

We would much prefer to have devoted the space given to the following, to other matter of a less personal nature; but sooner than subject ourselves to a charge of unfairness, we comply with Mr. Munro's repeated request to place it before our readers. We think it would have been far better to have allowed the matter to drop after the first enquiry was answered, or even before.

Such exhibitions of differences between brethren are not calculated to benefit the world, or strengthen the fraternal feeling which should subsist between those bearing that relationship.

MR. EDITOR,—

I must not say much in reply to your remarks upon my last letter. Both appearing in the same paper, your readers could compare the one with the other, make the references you pointed out and arrive at their own conclusions. The official Report in the Minutes of the Convention will inform them that when the Governors extended the invitation to Dr. Pryor, they voted \$200 towards his support, if necessary. What, insult a gentleman of Dr. Pryor's standing by offering him an appointment with a salary of £50 per annum? Certainly not. The appointment was conditional upon the Alumni raising at least £150 additional. That was my conclusion, but as it might be disputed I quoted from your columns to prove that you and Alumnus had taken exactly the same view of the subject. I hardly expected that you would question such authorities, nor was I aware till now that we cannot know the opinions of gentlemen on a subject unless what they have published concerning it is official.

Having now been taught the great importance to be attached to things coming from official sources, I must endeavour to pay a little attention to the communication of the Rev. S. W. De Blois, Sec'y to the Governors of Acadia College.

Commencing with something spiteful about "rushing madly into print," and ending with a sneer about my "able pen," he occupies the intermediate space with such a use of his pen as makes his quotations as apt as any Sir Walter Scott ever selected to head a chapter. The result is a rather strange document to serve the purpose of communicating an important piece of information regarding our denominational institution. He rashly assumes that I did not make proper enquiry. All he can know on that point is that I did not apply to him. I confess the omission but really think he over-estimates its importance, and that it hardly justified him in madly rushing into print.

It is very evident that the state of mind in which he started upon this literary excursion, was such as to render him unconscious of how far he was going or upon what dangerous ground he was treading, or else he would have stooped short of insinuations about my secret aims, lest I might retaliate. There is abundant opportunity. But I have no taste for such a mode of discussing the subject, and must therefore leave it to those whose mental qualities fit them for it. How far I am amenable to the aspersions of enmity to the College, let those judge who have had the best opportunity of observing my conduct during the last two years, and comparing it with that of my predecessors under precisely the same circumstances. I am the friend of the College. Too much its friend to patiently see its interests compromised, nor do I find it impossible to reconcile my friendship for the College with a manly independence. Till I do I shall not be turned from the course I have taken by the insinuations of any one who rushes madly into print.

Large ordnance and Armstrong guns are the order of the day. Quite in keeping, nothing but "the roar of hundred pounders" is to be heard in our denominational battle-fields. Many who have not given their hundreds and yet have claimed and freely used the right to discuss all matters relating to our body, will open their eyes at the rule now officially laid down to us. "Brethren who have given their hundreds to the College have a right to complain." Indeed! And has the gentleman who wrote that given his hundreds or has he not? On either supposition what would be the proper term to designate the spirit that allowed him to write those words! But seriously I do not hold him responsible for them. On cool reflection he would no doubt recall them. They are merely more of the unhappy consequences of his rushing madly into print.

It was very awkward that his remark about my not having read your paper attentively, should appear in print beside my quotations, proving that I had not only read but remembered too well what it would be so convenient to have forgotten "just at this time." Such unpleasant coincidences must be expected if one rushes madly into print.

But did the Rev. S. W. DeBlois, Sec. to the Governors of Acadia College, read your paper attentively, and take notice, as one in his official position should, of whatever appeared there relating to this appointment? Then he must have seen what you published 5 months ago concerning what took place at the Convention, and the yet more full and emphatic declaration of "Alumnus," that the appointment was entirely conditional, published more recently. Why did he leave this uncontradicted, when he knew it was wrong, and deceiving us all? Why was it harmless for Alumnus to say in October the appointment is "entirely conditional, but high inquiry for me to repeat it in February? Why did not our official friend put us right long ago? What mighty influence restrained so long those itching fingers that have now rushed madly into print?

What the fact of my having come from England to these Provinces, 16 years since, has to

do with this appointment's being conditional or not, my illogical mind is unable to perceive; but it is quite clear to the Rev. S. W. DeBlois, who feels it has a direct bearing on the subject. It might have this effect, perhaps it has; that not having been reared amid the influences that prevail around us, I am less liable to be biased by them in discussing this or any other subject. Be that as it may, a moment's reflection, if it had been possible to him, would have reminded the Rev. S. W. DeBlois that a large number of our ministering brethren and most useful church members in both Provinces must share with me his patronising condescension to those who came from other lands, and the admonition that he bestows upon them. Baptist principles and practices are the same in every land. It matters little therefore from what country a Baptist comes, so long as he is a true Baptist. But those who come to us from certain denominations, "though we are glad to see them," sometimes require careful watching, as they are prone to attempt to introduce among us the ecclesiastical domination prevailing in the sect from which they came.

I have always been ready to advocate the interests of Acadia College. I always will be. But I claim the right to form my own judgment, as to what are its interests. It will always be my endeavour to persuade any Baptist among us that he has an interest and right in the College. That it is not the property of a few but of us all. Ours to watch, protect, support. And in seeking to do this I will encourage free discussion, not attempt to put it down, and invite the fullest enquiry, not meet it with personalities and insult. In a word I will endeavour to pursue, as far as possible, the opposite course to that adopted by the Rev. S. W. DeBlois, when he rushes madly into print.

Yours respectfully,

A. H. MUNRO.

Halifax, Feb. 9th.

MR. EDITOR,—

If your readers convictions are determined by the amount rather than the nature of what is addressed to them there is no prospect of my inducing them to agree with me. My first letter had to be published with a reply. My next was such a dangerous missive, it had to be guarded in front by the official document and followed by your remarks—like Paddy's bad sixpence between two good ones. And the above had to lie over a week till the two letters of J. W. Johnston Esq. had their due effect. Concerning that effect I am not in the least fearful, because I have more confidence in a few words clearly stating the truth than in any amount of special pleading that is indebted to imagination for its facts, and to "the wish that is father to the thought" for its arguments.

It is no use trying to disguise the real question at issue and substitute another for it. The question is not what was the secret intention of a few individuals, what was their foregone conclusion? But what was done at the Convention? What was published to the denomination officially and otherwise? What were we all led to believe and did believe till we saw the name appear in the Catalogue? It is impossible to write words asserting the appointment to be conditional more clearly and emphatically than it is expressed in the Minutes, and in my quotations from your columns. In all that has been said in reply, those proofs of the correctness of my position remain untouched, unanswered and unanswerable. If I wanted further proof it could be readily obtained from Mr. Johnston's own letter. In fact the nature of the case is such that it is impossible for any one to write much about it without making such admissions. For instance Mr. Johnston says "It is true that the acceptance of Dr. Pryor, of the invitation, has thrown the large responsibility upon the Alumni of providing for his support." Then of course, the offer was conditional upon the Alumni assuming that responsibility. "This, however," he says "is a separate matter, and results from the acceptance." Nothing more can be accepted than is offered. Unless then the offer implied the condition that the Alumni "provided the necessary funds" the acceptance could throw no responsibility upon them. If the offer did imply that, then it was conditional. So I asserted. So Mr. Johnston unintentionally proves.

Mr. Johnston is terribly puzzled to know what "serious reasons" there could be to hinder the College assuming new and heavy responsibilities—wonders what I can mean, and where I got my information. Few, I imagine, will share his perplexity and surprise, but those who forget the circulars of last year, the deficit of £350, the assurance of the Governors that if it was not raised by voluntary contributions the College must close without a prospect of re-opening, its students scattered, its Professors dismissed.—Was this false or true? Was the alarm of the Governors real or assumed? True, real, of course. What then is the propriety of the sneer at my "being terrified," lest the deficit should now be increased to £500? Mr. Johnston must not complain if I measure by that sneer his disinterested zeal for the College, and intelligent appreciation of its condition.

Mr. Johnston's remark about my sharing the responsibility of the Alumni, compels a little further explanation.

The Annual meeting of the Alumni adjourned without a hint being given to the members that there would be anything of importance to transact at the next meeting, which was regarded as of so formal a character that many of the members, including the Secretary and Treasurer, were not present. The understanding arrived at by the Alumni at the adjourned meeting has been reported by Alumnus, correctly I believe. Mr. Johnston's denial comes too late. But we have information which even he will not pre-

sume to question. Dr. Cramp informs us that the original understanding was that Dr. Pryor would be here in Sept., 1862, to commence his duties. Even though this was not frankly published to the denomination, had it been faithfully adhered to, the present correspondence would never have taken place. The next Annual meeting of the Alumni would be held in June, and the success or failure of the effort to raise the "necessary funds" ascertained in time to report to the Convention in August. Need I point out what a very different thing this would have been from Dr. Pryor's commencing his duties in April, his name appearing in the Catalogue in January, and Mr. Johnston authoritatively saying to those who ask for explanation, "The responsibility of this Professorship rests upon your shoulders as well as ours." Certainly not. We are responsible only for the original understanding which pointed to Sept. 1862, as the time when the engagement should commence, if the Alumni had succeeded in raising the funds. Those who departed from that understanding, must be responsible for the consequences.

I am not going to discuss the subject with reference to personal friendship for Dr. Pryor. Perhaps in the minds of some who have taken an active part in the affair, it has been viewed too much in that light, too little in any other. And again, I refuse to reply to unworthy imputations, disgraceful only to those who resort to them. Neither such insinuations, nor lofty things about the Governors of the College being able to do their own business, will succeed in putting down free discussion. If this is the price that must be paid, very well, take it. But free discussion we must have.

Yours respectfully,

A. H. MUNRO.

Halifax, Feb. 12.

In consequence of the length of the above letter, and of our space being so much in demand, we have induced the writer of the other letter, we mentioned as having received before our last issue, to withhold it from publication, as it charges Mr. Munro with raising other issues instead of apologizing for having used the term "flagrant misstatement," &c. He reluctantly consents to the course we advise. If published, this might provoke further attempts at reply, and prolong a discussion which, we presume, has been but little satisfactory to our readers generally. We pass over the references to ourselves in the above communication, and Mr. M's remark that his letter "had to lie over a week," &c. Our readers will form their own estimate of that and all other statements it contains. With such voluminous correspondence we can only endeavour to give fair-play to all. If we fail in pleasing all parties, we are sorry for the obtuseness of those who do not appreciate our endeavours.

For the Christian Messenger.

Prayer for Colleges.

DEAR BROTHER,—

Thursday the 27th inst. will be the day of prayer for Colleges. The co-operation of the brethren, throughout the provinces, in the observance of the day, is earnestly solicited.—Our educational institutions have been largely blessed in years past, and many a parent's heart has been gladdened when children have returned home giving proof of the new birth. About two hundred young persons are now receiving instruction in connection with our denomination, at Acadia College, Horton Academy (male and female departments), and the Seminary at Fredericton. Many of them are servants of the Saviour, and some have begun to preach his gospel; they ask the prayers of their brethren and sisters, that they may attain to eminent godliness, and be prepared for usefulness in the good cause.—Others are still unconverted: their teachers and their associates unite in requesting that efforts on their behalf may be seconded by the supplications of the churches.

Yours truly,

J. M. CRAMP.

Acadia College, Feb. 14, 1862.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, FEBRUARY 19, 1862.

Our Foreign Missions.

We intimated a few weeks ago some of the disastrous effects of the United States war on the operations of the churches in that country. This has seemed to us a sufficient reason for occupying our columns, to a greater extent than if it were a mere matter of political disturbance, with a discussion of the relative merits of the two parties engaged in conflict. The necessity that exists there for abstracting so largely from the funds hitherto employed in missionary operations, and diverting them from sending forth the gospel of life and peace, to the employment of men of war and the purchase of the munitions of death, is cause of lamentation to all the christian world.

We have in the following letter from the Secretary of Our Foreign Missionary Board a question arising from this state of things which will not fail to awaken deep concern in all our churches. We presume that when the necessary steps are taken in them to express this concern, the question will not long remain unanswered.

We have two or three times of late, suggested that our exemption from the horrors and expenses of war demand of us corresponding thanksgiving, and call upon us, notwithstanding the commercial depression of the times, for such use of the means God has given us, as will shew that our gratitude is genuine and sincere.

We commend the letter to the prayerful consideration of the brethren, and doubt not it will receive immediate attention.

Messrs. Editors,—Letters recently received from Rev. A. R. R. Crawley inform us that, in consequence of the unhappy war in the States, the funds of the American Baptist Missionary Union are so much diminished, that he is in great danger of being obliged to abandon the Mission, unless assistance be received from some other source. He naturally looks to his brethren in his native land for the needful aid. Should he be compelled to leave the field, as our native preachers are under his supervision, their labors must cease; and consequently our efforts for the salvation of the perishing Burmans must be indefinitely suspended.

Under these considerations our Foreign Missionary Board, at its recent meeting, instructed me to correspond with Rev. Dr. Warren, Secretary of the Union, and Brother Crawley, in reference to his becoming our Missionary. I have written accordingly. In all probability this arrangement will be made as soon as existing circumstances permit. It can not, however, be completed till the Meeting of Convention, in August next.

In the mean time it is important that Bro. Crawley should be sustained, and enabled to remain at his post. It is requisite, therefore, that means should be adopted immediately for the effecting of this highly desirable object. We have accordingly opened an extra subscription for this purpose in the Church under my care.—If our Pastors and Churches generally in these Provinces will kindly take hold of this matter in earnest, and raise what they consistently can, and forward it soon to Bro. John Wheelock, Treasurer, at Kingston, Aylesford, or to me, as Secretary, a great calamity may be hereby prevented, and, by the Divine blessing, incalculable good may be effected. Sums raised by subscriptions or contributions, and donations from individuals, will be very thankfully received; and the receipt of them will be promptly acknowledged in the C. Messenger, or, if from New Brunswick, in the B. & Visitor.

Yours in gospel bonds,

CHARLES TUPPER, Sec'y.

Tremont, Aylesford, Feb. 10th, 1862.

Religious Census of Cumberland County, N. S.

The following statistics were forwarded to us a short time since, from the above County. They were accidentally laid aside to enable us to examine them carefully.

Table with 4 columns: Religious Group, 1851, 1861, Increase. Rows include Wesleyans, Baptists, Presbyterians (united), Church of England, Church of Scotland, Church of Rome, Universalists, and Reformed Presbyterians.

The comparison instituted between the Census of 1851 and 1861, supposing both to have been correctly taken, shews some curious facts. It is somewhat remarkable that while the population has increased during the past ten years 101 per cent, the numbers in connection with the different churches have varied so much: viz, Church of England, 47 per cent; Wesleyans, 85 per cent; Presbyterians, 87 per cent; and Baptists 165 per cent.

We are not aware of any peculiar circumstances that would account for this large addition to the Baptist denomination in particular, except the adaptation of Baptist principles to the population—allowing more free action among the people than some other church organizations. Our brethren in that large and progressive country should take encouragement from these facts, and maintain all their operations with the same zeal and perseverance.

New Publications.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND DIVISION OF NOVA SCOTIA, at the Quarterly Session held at Hantsport, Jan. 15th and 16th, this shews that there are at present 3,792 members belonging to the Order of Sons of Temperance in N. S., who have paid into the Division \$1,353.27 during the past 3 months, 249 members have been admitted during the Quarter. These numbers, however, do not shew the exact state of the Order, there being sixteen Divisions that have not reported.