

to take down sail in a squall, and resort to the oars. Besides the captain and myself, there was only the little boy; and one ear fell to me. Fatigued by my day's work, benumbed by the cold rain and the spray that dashed over us, and unused to the oar, I soon gave out from sheer exhaustion, and the boy took my place. A second time I took the oar and gave out. The storm still increased in violence and the sea was very heavy, my basket of minerals shooting from one end of the boat to the other as the waves struck us; while through the rain the black cliffs of Partridge Island were seen creeping up to the eastward, shutting out the village from view, as we drifted down the strait with the ebbing tide. It was evident that we must make a desperate effort to gain the shore, or we would be swept out into the bay and, perhaps, lost. "Car!" said the captain, "you must pull, we've got fifteen minutes in which we can reach the Island. If we miss it, God only knows what will become of us." I resumed the oar, and, warmed by my previous exertion, kept it. Snap! went one of the captain's thowl-pins, and he fell over backwards; but quick as thought he seized the chisel that lay in the bottom of the boat, and thrust it in the thwart in its place. It fitted perfectly.

Over the big waves and against wind and tide it was sore work and our progress was dishearteningly slow. It was more than an hour before we pulled up under the lee of the crags of the Island, and ran our boat ashore on the beach of West Bay. If ever a fervent "Thank God!" came from the very bottom of my soul, it was uttered as I sprang ashore.

This adventure brought very vividly to mind the stormy day some twelve years ago, the Basin covered with white-caps, from which the gale swept the spray in drifts, like clouds of snow, and I remembered watching from the school room window at Horton two little white sails, that, at the mouth of the Cornwallis river, were dashing along before the wind, ever and anon hidden in the drifting spray. In one of these boats there was a party from the College, Prof. Chipman and four students, and the Rev. Mr. Very from St. John. They had been on an excursion to Blomidon, and were now on their return. Our attention was directed to the foremost of these boats, which came safely into the harbor at Wolfville, while the other was lost sight of. Night came, and that the boat we had watched was not theirs. Our fears that they had been lost in the storm, were realized on the morning, when one of the boat-men returned with the news that plunged us into the deepest sorrow, that their boat had been capsized in the mouth of the river, and all save he were drowned. The memory of the search for the bodies, that day after day, were brought home to the "Hill," cold and stiff, still lingers with me yet as the saddest of my life. It is still fresh in the memory of many of my readers.

In the person of Prof. Isaac Chipman, I lost a very dear friend. But a little boy, as I was, fond of nature, he had kindly fostered my love for science, and, taking me into his museum, he had taught me the names of the minerals and fossils, and day after day, through the vacation of '52 I was with him, cutting labels, sorting specimens, or sitting with him up to our elbows in soap suds washing them, while all the time he talked to me of their curious forms and composition, and every evening he would send me away with my hat and pockets full of specimens. These were the happiest days of my life.

Very little is known of Prof. Chipman's scientific attainments, and scarcely anything has been put on record. I was too young when acquainted with him to form a judgment of them; but his carefully-labelled and arranged cabinet, one of Acadia's treasures, still exists, and enough remains with me to enable me to say, that, as a scientific man, he was one who bade fair to have left a distinguished name. With mineralogy he was no amateur, knowing only the names of the species in his collection; but he was well acquainted with them, their composition, their crystallography, their classification, and their mode of formation and occurrence. He was a keen observer, and a diligent student of Nature. His immense collection shows him to have been an indefatigable collector, and there was scarcely a mineral-locality in the province that he had not visited. Nor did he make mineralogy a hobby. He was well versed in Geology, Zoology and Physics.

Had he been spared to the present he would doubtless have been now well known to the scientific world, and an honor to "Acadia" and his native province.

Halifax, Nov. 4th, 1864.

A LONG SLEEP.—The wife of Warren Potter, of Greenfield, who went to sleep 16 days ago, has not awoken yet. So says the Boston Journal.

For the Christian Messenger.
The Various Readings of the New Testament.

DEAR BROTHER,
In your issue of the 9th inst. you gave an account of a recent article in the *Sunday Magazine*, from the pen of Dean Alford, in which the Dean contends that the time is now come for a revision of the text of the New Testament, suggesting that a commission of learned men might be appointed by some competent authority for that purpose.

The work has been already done by the Dean himself. His "Greek Testament, with a critically revised text; a digest of Various Readings; marginal references to verbal and idiomatic usage; Prolegomena; and a critical and exegetical Commentary," (five volumes, octavo) is the most important work of the kind that has ever been published in England. Its price (£5 2s. sterling, or \$25.50) places it, unfortunately, out of the reach of many who might derive great benefit from the opportunity of consulting it.

Dean Alford has revised the Greek Text;—that is, he has endeavored to restore the text to its original state by the help of the best and most ancient manuscripts and versions. It will be acknowledged that this is a matter of primary importance. If we can correct the mistakes that have been made by careless copyists, or that have crept in in any other way, we have then before us the very words which were written by prophets and apostles, and the translation of the text thus formed will be the best representative possible, in our own language, of the thoughts of those inspired men.

I will give you some specimens of the alterations which a translation from Dean Alford's revised text will require. In this paper I will confine myself to passages in which it is proposed to omit certain words. The words to be omitted are in *Italics*.

MATTH. 6, 13. "For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever, Amen." (It will be observed that this doxology is omitted in Luke 11, 4.)

MATTH. 27, 35. "That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets. They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots."

MARK 2, 17. "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

MARK 3, 5. "And his hand was restored whole as the other."

LUKE 17, 6. "Two men shall be in the field: the one shall be taken, and the other left."

ACTS 6, 13. "Ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words."

ACTS 8, 36-38. "And the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still," &c.

ROM. 8, 1. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit."

1 COR. 6, 20. "Therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

2 COR. 12, 11. "I am become a fool in glorying."

GAL. 3, 1. "Who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth?"

EPHES. 3, 9. "Who created all things by Jesus Christ."

PHILIP. 3, 16. "Let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing." Dean Alford inserts the word "path."

COL. 1, 14. "In whom we have redemption through his blood."

COL. 2, 2. "The mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ."

1 THESS. 5, 27. "Unto all the holy brethren."

2 THESS. 2, 4. "So that he as God sitteth in the temple of God."

1 TIM. 1, 17. "The only wise God."

2 TIM. 4, 1. "Before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ."

TIT. 1, 4. "God the Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ."

TIT. 2, 7. "Unconspicuous, gravity, sincerity."

PHILEM. 10. "Begotten in my bonds."

HEB. 12, 20. "Stoned, or thrust through with a dart."

JAMES 1, 26. "If any man among you seem to be religious."

1 PETER 1, 23. "Which liveth and abideth for ever."

1 PETER 4, 14. "On their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified."

2 PETER 3, 10. "As a thief in the night."

1 JOHN 5, 7, 8. "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood; and these three agree in one."

2 JOHN 3. "From the Lord Jesus Christ."
3 JOHN 11. "He that doeth good is of God; but he that doeth evil hath not seen God."

JUDE 25. "The only wise God."

REV. 1, 8. "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending."

REV. 22, 1. "He shewed me a pure river."

In other cases, words or short sentences are to be added. In some, changes are proposed. Of these last, the following are specimens:—

MATTH. 6, 1. "For alms," read "righteousness."

JOHN 6, 69. For "the Son of the living God," read "the holy one of God."

1 TIM. 3, 16. For "God," read "He who."

REV. 22, 14. For "they that do his commandments," read "they that wash their robes."

Now, let it be borne in mind that in all these instances the authority of the oldest and best manuscripts and versions is adduced, and no alteration is made unless there is a clear preponderance of testimony in favor of it. Our translators did the best they could. And they did it admirably, considering the times in which they lived. But the text from which they translated had been formed from a small number of manuscripts, and those of comparatively modern date. Since then, critical facilities have been marvellously increased. Upwards of five hundred manuscripts of the New Testament have been examined. Some of them are very ancient. The Alexandrine, now in the British Museum, is ascribed to the fifth century; the Vatican, at Rome, to the fourth. The results of the examination appear in such editions of the New Testament as have been published by Dean Alford, and others, and in the revised translation now in course of publication by the American Bible Union.

Your readers may be assured, however, that great as is the number of various readings, no fact or truth of the scriptures, is affected by them. What must be omitted in one place is found in another, in the same or similar words. The desirableness of having an exact transcript of the original documents as can be obtained will be generally confessed. If the works of classical writers are continually undergoing correction, by the examination of manuscripts, should not the books of the Bible be subjected to the same process? If we wish to know the very words which Homer or Virgil wrote, can we be less anxious respecting those which were penned by John, or Peter, or Paul?

Yours truly,
Acadia College. J. M. CRAMP.
Nov. 10, 1864.

For the Christian Messenger.
Common School Allowance doubled.

Mr. Editor,—

I perceive that to this County—Kings—the amount appropriated by the House of Assembly in its last session is Three Thousand Three Hundred and Thirty Two dollars, for the Common Schools; also for Superior Schools, Four Hundred dollars, and that Twenty-five per cent additional is allowed to all Sections adopting entire assessment for the support of their schools.

I have ascertained that not quite half the number of sections in this county have availed themselves of the advantages of the Act, consequently their amount from the treasury will be more than double what it would have been if the Act had been universally adopted; equal to about ninety dollars. But, be it remembered, that this sum is subject to an increase of twenty-five per cent, in every section adopting entire assessment. Thus the proportion to each section in this manner raising the support for their schools is one hundred and twelve dollars. In this estimation I have not taken into consideration the sum of four hundred dollars provided for Superior Schools—which sum may be appropriated to not more than four, or the whole to one section, if one and no more is entitled to it.

This increased assistance, Mr. Editor, must be a great boon to the sections in this County where it is to be enjoyed—and doubtless will help materially in engaging the services of teachers otherwise beyond their reach.

The wealthier districts have, in their rejection of the Act, conferred a favor on the poorer sections, without enriching themselves. Did they intend to do it? If this matter were not now probably settled for the present school year I would like to see an honorable competition for the Superior school allowance, under the mode of entire assessment. As it is, those who have, will have; while those who have not, will lose what they had, for a time at least.

Yours respectfully,
A SUBSCRIBER.
Horton, Nov. 21st 1864.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Educational Notice. (No. 3.)

MANY irregularities having occurred in the proceedings of the Annual School meetings, in consequence of imperfect knowledge and misunderstandings concerning the requirements of the law, and many Sections in several Counties having failed to provide for the support of Schools,

Notice is hereby given, that—

1. Measures will be adopted by the Government, upon the meeting of the Legislature, for the purpose of legalizing the proceedings of the Annual Meetings at which technical irregularities have occurred.
 2. Where it is deemed necessary, in order to complete the arrangements entered into at the Annual Meetings, or to make provision for supporting schools in sections, in which no provision has yet been made, meetings may be called by the Inspectors, till the 1st of January, 1865.
- Measures will be adopted by the Government to render the proceedings of such meetings legal, as if held on the 25th of October last.
- It must be borne in mind that Schools, unless organized under the Act, cannot participate in the provincial grants, either of money, books, or maps.
- By order of the Council of Public Instruction.
T. H. RAND, Secretary.

Halifax, Nov. 22, 1864.
Nov. 23rd. 4 wks.
Tri W. Col., Chron., Sun, Recorder, Citz., Rep., Exp., Journ., Wit., Ch. Rec., Free Press, Yar. Her., Trib., Liv. Trans., Pict. Chron., Stand., Ant. Cask, C. B. News.—4 wks. Editorial Page.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, NOVEMBER 23, 1864.

SUPERANNATED BAPTIST MINISTERS, WIDOWS AND ORPHANS.

There have often been attempts to devise some means of providing a fund for the benefit of Superannated Baptist Ministers and to provide for the widows and orphans of deceased Ministers. The arguments for such fund have frequently been placed before the public, and are so self-evident that we shall not now trouble our readers or occupy our space with a repetition, seeing that it is all required for matter of a more practical nature. We believe there is such a society in Great Britain, but are not now aware of the extent of its operations.

It has often been suggested that our Infirm Ministers' Fund contributed by the churches each year, and forwarded to the several Associations in this province, might be made more efficient by some more general and permanent arrangement. We are not prepared to give a very decided opinion as to the best plan that could be devised for this purpose, but perceiving that a Society has been formed in Canada, and has commenced operations for a similar object, we feel it our duty to place before our readers an outline of it, for their consideration, and shall be glad to receive any suggestions or communications in reference to the matter.

A large number of regular Baptist ministers, and members of regular Baptist churches attending the anniversary of the Missionary Convention West, met in the Baptist chapel, in the city of London, C. W., on Tuesday, 17th October 1864; and before the business of the Convention commenced, formed a Conference to consider the propriety of establishing a society for the relief of superannuated regular Baptist ministers, and the widows and orphans of regular Baptist ministers.

After a free discussion, it was resolved that such a society should be immediately formed.

On Thursday afternoon the committee appointed to prepare a constitution, submitted the following:—

Art. I.—Name.—This organization shall be called, "The Society for the Relief of Superannuated Regular Baptist Ministers, and the Widows and Orphans of Deceased Baptist Ministers."

Art. II.—All the officers and directors of this society shall be members in good standing of regular Baptist churches.

Art. III.—Terms of Membership.—1. This society shall be composed of subscribers to the fund thereof, as follows:—Donors of \$20, at one time, shall be life members of the society; donors of \$100, and upwards, life directors; and a contribution of \$1 annually, shall entitle a person to vote in the election of officers, and in the transaction of general business. 2. Ministers who wish to participate in the benefits of this society, shall contribute at least \$4 annually to its funds. 3. An annual meeting of this Society shall be held in the same week, and at the same place with the annual meeting of the Missionary Convention West; or at such other time and place as the Board may direct, for the election of officers, and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the society.

Art. IV.—Officers and their Duties.—1. The officers of this society shall consist of a president, six vice presidents, a secretary, a treasurer, and fifteen directors, five of whom shall form a quorum for the transaction of business. 2. The directors shall be divided into three classes. One of these classes, together with the president, secretary, and treasurer, shall go out of office annually—their places to be filled at the annual meeting by the members present—those going out being eligible to re-election. 3. It shall be the duty of the president, and in his absence, of the senior vice president present to preside and preserve order at all meetings of the