

Suddenly the captain seized his telescope and looked through it long and earnestly. Then he threw it down and ordered the sailors to give signals of distress. "Do you see that sail?" he said to the passengers; "it is coming towards us; we may yet be saved." Every one saw it; every one watched it as it drew nearer and nearer. At last the captain called through his loud trumpet, "Ship, ahoy!"

"Ship, ahoy!" came the faint, distant answer. No sound ever seemed so sweet. "Your name?"

"The ship Poland, in distress; fire in the hold."

"COME ALL ABOARD OF ME; COME ALL ABOARD OF ME."

"Aye, aye!" They did not wait to hear that call again. The boats were let down. The women and children were placed in the first that went, and soon they were safe upon the other ship. The boats of both vessels continued going and coming; every person was brought away from the Poland. All gladly obeyed that welcome call, "Come all aboard of me." They did not stop to ask where the stranger ship was going, or what her captain would require of them. They were ready to perish; he was ready to save them as was enough for them.

Once safe upon his deck, they turned and looked back at the ship they had just left. There lay the Poland rolling in the waves; and each time as her long coppered side arose, a thick white cloud of steam floated off from the whole length and height. Then they knew how great and terrible that hidden fire must be, how fearfully near they had been to utter destruction.

Just so it is with sinners in the world. They see no danger, but the fires of hell are burning beneath their feet. Each moment they are nearer to destruction; they must perish if they stay. But the Lord Jesus is "the Captain of our salvation;" it is he who calls, "Come, come all to me."

The ship Poland was never seen again; they left her rolling from side to side in clouds of steam. The good captain who had saved her passengers treated them with the utmost kindness, and carried them safely where they wished to go. Little Karl came back to New York, and sailed again from that port with his mother and nurse, to go home to his father in Sweden. They reached their home at last. Will you ever reach our Father's home in heaven? Yes, if you hasten to the Saviour Jesus while he is calling, "Come, come all to me;" but if you stay away from him, you will fall into hell-fire. For so it is written in the word of God: "Whosoever was not found written in the book of life, was cast into the lake of fire." Rev. 20: 15.—*Am. Messenger.*

## Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JUNE 8, 1864.

### THE CELEBRATION AT WOLFVILLE.

The announcements which have appeared in our pages of the proposed celebration services on the occasion of Acadia College completing its twenty-fifth year, have gone forth quietly, but have been as messages from hearts beating in sympathy, which, although scattered over the provinces, and in many cases separated by hundreds of miles, yet vibrate in unison and become responsive to the same touch. These messages have awakened the most cherished remembrances and holiest associations in hundreds who could not come to join in the song of jubilee.

In due time, however, a number of the friends comprising some of the Fathers, and many of the young and vigorous spirits who had slaked their thirst at this fountain of health and life, resolved to allow no obstacle to prevent them coming to participate in the festivities. Several of the earliest patrons, who had continued fast friends of the Institution through the best twenty-five years of their lives, might be found on Wednesday and Thursday last wending their way from different points of the compass to this central point of educational light.

One common feeling seemed to animate them as they came to unite their efforts in raising up a pillar of remembrance, and mingling their voices in an "Ebenezer" of praise and thanksgiving to the God of Israel.

The meeting commenced by the appointment of Simon Fitch, Esq., to the chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Wm. Chipman. After the performance of an anthem, the chairman made a few brief remarks, as follows:

My respected friends.—As chairman of this meeting, it may seem expedient that I should make a few introductory remarks. When I look around upon this respectable audience, the

sight of my eyes truly affects my heart when contemplating the past, and anticipating the future.

This is indeed an eventful day for our Institutions, and one probably long to be remembered. We look back through the vista of thirty-six years past, and what do we see? A feeble Institution just as it were struggling into existence. Such was our Academy—a mere child of Providence, and now we behold it as two sisters, youthful and in beauty's prime, healthful and of mature intellect.

May we not adopt the sentiment of the patriarch Jacob when he said, "With my staff I passed over this Jordan, and now I am become two bands?"

Yes, the Collegiate department now numbers 25 years; we meet to celebrate its Jubilee; we have reason to rejoice in its prosperity, but our joy must, to a certain extent, be chastened and modified upon the painful reflection that some of our number in connection with these Institutions have passed away from our midst. We mourn their absence, but again rejoice in believing they have joined the heavenly Institution above, where their happiness is eternally consummated.

I would say much more with regard to the formation and progress of these Institutions and the severe struggles their friends have had to pass through, and the many Providential deliverances we have experienced at the hand of our heavenly Benefactor, but I forbear, as there are others present already prepared to do more ample justice to these subjects.

The following address was then read by J. W. Nutting, Esq. We have been unable to discover where we could make any abridgement, and therefore have preferred to let it appear verbatim rather than attempt making a summary. Those who heard the several valuable and well prepared addresses delivered on the occasion, will be glad to have the opportunity of perusing them in print, and many of our readers who were unable to be present, will also be pleased to have them in possession to read and preserve. We shall consequently give as full a report as our pages will allow, preferring to let it appear in two or three subsequent numbers, rather than, by too much abridgement, to present only the skeletons of these interesting articles.

#### THE FATHERS AND FOUNDERS.

BY J. W. NUTTING, ESQ.

There are few things more grateful to a sincere and well constituted mind, than to recall to memory the records of departed worth.—As a just tribute to their excellence and an acknowledgment of the benefits they have conferred on their own and future generations, as well as for the conspicuous example they afford to those who come after them, the biography of the wise and the good, is one of the most useful, as well as interesting departments of Christian literature.

Our present task however, will require a much narrower range than that of recounting even a small proportion of the numberless deeds of love and mercy, which have so eminently distinguished the Founders and Benefactors of these Institutions—the Fathers of the Baptist churches of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

To one who was long and intimately acquainted with most of them, and closely connected with some of their most arduous efforts for the advancement of Education in this our native land, it ought to be a labour of love as well as of duty. We trust it is so, however inadequately the task may be performed.

The part assigned to the writer of the present address, at the opening of the celebration of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of Acadia College, will, we conceive, be appropriately discharged by a brief commemoration of some of the most prominent of the Fathers and Founders of the College.

The subject however includes a reference to the somewhat earlier Institution of the Collegiate Academy.

After the expiration of upwards of a quarter of a century, not many now present can form a correct estimate of the state of opinion and feeling which formerly prevailed in this Province, in all matters which related to religion or education. The change, or perhaps we might be justified in saying, the revolution which has taken place within that period, we are thankful to believe is a great and a good one. Our remarks will have special reference to the latter subject; that of Education.

In working out this change, the Baptist Denomination have had the honor of performing an important and conspicuous part. Our Fathers and our friends who were among the chief Agents in this good work, are mostly departed from among us. The scattering few who survive must shortly follow. Let us endeavour in spirit, to go back to the time when those whose names are most revered among us, were living and acting, and into the rich fruits of whose labours we are now entered.

Although our memory recurs to a host of names who were co-workers in achieving what has been accomplished, it must suffice to enumerate a comparatively few, upon whom the toils and anxieties of fighting the battles of education, against prejudice and ignorance, principally fell.

At the head of these we must unquestionably place the leading ministers of our Denomination. The recital of the names of these worthies, will, we feel assured, awaken a deep interest in some if not in many present, who still retain a vivid recollection of their persons and characters.

Although it is hard to distinguish in such a catalogue, how to assign their respective precedence to each, we feel that we cannot be far wrong in first making mention of Father

EDWARD MANNING. By nature a man of almost gigantic frame, his distinguished mental powers, sanctified by a deep and practical piety, bore a due proportion to his stature. Severe and uncompromising in self-judgment, he would have been, from his natural tenderness of heart, lenient to a fault in judging of others, had he not been endowed with a rare ability in the discrimination of character, and a discreet and cautious foresight in forming his opinions. His portrait, with those of several of his brethren and fellow-workers in all that was wise and excellent, now grace our College Halls, and would seem to look down with complacency on the work which their hands began. May the hallowed recollections which their likenesses recall, stimulate many of our dear young brethren to walk in their footsteps.

We hardly need say much in the way of eulogium, to an assemblage largely composed of the inhabitants of Kings County, of the character of Father THEODORE HARDING, who has so lately left us. To use a common metaphor, we might well say that "the milk of human kindness," sweetened by the love of Christ, dwelt in him, and characterized all his intercourse with the church and the world. Doubtless he has joined the Assembly of the first-born, in the full fruition of that service which was his great delight on earth. We are next reminded of a kindred name—a truly kindred spirit—good old HARRIS HARDING, who might well be termed the apostle of our Southern counties. The blandness and urbanity of his manners, were only equalled, if not exceeded, by the simplicity of his faith and the fervency of his zeal. The name of JOSEPH DIMOCK is one as widely loved and revered as any minister of Christ that has ever preached the Gospel in these Provinces. It is very difficult, amid so many characters, and all so strongly marked with the same lineaments of Christian faith and love, and so distinguished by life-long and incessant labours in the service of God and man, to speak with a due discrimination, as to individual worth. The difference between each and all was visible enough to those among whom they lived and laboured, but such difference resulted from the natural distinction stamped by the great Creator on individual character, for the great purposes of life. Of Joseph Dimock it may well be said, "He was an Israelite indeed, in whom was no guile."

The next of our departed Fathers that we shall mention, is that good old saint, JOHN BURTON, who, to use Johnson's observation on Dr. Watts, had so eminent "a talent for parlor preaching," and of whom Mr. Manning used to say, that he never met Father Burton, in a parlor, a prison or a hovel (and they had often together visited them all) but he felt himself a mere dwarf as a professed servant of Christ. To those who knew what Edward Manning was, this was no idle testimony. A very different, though not less estimable man, was the Rev. JAMES MUNRO. Shrewd, sincere and outspoken, with a large share of the practical wisdom and perseverance of his native Scotland, few among the aged fathers of the ministry, did their work more thoroughly, or left a deeper impression of their worth on society than James Munro.

The names of RICHARD MCLEARN, a man of the highest stamp of practical wisdom, of heartfelt piety, and a zealous and untiring Agent of the Baptist Education Society; or, that of the aged and warmhearted minister of Christ, DAVID HARRIS must not be forgotten.

The above were all members of the Christian Ministry. But we should be unfaithful to the duty committed to us, did we not refer to others, not belonging to that sacred calling, but whose deep, interest and ceaseless labours in every good work, and especially in the cause of Education, and whose names and memories are indelibly impressed on the records of our past history. Among these and in the very first rank, the writer feels it a privilege to mention the name of JOHN FERGUSON. A name indeed endeared by a long and uninterrupted course of christian friendship. From an intimate association with Brother Ferguson of upwards of thirty-five years, in almost every measure connected with the general interests or operations of the Baptist Denomination, he feels well qualified to bear testimony to his worth. He was a man of deep and unaffected piety, of a strong understanding and large discrimination in human character—excellent in counsel and unwearied in action. To few indeed are the Baptists of Nova Scotia, or their Educational Institutions more deeply indebted, than to our departed Brother.

A man somewhat similar in strength of intellect and devotion to the common cause, was WILLIAM ALLEN CHIPMAN. A manly independence and firmness of purpose, were leading traits in his character. His invaluable services in the Halls of our Legislature, as the unbending advocate of the just rights of our own, and every other body of Christians, will long be remembered in Nova Scotia.

But time will not suffice to recount the names of many whose memories possess a lasting claim on our grateful recollections.

The above are all departed, we trust and believe to a mere exalted sphere of action. But, "they, being dead, yet speak." They were all and each of them deeply interested, and more or less actively engaged in almost every measure connected with our Educational movements, from the commencement of the Horton Academy to the respective periods of their departure. The munificent bequest of £1000 of the late WILLIAM DEWOLF of Liverpool and the equal amount given by WILLIAM JACOBS of the same place, demand a special and grateful record in the annals of Acadia College.

We have deemed it more in accordance with good taste and christian candour, and more truly commensurate with the purpose of the task assigned us, thus far rather to depict as faithfully as we

could, the characters of the dead, than to eulogize the living. Still justice requires that we should not pass by names that were from the very inception of our Institutions, warmly engaged in labouring for their prosperity.

We need but mention those of WILLIAM CHIPMAN, GEORGE DIMOCK, CHARLES TURNER, EDMUND CRAWLEY, JOHN PRYOR, INGRAM E. BILL, SIMON FITCH, and numerous others that crowd upon our memory, to awaken a grateful response in the bosoms of all who have been acquainted with the history of the past.

In all the dangers and vicissitudes that have beset our path, we are no aware of any one who has rendered more essential service to these Institutions, whether in or out of the Legislature, or to whom we are more deeply indebted for their services than to the HONORABLE J. W. JOHNSTON.

And here it is proper that we should make a brief reference to the rise and progress of these Institutions.

The Collegiate Academy, which has already done and is still doing so distinguished a work in the education of the country, has now been in operation upwards of thirty-five years. For many years previous to its foundation, the leading ministers and members of the Baptist body had deeply felt the want of an institution where their youth, and especially those called to the ministry of the Gospel, might be furnished with the means of suitable mental cultivation. Frequent and anxious consultations had taken place on the subject, and the matter was finally brought before the churches and the public, at the Association at Horton in 1828, when almost all the influential ministers and members of the denomination were present. The measure was received with enthusiastic approval. Resolutions were unanimously adopted to carry it into execution, and the Baptist Education Society was formed, and an executive Committee appointed. After fixing on a proper site for the Institution, and the purchase of the property on which the College and Academy now stand, an excellent young brother, Mr. Asabel Chapin, a Graduate of Amherst College in Massachusetts, was engaged to take charge of it. His labors for upwards of a year, and until he left to enter upon the Christian Ministry, were most useful and acceptable. Some now present can doubtless bear testimony to his worth.

It is not our purpose, nor do our limits admit, that we should here recount the various struggles and anxieties—the hopes and the fears that for many years attended the progress of the Institutions. They have survived, though often with extreme peril, the dangers and the difficulties that at times beset them on every side. Self-interest, bigotry, ignorance and prejudice have often arrayed all their hosts against them, but with God's blessing, through many a well fought field, they have braved those dangers and lived to the present moment. We devoutly pray, as we firmly believe, that they will still live and prosper and continue to confer benefits and blessings on Society.

The labours, the sacrifices and prayers of the worthies whose names we have recalled to memory, and we may safely say of thousands of others, have been consecrated to their welfare, and above all, we believe that a large measure of the Divine blessing has not been withheld.

The rapidly increasing prosperity and usefulness of the Horton Academy soon suggested to the principal men of our denomination, the necessity of an additional seminary of a higher grade of instruction, where unshackled by needless restrictions—and open to all, the youth of these Provinces might obtain, at a moderate cost, a more extensive and finished Education, and which would more fully qualify them for success in the learned professions, as well as for a respectable position in the literary and scientific pursuits of the day. Circumstances to which it is not necessary here to recur, favoured the accomplishment of the measure, and in November 1838 at a numerous meeting at the Academy of the members of N. S. Baptist Education Society and other influential persons of the denomination; it was decided to commence the present Collegiate Institution, and means were forthwith taken to carry out such purpose. The College was accordingly opened on the 21st of January 1839. The Act of the Legislature for its incorporation was of some years later date.

The Rev. JOHN PRYOR who had conducted the Academy for several years with the most satisfactory results, in union with Rev. E. A. CRAWLEY, a man highly valued by the Baptists of Nova Scotia, took charge of the College immediately after its establishment as its first Professors. Their united labours gave a character and efficiency to the Institution, which greatly conduced to establish it in the esteem and confidence of the public.

But we must not omit to mention a name which for some years, and during one of the most critical periods of its history was associated with the most earnest and active friends of the College. We refer to our departed brother, ISAAC CHIPMAN, one of its earliest Alumni, and for some years one of its most laborious Professors. His sudden and deeply lamented death, was rightly deemed a severe misfortune to the cause for which he had lived and labored with so much ability and untiring perseverance.

But the catalogue of names that deserve honorable mention and possess large claims on the friends of Acadia College might be almost indefinitely extended,—men whose munificent donations and willing sacrifices of time and labour, and whose sincere and earnest prayers have helped on and sustained its progress to the present day. But prudence demands, however grateful the task, that we should not enlarge beyond reasonable bounds.

With a few brief remarks, therefore, we will conclude a subject which we feel has been but feebly performed, and make room for the many