### MESSENGER. THE CHRISTIAN

### For the Christian Messenger.

### ACADIA ATHENAEUM.

On the evening of March 11th, the members of this Society opened their doors for the admission of their friends. As many as the capacity of the Academy Hall would allow, accepted the invitation.

The exercises of the evening were opened with a lively speech from the chair. The routine of formal business was so arranged as to have a most pleasing effect, affording a varied scene of interest and amusement. A number of papers, prepared by members, were read by the Secretary. These productions attacted the attention of the audience and received frequent expressions of gratifieation.

The subject for discussion was then announced, " Is this the happiest age?" Upon which as many spoke as the time would permit. Both sides of the subject were viewed from many stand-points. Those who took the affirmative showed that we live in an age of progress and firm hope. - They referred to the numerous improvements which are constantly springing up in the advancement of education, the progress of science, the increase of freedom, social and national, and the develop- promote the temporal interests of their people, bestowed by the bountiful Hand.

Those on the negative side of the quesin some of the deepest sciences. They maintained that education was an overtasking of the intellect, and a paintal development of the faculties, rather than a natural and pleasant the assurance that God will add temporal blessgrowth ; and that true happiness was an at- ings unto them (Matt. vi. 33). No greater tribute of the heart which could neither de- benefit can be conferred upon youth, than to pend upon mental cultivation nor improve- teach them to give systematically to the cause ment in science.

The audience listened with unabated inter-

# Christian Messenger. HALIFAX, MARCH 32, 1864. EMATIC BENEFICENCE."

A sermon on this subject was preached before the Baptist Missionary Convention of Canada West, by Rev. Dr. Caldicott, of Toronto. By the request of the Convention it was published. We have had much pleasure in its perusal to see how well it puts the matter of using property for the cause of Christian truth and benevolence. An extract or two may be of some service to our readers.

"There exists much infidelity on the subject of giving. This is one of the reasons why so much perplexity, loss and poverty abound. If God's people would honor him with their substance and the first fruits of their increase, their barns would be filled with plenty (Prov. iii. 9, 10). If they would bring all, the needed contributions into the Lord's house, he would pour them out blessings, spiritual and temporal, increase their harvests and their profits, and prevent the losses pamphlet to be devoted to the various that are now sustained both by devouring in-objects and Societies is considered very fully. sects and dishonest men. (Mal. iii. 10, 11). Ministers of the gospel can in no way so thoroughly ment of mon's minds, and their increased as by teaching them to be liberal. Ministers eapability of enjoying the many blessings should never hesitate to preach on this subject, or to set the example. In doing so they will and abroad. The same thing may, of course, not only promote the present welfare of their be said of the Baptists of Nova Scotia; and people, but their own. If a people are taught tion agreed that there had been progress to be liberal in other things, they will be liberin vice and misery, as well as in virtue and al to their minister. If ministers have imperhappiness. They compared the classic age fect views or doubts on this subject, no wonder with ours, and showed how much superior that the people should. " Like priest, like peothey were to us in poetry, elequence and even ple." If parents would secure the temporal prosperity as well as the eternal good of their

cause of Christ-teach them literally and liberally to seek first the kingdom of Christ, with of Christ. This will teach them the true use of

| Yearly  | 10 pe   | TABLE<br>r cent cont | Aribution. |         |
|---------|---------|----------------------|------------|---------|
| Income. | Weekly, | Monthly.             | Quarterly. | Yearl   |
| 8       | \$ c.   | \$ c.                | 8 C.       | 8 0     |
| 10      | 0 02    | 0 08                 | 0 25       |         |
| 50      | 0 10    | 0 40                 | 1 25       | A I     |
| 100     | 0 20    | 0 80                 | 2 50       | 10 0    |
| 200     | 0 40    | 1 60                 | 5 00       | 20 0    |
| 300     | 0 60    | 2 40                 | 7 50       | 30 0    |
| 400     | 0 80    | 8 20                 | 10 00      | 40 0    |
| 000     | 1 00    | 4 00                 | 12 50      | 50 0    |
| 1,000   | 2 00    | 8 00                 | 25 00      | 100 0   |
| 2,000   | 4 00    | 16 00                | 50 00      | 200 0   |
| 5,000   | 10 00   | 40 00                | 125 00     | 500 0   |
| 10,000  | 20 00   | 80 00                | 250 00     | 1,000 0 |
| 20 000  | 40 00   | 160 00               | 500 00     |         |
| 50,000  | 100 00  | 400 00               | 1,250 00   | 2,000 0 |

so poor or so young as to be unable to obtain an scription or assessment, and not by fees per themselves, can make but little difference to they are established. And in case the sum subor used as seed-corn for means of increased use- previously paid being taken into consideration. fulness. Let such a one remember that in giving a dollar a year he has given as much to the Lord as the man of ten thousand a year who gives one thousand."

The proportion recommended in this objects and Societies is considered very fully, and if the Canadian Baptists were but to adopt the principle here propounded, and work it out but partially, they would soon have abundance for all their operations at home of christians generally.

THE EDUCATIONAL BILL has now passed the Legislative Council. The Morning Chronicle of Saturday last gave the following report of the Hon. Mr. McCully's speech, on the readchildren, let them teach them liberality to the ing of the first clause of the bill in committee on Friday.

" Hon. Mr. McCully briefly addressed the Committee in opposition to the Bill. He characterized it as a most injudicious measure, wrong in principle, defective in detail. It was so drawn up that he believed that it was next to Boards of Commissioners will have to devise money, to be economical for Jesus' sake, to live impossible to comprehend many of its enact- some means of making five-fourths out of a ments, some of which not entirely inconsistent whole, which we have not yet learned. with others were certainly not in harmony. He

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er indicated by his license, when it shall be competent for the Commissioners to withhold the Provincial grant in whole or in part.

20. The Commissioners shall allow twentyfive per cent. to all schools supported by assesment in addition to the amount to which they would otherwise be entitled, provided the inspector shall report that instruction has been impartially afforded to all seeking it.

## It shall be the duty of the Trustees

(2) To contract with and employ a licensed teacher or teachers for the section for a period of not less than five months, and to determine the amount of his or their salaries, which must There are very few of Christ's disciples either be procured from the people by voluntary subincome of ten dollors yearly, and out of that to pupil. All common schools shall be free to all give one dollar. The one dollar, expended on the children residing in the section in which their earthly comforts, but it may make a vast scribed for their support fails to be realized, the difference if deposited in the bank of heaven, balance shall be raised by assessment; the amount

> These clauses afford but little encouragement to Schools supported by subscription. No aid will be given to any school except it be free to all-every child received into it without payment of school fees. Those schools which are sustained by Assessment are to receive a bonus of 25 per cent from the Provincial Grant, over and above what they would, if the amount from the people were raised by voluntary contribution. We do not clearly perceive how this is to be done ; for if the whole, or nearly all, of the sections in any district decide to accept the proposal, and adopt the principle of Assessment, how can the 25 per cent additional be allowed to them, except it be by enlarging the Grant from the Provincial Treasury to that extent? Again, if all the Districts were to adopt the same mode of supporting their schools and this were the correct interpretation of the law, the grant for Common Schools would then have to be \$73,600 instead of \$58,880 as it is. Perhaps however we are in error in our interpretation of the above clauses; if so, the

ing, no doubt a deep sympathy for both par- persons would prosper in the world, let them ties as their claims were severally advocated. form the habit of systematically contributing to While impressed by the remarks of those the cause of Christ. who portrayed the advantages of the present, they doubtless rejoiced that they lived under the present system of things ; or, on the other. (1 Pet. iv. 11). Let each one give, the poor hand, while carried back by the eloquence of those who vindicated the past, they longed for a return of the former days.

At the close all joined in singing the National Anthem, and returned to their homes, one to give according to that he hath, and not I hope with happy hearts, to enjoy the pre- according to that he hath not (2 Cor. viii. 12). sent in reality, the past in memory, and the God would have no one excused from giving, future in prospect.

AUDIENS.

Wolfville, March 17th, 1864.

For the Christian Messenger.

### HORTON ACADEMY RHETORI CAL EXHIBITION.

The usual Exhibiton in connection with Horton Academy took place as announced on supposed necessities ; because every man can Wednesday evening 16th inst. The evening make his necessities equal to his entire income, was fine, and the admission fee, which was al- and so have nothing left for God. Let the most treble that of last year, seemed to no amount of the whole means, as nearly as possieffect in diminishing the audience, which crowded the spacious Gymnasium in which of these portions of time; then, of this amount, the exercises were conducted. To say the set apart a certain per centage for the cause of Essays of the evening were good is but just Ged and the needy. There is no one but can, to all, some certainly were better, and without very nearly, ascertain the amount of his means any invidious comparison, Nos. 9. 14. & 15. may be set down as best. Both in composition and delivery, these last reflect the highest credit on their authors.

The proceedings were enlivened by music performed by an amateur choir presided over ought Christians to give? When giving was by Prof. Saffery with his usual ability.

The dialogues were of an amusing character and elicited rounds of applause.

### PROGRAMME.

Music. l Power of Habit, P. R. Foster, Aylesford.

2 Nature, a minister of happiness, N. C. Saunders, Yarmouth. Music.

3 "Know thyself," D. Eaton, Cornwallis. 4 " Marcellus wept," H. C. Messenger, Falmouth. & The unforgotten toe, Dialogue.

Music.

6 Vanity of earthly grandeur

A. Locke, Locke's Island Look well to the foundation E C. Spinney, Wilmot

S Exhibition interrupted, Dialogue. Music.

J.G. Paint, Hawksbury, C.B. Let them begin at once, and devote, at the very Music. Music. J.G. Paint, Hawksbury, C.B. Let them begin at once, and devote, at the very Music. Music. Let them begin at once, and devote, at the very Music. Maxie. Let them begin at once, and devote, at the very Music. Maxie. Let them begin at once, and devote, at the very Music. Maxie. Let them begin at once, and devote, at the very Music. Maxie. Maxie. Let them begin at once, and devote, at the very the remainder to be distributed among the Lord. Surely it will not be too much for them sections where suitable school houses are provid-to-night, compared with declarations made in 10 Individuality, 11 Parmer and Student, Dialogue. Lewis Hunt, Cornwallis. to give for all objects, what the Jews gave to ed, in such manner that teachers of the same time past, convinced him that some hon. mem-the ministers of religion alone ! But for the class shall receive at the same rate, that second bers could change their minds. The present 12 Early Impressions, 13 Blood will tell, Dialogue. the ministers of religion alone! But for the sake of systematizing your beneficence, begin with one-tenth as the minimum. The following table shews the amount to be given weekly, monthly, quarterly or yearly, from an income of from ten dollars to fifty thousand dollars per annum. Music. J. Wheelock, Aylesford. 14 The Oases of Life, 14 Bolitude, J. Wallace, Wolfville, NATIONAL ANTHEM. SEVEN PRINCH MA PRINT.

est throughout the whole proceedings ; feel- the constitution of things about them. If young

### HOW MUCH SHOULD WE GIVE ?

1 Let each one give according to his ability as well as the rich. The blessedness of giving is to great that the poor are not to be deprived of it. The poor man's cent may be as much treasure laid up in heaven as the rich man's pound or thousand pounds. God requires each nor any one burdened; but computing each man's ability, let him give according to that rule. Probably in no way can this equality be attained but by every man giving a certain per centage of his income, his whole income, wheber that be derived from trade, merchandise, interest on money or stock, mortgages, repts, profits, wages, salary, labor, gifts, produce or manufactures, or any other source.

To give rightly and systematically, every one must give on his whole net income, and not on what remains after he has supplied his own ble, be ascertained for the week, month, quarter the same to different objects ; and no man can make a wise apportionment of his income without system ; none can save without system ; nor any one give well without system.

But how much per cent. of their income regulated by law under the Mosaic economy the Israelites were required to give one-tenth of religion, the Levites, alone ; one-fortieth additi- | amendment passed unopposed. onal to the priests; to provide animals, meal, wine and truits for sacrifice, and offerings to the temple. Every seventh year they had to leave their land untilled, and to regard its spontaneous products as common property ; every by Hon. Mr. Creighton were agreed to. seventh year to remit debts, and every fiftieth one sixtieth of their grain to be gleaned by the poor. The Jew was required by law to give about one-third of his income to the servants and the service of the Lord and his poor." "While the primitive Christians devoted more generally.

than half of all their income to the cause of 18. One fifth of the whole sum appropriated ber pro and con. Christ, protessors of our denomination in this for common schools shall be applied to aid poor

thought if the Autocrat of all the Russias should ever see the Bill he would be sure to send for the person who drafted it to make him Prime Minister of his Empire. So despotic a measure he had never before in his life perused .- Norized taxation or not. The machinery was expensive and most critical and cumbrous. It contained no provision for the management of schools till next October, and was well adapted, he thought, to create a vast amount of dispute and litigation, ending in the injury and destruction of all the best schools in the Province. He had made up his mind to offer no opposition to the measure. He should move nothing. If any attempt to improve it were made, and the bill Opposition. He was sorry to see it pass, but there seemed to be no alternative. If it proved to be a failure, as he predicted it would, the responsibility by this course would fall upon the right shoulders.

Some few amendments were made at the instance of Hon. Mr. Creighton. One or two were suggested by Hon. Mr. Almon. Hon. Mr. Creighton said he felt his hands tied and could not consent to their being made.

The Council adjourned over till Monday."

Since the above was in type we have read Mr. Oldright's report of the discussion, and it does not materially differ from the above, except that the Hon. Mr. Creighton said that he did not think that the government were by any means desirous of having the control of the educational machinery of the ccuntry. no man that cannot devote different portions of He thought that the chief object of the clause was to save the expense of another Board of ate any deposits in the Savings Bank towards instruction. His difficulty was how they could find time to attend to their duties as Council of Instruction.

On the reading of the 5th clause, Mr. Creighton moved an amendment to make the hundred thousand dollars in the same manner Inspectors of Schools, inspectors for the coun- as is provided for issuing D bentures under the their income for the support of the ministers of ties, instead of for the districts merely. The said Chapter of the Revised Statutes.

exempt Teachers from taxation, but it was

The following are the principal clauses, we year to emancipate their slaves, and to release presume which were referred by Mr. Mcall mortgages. Every harvest they left about Cully. We copy them from the amended Act for the information of our readers. It is, doubtless, a most important measure and should be well understood by the people

We make these suggestions not in a captious spirit, but by way of anticipating a practical difficulty which must arise, if the measure become law, and to any extent realize the apparent intentions of its framers. Will body seemed to know whether the bill autho- the organ of the government please inform us on this point?

Other sections of the bill provide the means for carrying out the Assessment principle.

# THE PICTOU RAILWAY BILL.

Last week we gave our readers a summary of the action taken in the House of Assembly in proved a failure, it would be charged upon the reference to this Bill. As the Act is a short one and many of our readers may wish to read it for themselves, we copy it entire :---

> An Act to authorize the construction of a further section of the Provincial Raihcay.

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Assembly as follows :---

1. The Governor in Council is hereby authorized to contract for the construction of a further section of Railway between the station house at Truro and the navigable waters of the harbor of Picton, and, as far as practicable, on a site adapted for a common line for an extension of a line of railway from the station aforesaid to the frontier of New Brunswick.

2. The provisions of the Chapter of the Revised Statutes, so far as may be, are hereby made applicable to the construction and management of such section.

3. The Governor in Council may appropridefraying the cost of construction, and may also, for the purpose of this Act, issue Provin-cial Debentures Bearing interest at a rate not to exceed six per cent. redeemable in twenty years, and not to exceed the sum of sixteen

The speeches on its introduction, noticed Hon. Mr. Almon moved an amendment to in our last, were sufficient to elucidate the measure. The members from different sections negatived, and no amendment but those made of the province had to speak upon it, and endeavored to show the consistency of their action on this occasion as compared with votes formerly given. The altered state of the revenue was the great explanation.

The difference between the position of the Intercolonial road formerly and now, too, had something to do with the speech of each mem-

The following speech from one of the memcountry, at the present day, do not give to the and scattered sections in addition to the amount bers for Pictou contains a good epitome of the same cause one-twentieth part of their incomes. to which they may be otherwise entitled, on around the same cause one-twentieth part of their incomes. J. McDonald, Uigg, P. E. I. 9 " Excelsior,"