

NOTES. No. 1.

DEAR EDITOR,

A very excellent remark was made by one of the speakers at the late Convention respecting making good speeches at the Convention and saying but little upon the subjects when they returned to their respective fields of labor...

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, SEPTEMBER 13, 1865.

OUR SITUATION.

It is supposed by some that under the ameliorating influences of Christianity there will be a great change effected in the world, not only in its general aspects, but that individual character will be so modified that eventually in the coming generations of men, the evil tendencies of human nature will be almost wholly overcome...

This would be a very pleasing prospect if there were any foundation on which to rest such supposition. It may answer to satisfy those who would persuade themselves that sin is but a defective development of virtue, but taking the experience of the past in connexion with a candid view of the world as it at present exists...

In fact the whole human family is divided into two hostile parties. The gospel effects the separation between the righteous and the wicked, and distinguishes between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not. Unless it does this it is no gospel. This is a fair and proper test of its genuineness.

The Divine authority must be established in the heart, and man's rebellion be overcome,—hatred changed into love, and a desire after holiness supersede the preference for self-gratification, or there is no evidence of the renewed man in Christ Jesus.

This is a good test of our faith, and may indicate how much we are in harmony with the Divine purposes.

Let us be concerned to know our own situation and the situation of the friends of our Master, and we shall be the better prepared to pray, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

Acadia College Endowment Fund.

After our last week's issue had gone to press we discovered that a paragraph from the Report of the Treasury of Acadia College which we intended to have copied had been omitted by our compositor.

"By comparing this (the statement that the Endowment Fund now amounts to £9000) with former reports it will be found that our position is gradually becoming more fixed and available. This fund in 1862, was estimated at £6000—in 1863, at £7350—in 1864, at £8750.

But in referring to 1862, (three years ago) it will be found that there was then but £2500 invested funds, whilst now we report £6000. Viewing these facts there are more grounds to encourage the completing of the Endowment, and raising it to a respectable amount, than ever before.

The following passage also demands attention:—

"Pursuing the course adopted a few years since, no debt for current expenses has been incurred during the year. On reference to my report of last year, it will be seen that I estimated the deficiency of income at £350. In March last, by a close calculation it was found that £300 might meet all expenses up to Sept. 1st, to obtain this the usual appeal and apportionment was sent to our churches in the three Provinces, but I regret to say with not very favorable results."

It appears that only £136 was realized in answer to the circulars to the churches. Various reasons are offered for the omission, on the part of some of the largest and most able churches. Those reasons, we believe, would disappear if the appeal were properly placed before the churches, by the pastors and deacons, and the comparatively small sum required in addition would be speedily forthcoming.

It is encouraging to learn that some progress is being made in the matter of Endowment, and that there are friends of Education amongst us ready to appropriate their money to the sustaining of scholarships in the College. This progress is, however, very slow and indicates that the number of such philanthropic christians is very small.

New Publications.

EIGHTY YEARS PROGRESS IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICA. L. Stebbins, Toronto.

This is a thick volume of 776 pages, full of interest to British Americans. It is remarkable in its developments, respecting what we were eighty years ago and what we are now. The rapid strides of the United States have occupied so much of popular attention, that the advancement of the lesser populated part of the colonies, which remained faithful to British rule have been almost unnoticed.

It is handsomely got up, bound in roan and gilt, for \$4. A fine steel-plate engraving of the new Parliament Houses at Ottawa is also supplied with the work.

Mr. J. B. Parsons is on an agency for the work in this city and the province. It is furnished to subscribers only.

ERRORANGA.—We find the following in the P. E. I. Patriot of last week:

"Letters have been received from Rev. James D. Gordon, Missionary of the Presbyterian Church, by his relatives in this Island, dated Erroranga, April 12, 1865. He writes:—'The Royal Saxon, of about 700 tons, has been here now for nearly three weeks loading for China. She is an American vessel under British colors. The captain is from the State of Maine, U. S., and the chief mate also. I have been eating potatoes and mackerel for the last few days—a great treat in this part of the world. My flour got so low three months ago that I could not use it. I have purchased some stores from the Royal Saxon. They are very kind. Three of the crew of the Dayspring are in her—the two mates and the steward. Times are very troublesome here just now. The war spirit has been up for several weeks. I have all the Teachers living with me now except one. However, I am not aware that I am in any danger, so you need not be uneasy about me.' He also adds that he has been mercifully preserved from an attack of fever and ague, while the natives are shaking all round him. Mana was dead and buried, and several others of the Christian party, as is presumed from the fact that they were buried."

use it. I have purchased some stores from the Royal Saxon. They are very kind. Three of the crew of the Dayspring are in her—the two mates and the steward. Times are very troublesome here just now. The war spirit has been up for several weeks. I have all the Teachers living with me now except one. However, I am not aware that I am in any danger, so you need not be uneasy about me."

The freaks of the type are often amusing. In the Express of last Friday, in copying a paragraph from the Messenger concerning Berwick, they turned "a skilful workman" into "a skilful woman!"

Notices, &c.

Rev. S. Boothby wishes to notify the friends of the American and Foreign Bible Society that he is now on an Agency to this Province, and will first visit Digby, Yarmouth, and the Queens Counties.

CORRECTION.—In our report of the Convention proceedings we omitted to mention the Rev. Wm. Hall's name among the preachers on the Lord's Day. We learn that he preached at Cambridge, Cornwallis, in the afternoon. We are also informed that his name was incorrectly inserted in the Minutes of the Western Association as one of the Delegates, whereas he was not present.

French Missionary Board.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the French Mission Board will take place at Hebron on Tuesday, the 19th of September.

Western Infirm Ministers' Fund.

The Board of the Infirm Ministers Fund of the Western N. S. Baptist Association will meet (D. V.) at the house of Mr. William John, St. Mary's Bay, on Thursday, the 5th day of next month, (October) at two o'clock, P. M., for the transaction of important business. A full attendance is respectfully urged.

Weymouth, Sept. 6, 1865.

P. S.—The Members are, Rev. John C. Morse, and brethren Charlton Sabean, William John, Wm. Aymar, W. H. Gridley, Samuel Wheelock, W. S. Raymond, and the Subscriber.

Colchester County S. School Convention.

The Annual meeting of the Colchester Co. Baptist S. S. Convention will be held in Truro, on Friday, the 29th inst., at two o'clock, P. M. It is earnestly desired that every school may be represented, and statistics forwarded.

Letters Received.

G. Lewis, \$2. A. Nesbit, F. M. Hawkins, \$2. Rev. S. March, H. E. Payson, Esq., \$12, —balance paid B. W. & Co. Rev. W. Hall, Rev. W. G. Goucher, Rev. J. Clarke, 25cts. C. Cook, \$1. C. H. Harrington, Esq. Rev. J. H. Saunders, C. Sutherland, \$1. John Bragg, Rev. S. Boothby, Rev. W. Dobson.

General Intelligence.

Domestic.

THE HALIFAX STREET RAILROAD, we understand, is to be commenced on Saturday next at half-past 12, near the Richmond Depot. There will be somewhat of a demonstration on the occasion, and doubtless a large number of citizens will be present.

IMPORTATION OF STOCK.—The horses and sheep purchased by the Hon. Prov. Secretary and the Hon. Attorney General in England arrived Tuesday of last week. They consist of four blood, entire, horses and three mares in foal, they are fully described and their pedigree published in the morning papers. Their names are given as follows:

"Lassitude," a chestnut colt (rising 3 years) "Ascan," a heavy brown horse, foaled in 1860. "Summerault," a neat dark horse. "Anfield," five years old. "Lurline," "Overcast," and "Attraction," three mares.

The sheep are said to be in good health and condition considering the long voyage they have had. There are we believe twenty in number.

We learn from a Charlottetown paper that the steamer Heather Belle took over to Brulé on the morning of the 7th inst., one hundred and thirty sheep and a pair of oxen, it is understood, for the Halifax market. Sixty more sheep crossed in the steamer Princess, to Pictou, the same day.

ANNAPOLIS Co.—We are sorry to learn that the potato blight is seriously damaging the crop in Annapolis County. The apple crop of August fruit has almost entirely failed.

The russets and nonpariels are more abundant than last year, whilst the other kinds of apples are far inferior to what they have been for several years.

Grain promises to be a fair return.

MORE GOLD.—A bar of gold nearly a foot long four inches wide and three inches thick was brought to town from the German company's digging at Waverly. It weighed 1025 ounces and was valued at \$20,000 and was the product of the past month's labor.

CIVIC.—A very respectably signed requisition has been presented to His Worship asking him to allow himself to be nominated to the mayoralty for the ensuing year. We understand that Alderman James Tobin will also be a candidate.

THE RIFLE CONTEST brought large numbers of persons from the country to Halifax and its neighbourhood last week. If the weather had been fine there would doubtless have been a much larger gathering at Bedford. The rain interfered with the firing somewhat, and threw a gloom over some of the days but it came to an end on Friday, and the prizes were duly presented. The Reporter gives the following account of the close of the firing.

The firing was all concluded by six o'clock when the competitors fell in four deep in front of the Lt. Governor. His Excellency was present accompanied by Lady McDonnell. A number of ladies and gentlemen from Halifax were also present to witness the presentation of the prizes. The weather was not favorable for such a ceremony. A cold north-easter swept down the valley, and the sky was dark and gloomy.

Presentation of prizes.—The prizes were displayed on a table in view of the competitors, and before His Excellency. When all was ready Sir Richard addressed a few remarks to Col. Pryor, his officers and men. He said that before presenting the Prizes he wished to offer his congratulations with regard to the range selected, which he considered not only to be admirably adapted for the purposes for which it was intended, but to present some attractions besides. It is convenient in point of distance from the city, and is picturesque. He was glad to think that he had been in anyway instrumental in procuring so fine a range, and one which had within itself so many pleasing features. It was perhaps the last time he might have an opportunity of addressing those present, and he wished to bear testimony to the good temper and good discipline which had been preserved throughout the contest.

The names of the successful competitors were now called out, and each in turn stepped to the front and advanced to the table, saluting his Excellency as they did so. The first to present himself was Sergt. Major Hardwick, 4th Kings. In presenting him with the Provincial Rifle Association Challenge Gold Medal, His Excellency complimented the lucky marksman upon his skill. His score was 49. The medal was then fastened upon his breast by Lady McDonnell, amid hearty cheering. Lieut. Maloney, of the Mayflower (Halifax) Rifles, was then called forward to receive the second prize in this competition—£7. 10. Next came the other successful competitors, some receiving money prizes, and the others swords.

Before the presentation of the Cogswell Challenge Cup, His Excellency remarked upon the liberality of the donor, and eulogised the exquisite workmanship of the prize, which, from its appearance, some might estimate at a glance far below its real value.

"Mrs. Cogswell now stepped forward and presented the cup to Major McDonald, of Pictou, the successful competitor. Sergt. Logan, of the Rothsay Blues, (and by the way this corps has carried off a large number of prizes) stepped forward and received the medal of the National Rifle Association of England. Next Sergt. Major Hardwick presented himself again, and as he came forward to receive more of his numerous prizes, His Excellency laughs, and says, "I think sir, I've seen your face before." Hurrah for Halifax! Here comes gallant Sergeant Sanford, V. A., to receive the Ladies' Cup. Lady McDonnell makes the presentation gracefully, and hopes that the ladies of Nova Scotia will not fail to keep up this prize in future years. And here comes Major Greighton, the winner of the tea service. Col. Laurie stepped forward and regretted that the prize had not yet arrived from England; but will have much pleasure in handing it to the winner on its arrival. He would say, however, that he had intended it should go to the country? The other presentations were made, and then His Excellency proposed three cheers for Her Majesty the Queen, which were given with a will. Cheer upon cheer followed, for Sir Richard and Lady McDonnell, Lt. Col. Pryor, and now the people disperse, and the affair is ended.

Sergeant Major Harwick of Kings County is doubtless the first marksman of Nova Scotia, having won five prizes—the Provincial Association Gold Medal, and four money prizes, amounting to \$27 15.

Halifax people are remarkably quiet about the contest! Possibly the result may have something to do with that. During the days of the contest, one could not pass along the streets five minutes without hearing something about "bull's eyes," "outers," "hits," "points," and "rounds," but it is now all settled and our citizen soldiers have returned to their homes and we trust no one is hurt.

INVITATION TO CANADA.—The Mayor of Halifax on Saturday last received an intimation that the members of the Corporation, of the Chamber of Commerce, and of the Government, will be invited to the coming Agricultural Exhibition in Canada.

On Monday the following despatch came to the Hon. Provincial Secretary:

Montreal, 11th Sept., 1865.

Invitations to attend Agricultural Exhibition in Upper and Lower Canada will be sent for Governor, Executive Council, Members of Legislature, Judges, Mayors, and Presidents of Board of Trade. Arrangements are being made for conveyance from St. John. Will telegraph again. Exhibition in Canada West commences on eighteenth. Please publish. W. M. J. PATTERSON, Sec. Invitation Committee.