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For the Christian Messenger.

The Baptists of Nova Scotia.

PERIOD VIII.

From A. D. 1850 to A. D. 1860.

LETTER LXVIII.

CORRECTION. CHANGES IN THE ACADEMY. DR. CRAMP. THE ENDOWMENT. DR. CRAWLEY'S RETURN TO THE COLLEGE.—HIS DEPARTURE.—PECUNIARY LOSSES.—VARIOUS CHANGES.—PRESENT STATE.—REMARKS.

My Young Friend,

In my 66th Letter a resolution passed by the Western Association in 1854 is quoted, containing the phrase, "induce the church to renew its action." I am informed that there was an error of the press, which should have been corrected: for "renew," read "review."

Educational affairs now claim our attention.

At the commencement of this period Messrs. C. Randall and A. F. Willard were Associate Principals of the Academy. They left in 1851, and were succeeded by Mr. J. W. Hartt, who held the office till 1860, when he removed to St. John, N. B. On his departure the Executive Committee of the Education Society passed the following resolution:—"Resolved, That this Committee have ever cherished high esteem for their friend and brother, whose assiduous and faithful discharge of the duties of his office, kindness of demeanour, and christian consistency, have justly endeared him to society and the church; that they tender him the expression of their thanks for the zealous interest he has manifested in our Institution, and his constant endeavours to promote its welfare; that they trust the blessing of God will rest upon him in his future engagements, so that he may be the honoured instrument of training many for useful life, and guiding them in the paths of heavenly wisdom."

The Rev. T. A. Higgins, A. M., at that time pastor of the church at Liverpool, was invited to occupy the vacant post, which invitation he accepted, and he is now Principal of the Academy. The average number of pupils in attendance last year, as reported to the Legislature, was 82. It has been the studious care of the Executive Committee to raise the reputation of the Academy by adopting modern improvements, in text books, apparatus, and furniture; and they have arranged that there shall always be a graduate of Acadia College on the staff of instructors. The success of their efforts is seen in the increased number of pupils and the high estimation in which the Institution is held in the Provinces.

There has been an important addition to this department of our educational operations. A Female Seminary was opened in January, 1861, under the auspices of the Education Society. Miss Shaw, a graduate of Mount Holyoke Institution, Massachusetts, acted as Principal till June, 1862, when Miss Townsend, also a graduate of Mount Holyoke, succeeded her. A Primary department has been established, under the care of Miss Annie Shaw. The whole number of pupils averages 60. The experiment is eminently satisfactory, and the Female Seminary will undoubtedly receive a large measure of the patronage and support of the denomination.

When Dr. Pryor left Acadia College in 1850, Professor Chipman, assisted by Mr. C. Randall in the classical department, took the charge till a successor to Dr. Pryor should be appointed. The choice of the Governors fell on Dr. Cramp of Montreal, who assumed the presidency in June, 1850. His "Inaugural Address," delivered at the Anniversary, together with an "Introductory Lecture to the Theological Course," on "the Uses of Ecclesiastical History," were published soon afterwards in pamphlet form, and extensively circulated. Wishing to bring the expenses down to the lowest possible figure the Governors limited the staff to two Professors—Dr. Cramp and Professor Chipman. It was scarcely to be expected that such a plan would succeed. It could only be a temporary arrangement, and did not, in fact, continue long in operation, being terminated

by the lamented death of Professor Chipman in June, 1862.

The legislative grant being transferred to the Academy, the College was thrown for support on the benevolence of the people, and hopes were entertained that by donations and annual contributions, and the aid of the Union Societies, the requisite amount might be raised. But difficulties soon presented themselves, threatening defeat and failure. The Governors became convinced that a College ought to enjoy a fixed annual income, derived from an Endowment. At a meeting held in Professor Chipman's room, early in 1862, it was resolved to attempt to raise £10,000 and thus endow Acadia College. J. W. Barsz Esq., laid the foundation by subscribing £500, and four other subscriptions of £100 each were promised. The scheme was placed before the denomination at the meetings of the Associations, and finally adopted at the annual session of the Convention held at Sackville in September, 1852, when various brethren were appointed Agents, for the purpose of visiting the churches and soliciting subscriptions.

At the same meeting the necessity for completing the staff of Professors was seriously discussed. A general desire being expressed for the return of Dr. Crawley, a resolution was passed, requesting him to become associated with Dr. Cramp in the management of the Institution. The negotiations between the Governors and Dr. Crawley were carried on for nearly twelve months, and seemed unlikely at one time to reach a favourable issue. At length, however, a plan was devised in which all parties concurred. I copy it from the Minutes of the Convention held at Nictaux, September, 1853.

"Whereas, Acadia College is by the Act of Incorporation, Section 5, erected into a University, "with all and every the usual privileges of such Institutions," and amongst such privileges it is usual when necessary to have distinct Colleges or Halls of Instruction in or under such University: And, Whereas, it is for certain reasons now found desirable to constitute in the University of Acadia College two distinct Institutions, the one for secular, the other for Theological Instruction.

"1. Resolved,—That there shall henceforth be in the University of Acadia College an Institution for Literary and Scientific Instruction, to be called Acadia College, and also an Institution for Theological Instruction, to be called the Theological Institute.

"2. Resolved,—That each of the said Institutions, Acadia College and the Theological Institute, shall be under a separate and independent Collegiate Government, namely—Acadia College to be subject to the government of a President, aided by a Council or Faculty, to consist of the several Professors or Tutors of the College, and who shall be designated "the Government of Acadia College," and shall meet and vote according to such rules and regulations as they shall hereafter agree upon, and as shall, on being referred to this Board, receive their sanction; and the Theological Institute to be under the government of a Principal, who shall have the sole regulation thereof subject however to the ultimate control of this Board, but that so long as Acadia College and the Theological Institute shall remain established in the same locality, the disciplinary regulations of all Students, whether belonging to the Secular or Theological department, shall be in the hands of the President and Faculty of Acadia College.

"3. Resolved,—That it is expedient for the present, that the various branches of Instruction in both Acadia College and the Theological Institute, shall be taught by the heads of each, together with one other Professor, or a Professor and a Tutor, the President of the College taking a Chair of Instruction in the Theological Institute under the Principal thereof, and Principal of the Theological Institute taking a Chair of Instruction in Acadia College."

These arrangements took effect accordingly. Dr. Crawley became President of the College, occupying also the chair of Hebrew and Biblical Interpretation in the Theological Institute. Dr. Cramp became Principal of the Theological Institute, and took also the chair of Logic, Political Economy, and History, in the College. Professor Stuart was invited to the Mathematical Professorship,

and entered on his duties in November of the same year. It may be stated that the College had been suspended from September, 1852, to January 20, 1853, when it was reopened, and for that Term Dr. Cramp was assisted by Messrs Henry Johnston and T. A. Higgins, as Tutors.

The applications on behalf of the Endowment were so successful that the accomplishment of the plan was reported by the Governors at Nictaux. The sum of £10,000 was secured in the manner agreed on, the subscriptions being payable in five succession years—the first payment to be made in January, 1854, and notes to be given for the remaining payments, bearing interest.

Safe and profitable investments were now desired. An opportunity was presented, holding out the promise of an unusual return for capital employed. The prospects of the West Columbia (Ohio) Mining and Manufacturing Company appeared so flattering, and at the same time so well-grounded, that many gentlemen in this province, persons of good judgment, and whose business tact was well known, were induced to take stock to a large amount. The governors of the College followed their example, and the sum of \$11,000 was expended in the purchase of shares. The issue was most unfortunate. In December, 1854, unfavourable intelligence respecting the operations of the Company was received, and Dr. Crawley, being a large shareholder, found it necessary to repair to West Columbia and examine the state of affairs on the spot. He was unavoidably detained there, and in 1855, the governors granted him leave of absence for a year, at the end of which time it was hoped he might be able to resume his post. That hope, however, proved delusive.

The loss sustained by the failure of the West Columbia Company (for the Company became insolvent, and the shareholders recovered no portion of their money) was keenly felt by the denomination. All the circumstances connected with it were laid before the Convention at its annual Session held at Liverpool, September, 1855, when the following resolution was unanimously passed:—

"Resolved, That the Convention are satisfied that the Governors, in investing the funds of the Corporation in the stock of the West Columbia Mining and Manufacturing Company, were influenced by an earnest desire to advance the efficiency of the College, and acted in the belief that they were increasing its annual income by means of an investment secure and permanent as well as profitable,—a belief which the circumstances led them to entertain, and which they shared in common with capitalists of experience and judgement, who invested their own moneys in the same stock. The Convention deeply regret that the opinion thus formed by the Governors has been followed by disappointment that for the present curtails the resources of the Corporation and demands for its funds renewed assistance to preserve the efficiency of the College. And the Convention record their opinion and decision, that in future the funds of the Corporation be not invested except in landed property, of ample value, in one of these Provinces, unless sanctioned by a two-thirds vote of the Convention."

At the same meeting the property held by the Education Society was transferred to the Trustees and Governors of Acadia College, the use of the Academy Hall and the Boarding House, including the Principal's residence, being reserved to the Society. A mortgage on the property, amounting to £1000, was paid off by the Governors, from the proceeds of the Endowment fund.

The Rev. A. W. Sawyer, A. M., was chosen Professor of Classical Literature, and arrived in December, 1855. At the meeting of the Convention in the following year the resignation of Dr. Crawley was received and accepted, and the government of the College was placed under the care of the Faculty, Dr. Cramp being appointed Chairman. The twofold arrangement of the College and the Theological Institute fell to the ground.

Professor Stuart left the College somewhat abruptly in March, 1858. Instruction was given in the Mathematical department during the remainder of the Term and throughout the next year by Messrs R. L. Weatherbe and Henry Vaughan, who were

succeeded in the Tutor's office, in 1859, by Mr. Alfred Chipman. Mr. D. F. Higgins followed, in 1860, and Mr. Brenton Eaton was employed in the classical department, Professor Sawyer having resigned in June of that year. Mr. James DeMill, who was chosen to succeed him, commenced his labours in September, 1861, at which time Mr. D. F. Higgins was raised to the rank of Professor.

At the annual Session of the Convention held at Nictaux in August, 1861, an invitation was extended to the Rev. Dr. Pryor, then of Cambridge, Mass., to undertake the charge of the Rhetoric and Mental Philosophy department. He arrived in the latter end of April, 1862, and has fulfilled the duties of his professorship. He is now about to remove to Halifax, to become Pastor of the Church in Granville Street. The arrangements for instruction in the College during the year ensuing are not yet completed. The Governors expect to be able to make satisfactory provision.

The number of students who have matriculated and graduated since 1850 is as follows:—

Year	Matriculated	Graduated
1851	9	1
1852	2	—
1853	5	—
1854	13	1
1855	15	4
1856	12	3
1857	—	1
1858	8	6
1859	—	4
1860	9	11
1861	21	1
1862	12	10

Twenty-nine Students are now in attendance. There are also two resident graduates, pursuing Theological studies.

These are dry and meagre details, but it is obviously necessary, in this case, to give a bare record of passing events, without any expression of opinion. I have continued the narrative to the present time, and have only to add that in January, 1860, Dr. Cramp was re-appointed President of the College.

The pecuniary loss sustained by the unfortunate investment in the West Columbia Company was not the only detriment experienced. The zeal of the denomination was for a while damped. Confidence received a rude shock. It was natural to expect that considerable time would elapse before the government of the College would be trusted in as formerly. But the restoration of kind feeling has taken place, and there is good reason to believe that judicious and persistent application to the members of the denomination in the three provinces will be successful in completing the Endowment. The labours of two excellent brethren as Agents, the Rev. David Freeman and the Rev. A. D. Thomson, (the latter is still employed in the work) has already been productive of great benefit, by diffusing information, stimulating zeal, adjusting accounts between the College and the contributors, and considerably increasing the funds. The Treasurer (John W. Barsz, Esq.) is indefatigable in the discharge of the duties of his office, and performs a large amount of supererogatory labour—most truly a "labour of love"—greatly to the advantage of the Institution. It is at present necessary to appeal to the churches once a year for a measure of supplementary aid, but I do not think the necessity is to be regretted. The College is thus often brought before them, and they know and feel it to be their own. Would it be right to deprive them of the pleasure of helping it?

A new organization has been constituted, which promises to be very serviceable to the cause. The "Associated Alumni of Acadia College," comprising those who have studied either at the College or the Academy, formed themselves into a Society in June 1860, and obtained an Act of incorporation the following year. Each member contributes four dollars annually. Persons who have not studied at either of the Institutions may become members by election. The objects of the Association include the founding of Professorships, the assistance of students, and the distribution of prizes. That important benefits may flow from this movement appears from the fact that the Association undertook to provide the salary of the Rev. Dr. Pryor, on the understanding that the governors