

would pay one-fourth of it, if necessary. The object has been accomplished. Those who have studied at our Institutions will necessarily feel deep interest in their welfare, and may exert that influence extensively on their behalf. The combination of their energies must be accompanied by the happiest results.

It is a very gratifying circumstance that Acadia College will not henceforth be dependent on other countries for Professors. Her chairs will be filled by her own sons. The list of graduates contains the names of gentlemen who are well qualified to take any position which their Alma Mater may assign them.

The educational standard has been gradually raised. No one can now matriculate in Acadia College who has not acquired a respectable standing in classics, mathematics, and general literature. The curriculum of study is so arranged as to secure a high rate of attainment in all the branches. The degrees conferred by the College on those who have completed the Course will be regarded as substantial proofs of good scholarship, and will command respect everywhere.

I heartily wish that some munificent friends of the Institution would place at the disposal of the Governors such an amount of funds as would enable them to establish and endow additional Professorships, and thus enhance its efficiency. The existing incumbents have been too severely worked. A Professor of Rhetoric, Logic, and Mental Philosophy (to which Political Economy might be added) is urgently required. And it would be highly advantageous to add to the staff a Professor of Natural Science. Some have desired to include Modern Languages in the Course. But to that I have a decided objection. Experience has proved that the studies already prescribed demand the whole time and attention of the student, and that he is far better qualified for the acquisition of the modern languages when he leaves College than at any previous period. His philological knowledge and skill will then be brought to bear on the study, and he will make much greater and more effective progress in six months than could have been accomplished in double the time at any former part of his life.

The desirableness, nay, the necessity of further provision for the Theological Department is so obvious that I need not dwell upon it.

"There is a future" for Acadia College, it the Baptists of these provinces will be true to their own interests.

Yours truly,  
MENNO.

April 22, 1863.

ERRATUM.—In the 2nd line of 2nd column of our first page, for "1862," read 1852.—Ed.

For the Christian Messenger.

Mission in Cape Breton.

MARGAREE, April 18th, 1863.

Dear Editor,—

Please insert in your valuable paper, the Christian Messenger, the following account relating to a mission of six weeks assigned me by the Home Mission Board to Big Intervale and its vicinity.

This is the first mission that was appointed to the same locality by our Board, but I hope not the last. Your missionary was greatly revived in fulfilling the time specified, by the presence of such large gatherings that attended the meetings, especially among the Gaelic people. I did not see such gatherings to hear the word of God preached in the place since the first year I came. The people turned out to hear, attentively, young and old,—especially when they saw that their condition was taken into consideration by the Board. They listened to the word with great care. I hope it will be blessed to many. The time was spent with care preaching from house to house and visiting the sick—some of whom have gone the way of all the earth, after receiving warnings, admonitions and promises from God's holy word. There is also a new settlement adjoining the Big Intervale, with a mixed population, partly Protestants and partly R. Catholics. Your missionary visited their houses, and read a portion of the Word of God and prayed with them. They all manifested kindness and respect. They were not the least bigoted in any sense. May God bless them. They are very poor. They suffered much last year from the effects of frost. If there are any among the readers of our worthy organ, the C. Messenger, who will take their condition to heart and open their hand liberally, and would direct the same to me, I would gladly distribute it impartially, in his or her name, among them. There is one old blind man, very devout. I believe there are some kind hearts among our friends that will send something to his relief. The name of the settle-

ment, in Gaelic, is *Glen a mhathghathan*,—in English, *Forest Glen or Bear Glen*.

My service in general, I hope was beneficial to the people. The field of labour was on both sides of the Margaree River, so no time was lost by long travelling. A Baptist Missionary may read and expound the whole word of God to the inhabitants without reserve. The place is without any minister of any denomination. It requires far more labour,—if there were means and labourers. A Sabbath School was organised, also a promising Bible Class. Reading was in Gaelic and English. Indeed I was sorry to quit the field when there was such a desire in the people to hear. I still visit them every fourteen days, and preach every second Lord's-day. Missionary labour on this Island will need patience, perseverance, piety, prayer and faith. That the Board and its helpers may have the blessings of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is the prayer of

Yours, &c.,  
RONALD McDONALD.

For the Christian Messenger.

Stray thoughts.

Mr. Editor,—

Instead of the regular discussion of any one subject, I send you a few stray thoughts, which, if you can tame for use, are at your disposal.

First of all, we experience quite a change in our population since the close of our schools. The Normal School was unusually full during its Winter Term,—the examination of which disclosed, I think, more maturity of scholarship, than at any previous examination which I have attended; and upon the whole, more than common interest. Quis, Nequis and Aliquis please excuse.

The Presbyterian Seminary is also closed. Its terms are Semi-annual, so its students have a long time to recruit and prepare for the next campaign, and for the thorough drilling they receive at this institution. By the way, the talk has been that this Seminary was to be dissolved, or merged into Dalhousie College. This I should regret for various reasons. It would remove much interest every way from Truro. I should suffer some considerable personal inconvenience, on the score of supply for my pulpit, for I have frequently drawn upon its Professors, whose ministry has been greatly appreciated and *thankfully* received,—not paid for, you perceive. Another,—I should regret the course, because I do not think such to be fair to the province at large. Some more equitable way I think should be devised, and some more catholic distribution of the funds than their being amassed by any one body of Christians, and which, I fear, would not advance, so generally, the interests of education. This suggests to me our own educational affairs, with which I feel much more concerned than about any other, at present, and the "Circular" from the Governors is before me. I must cast my eye over the Minutes of Convention to see how many and what churches contributed to the annual expenses last year.—But how? Let me see, I must look again. How is this? I have examined the Minutes of the Western and Central Associations, and have counted eight churches, the lowest number of any one being two hundred and twenty-four, making a sum total of membership of two thousand six hundred and twenty-four, which I do not find on the contributing list at all. Has the Treasurer, through mistake, omitted these? Now, some of these churches have pastors of Acadia's sons, wearing, legitimately, her honors, her A. B.'s, her M. A.'s, and might have her D. D.'s; and yet not appreciated sufficiently to draw forth for the necessary annual expenses for their Alma Mater, a small contribution!—while other churches west, central and eastern, smaller and poorer, have to bear with the lesser attainments in their pastors, and yet contribute their annual quota. How is this? Pastors, how? But it will be better this year, and the amount required will surely be forth-coming, and the hope of this leads me to forbear, further than to say, I expect the excess from these larger churches will render it unnecessary for the church in this place to contribute *this year*, other liabilities being so pressing.

D. W. C. DIMOCK.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, APRIL 29, 1863.

Educational.

EDUCATION IN THE SEVERAL COUNTIES OF NOVA SCOTIA. The Statistics as given in the Census of Nova Scotia 1861 shew that

the educational position of the several counties of the Province stand in the following order:

Table with 2 columns: Counties and Number in 100 persons, over 15 years, able to read. Lists 18 counties with their respective percentages.

Supposing the numbers given by the Census to be correct, the general intelligence of the people may be pretty well judged by a glance at the above table.

We hope those who have secured for themselves and their children honorable places at the head of the list, will not allow others to advance faster than they do themselves, so as to take a lower place in the scale, in future years, than that they now occupy.

Religious Denominations.

Although the statistics given by the Census are, by this time, pretty well known, yet such information may be constantly referred to with advantage. The preparation of the above table has suggested to us that our readers might like to see other similar tables, shewing the proportion each of the principal denominations in the several counties of the Province bear to the whole number of inhabitants. The number of adherents to each church, which, we believe, is all that has hitherto been published, does not shew this, seeing that the whole population in some counties is so different from that in others. We have placed the counties in the order of their proportion under the several denominations. Those living in each county will feel interested to know how their own stands in comparison with other counties.

Various points of comparison may be instituted with these tables, which would be full of instruction. For instance, it is remarkable that the Presbyterians have so overwhelming a proportion in Pictou and Victoria; while the Roman Catholics have about the same proportion in Sydney and Richmond. In Pictou there are but 8 Baptists in 1000, and in Richmond only 2 to a thousand. We may be pardoned for noticing another fact: that Kings—the county having the largest proportion of those able to read—has also a larger proportion of Baptists than of any other, or of all the other denominations together.

NUMBER OF BAPTISTS IN EVERY 100 OF THE WHOLE POPULATION.

Table with 2 columns: County and Number of Baptists per 100 population. Lists 18 counties.

NUMBER OF PRESBYTERIANS IN EVERY 100 OF THE WHOLE POPULATION.

Table with 2 columns: County and Number of Presbyterians per 100 population. Lists 18 counties.

NUMBER OF METHODISTS IN EVERY 100 OF THE WHOLE POPULATION.

Table with 2 columns: County and Number of Methodists per 100 population. Lists 10 counties.

Table with 2 columns: County and Number of Episcopalians per 100 of the whole population. Lists 18 counties.

NUMBER OF EPISCOPALIANS IN EVERY 100 OF THE WHOLE POPULATION.

Table with 2 columns: County and Number of Episcopalians per 100 population. Lists 18 counties.

NUMBER OF ROMAN CATHOLICS IN EVERY 100 OF THE WHOLE POPULATION.

Table with 2 columns: County and Number of Roman Catholics per 100 population. Lists 18 counties.

DALHOUSIE COLLEGE.—It will be seen by our Parliamentary proceedings that the Dalhousie College Bill has again risen to the surface amongst the unfinished business of the session, but not a word appears to have been said by either party in its behalf. Whether the movement is more than a formality, in preparation for a decent burial, remains to be seen.

A paragraph in a Parliamentary article of the *Star*, one day last week makes just a reference to it, but not such as would indicate great faith in its resuscitation. The editor says:—

"Of course we should have been pleased had the Government come down with a broad, comprehensive, intelligible educational system; but, we dare say, if they ever bethought them of a bold, brave step in advance, the vision of what Guizot calls 'the great moral obstacles to moral improvement by educational means,' stared them in the face, and frightened them from their propriety. At all events the session, so far, has produced no educational measure."

Something has been said of making that mouldering memorial of a generous-hearted old Scotch nobleman—Dalhousie—answer the intentions and reasonable expectations of its noble founder.—We might rejoice to have a Provincial University, with a corps of Professors, "up to their work" and well paid, but, save us from sectarianism and the interminable propagation of polemical divinity.—One might not care to be ruled from either Rome or Geneva."

We are informed that already there is a serious difference of opinion between the two Presbyterian bodies respecting the carrying out the provisions of said Bill.

News Summary.

The week has been unusually barren of news from abroad. In Mexico the French appear to be making little progress, although it is difficult to gather any thing very certain as to their successes or reverses, from the conflicting accounts. The report that they had taken the City of Mexico turns out premature. It is pretty evident that the French Emperor has miscalculated upon the amount of support he would receive from the party in his favor.

American war intelligence is very scanty during the week, nothing having occurred, with the exception of some skirmishing at different points, of any importance. The general conscription is still delayed, and we should suppose it is little likely to be enforced to any extent.

Our reports of Legislative proceedings will furnish our readers with the principal items of what has taken place. The deferring the action of the Franchise Bill and failure of the Representation Bill in the Legislative Council has occasioned considerable public sensation. The Lower House have nearly closed their business, after which they will close their political existence, and make way for a new House. It is said the Session will close to-day. It is supposed the Elections will take place about the end of May.