stringent orders of General Pope. He threatens retaliation, and says he will except Pope and several others from the rules of warfare if captured.

August 15.—General Pope's official account of the late battle which has been named Cedar Mountain, gives a Federal loss of fifteen hundred including about three hundred prisoners. A very large proportion of the loss is killed.

The Negro Brigade at Port Royal has proved a failure, and the whole force has been disbanded. A fugitive contraband states that there are only two thousand troops stationed in Savannah and that the Ram at that place is not a formidable concern. There are large Confederate forces on James and Darofuski Islands. The steamer "West Point," with convalescent troops belonging to Gen. Burnside's division, bound down Acquia Creek, has collided with the steamer "Peabody," bound to the Potomac, and sunk in ten minutes. By this sad calamity, no less than seventy-three persons were drowned.

President Lincoln has received a delegation of colored citizens at the White House, Washington, and strongly urged upon them the desirableness of colonization in Central America.

AUGUST 18.—Colonel Corcoran and several other released Federal officers have recently arrived at Washington.

The Confederate forces lately attempted to cross the Rapidan, but were driven back by the Federal army.

Contrabands from the Confederate lines re-

port continuous arrivals of troops at Gordonsville, Tennessee.

Morgan, with his guerilla band, has gone to Huntsville, and is reported to have united his forces with that of Forest.

Governor Magoffin, of Kentucky, has resigned his situation, and his duties have devolved on a staunch Union man.

Illinois Congressman Allen has been arrested for discouraging enlistments to the Federal army in that State.

The English steamer "Columbia," from Nassau, N. P., with forty Armstrong (?) cannon, several thousand Enfield rifles, blankets, &c., has been captured near Abaco, by the U. S. steamer "Santiago de Cuba." The "Columbia" is a new iron propeller of four hundred tons, and is pierced with ports, probably intended as a Confederate gunboat.

The number of slaves emancipated in the District of Columbia, under the law abolishing slavery, foots up 3100. The time for claims has expired.

The Federal Government are considering the propriety of drafting for the navy as well as the Army, much difficulty being experienced in obtaining volunteers.

The revenue at the Boston Custom-House on the 31st ult. was \$106,000, it being the last day under the old tariff. Next day it fell to \$60. The largest amount of revenue ever taken at the Boston Custom-House in one month was during July, 1862, and exceeded \$1,000,000.

WASHINGTON, 12th.—Accounts from Culpeper, dated yesterday, speaking of Saturday's fight say that so heavy was the fire to which our comparatively small force was exposed, the only wonder is that the entire command was not completely annihilated at the end of half an hour instead of bringing off so large a proportion at the end of an hour and a half. The prisoners report that their own troops were mowed down by our fire like grass. Three times were they reinforced. When our troops retired they were too crippled to pursue. The prisoners also report that the heavy guns used by the rebels were of recent English manufacture, with English fixed ammunition.

UNFITNESS FOR MILITARY DUTY.—Dr. Ellsworth, of Hartford, is so overrun with applications for certificates of unfitness for military duty, that he has removed his office to the City Hall and employs two assistants. In two days he examined 210 cases, and granted 75 certificates. Many frivolous excuses are offered. One fellow asked for a certificate because his back teeth were gone and he couldn't eat hard bread! A man at Plainville, who cut off the forefinger of his right hand a few days ago, (he says accidentally) didn't get it quite short enough, and the doctor refused him a certificate. On the other hand, a doctor at Litchfield exempted a man who said that he was sometimes bilious! A New Haven drayman, wishing to become exempt from draft, he knocked off the heel of one of his boots, and the surgeon, taking notice of his irregular gait, gave him a certificate of "defective limbs."

DRAFTING FOR THE ARMY.—The excitement produced by the draft order among the German population is intense. They were not prepared for it. Many of them are exasperated because the blood of their sons and friends is demanded for the defence of the country while the proffered services of colored regiments are refused. As they do not, all of them, partake of the American prejudice in regard to color, they do not feel the force of appeals to Caucasian pride.

"What!" they ask with indignation, "Must our homes be desolated and our children destroyed in fighting to save this government from the grasp of slaveholders, while there are thousands of black men, able-bodied and well-behaved, who ask permission to take their share in the bloody work and are thrust aside with scorn and insult?" Some of them actually rave with rage when they think of it. Who can blame them? They say that the slave-power brought on this war and that it ought to be resisted unto death by all the means at our command. They are right. We have no more blood and treasure to throw away so wantonly. Washington himself was not ashamed to acknowledge the indebtedness of the country to black soldiers in the Revolutionary war. The pride that refuses these men's service is that kind of pride which God abhorreth, and which "goeth before destruction." That pride must be subdued; and it is not probable that this war will end until black soldiers have had their part and lot conceded to them.

It may not be amiss to mention that in some neighborhoods of New York there have been serious anticipations of uproar and violence when the time comes for enforcing the draft. At any rate, they say, "to be forewarned is to be forearmed."

The state of things at this hour all over the free North fully illustrates the truth that the people's sufferings have been greatly aggravated by this godless pride that refuses help from men of African blood.—*Cor. W. & R.*

THE LESSONS TAUGHT BY WAR.—The Albany Evening *Journal* gives its readers the following truthful summary of what has been taught the U. States by sad experience.

"The war has been a stern schoolmaster to the people of the loyal States. Its lessons have been light but salutary. It has given us a flood of light upon many subjects that were dark and doubtful. It has enabled us to see ourselves, to see our enemies, to see Europe at large, as we never saw or suspected them before. It has opened to us a new world, set us to exploring new paths of knowledge, sharpened our vision, intensified all our faculties. It has taught the