

Institution for the Deaf and Dumb.

REPORT OF WESTERN TOUR.

For the information of the numerous friends and supporters of the cause of Deaf-mute education throughout the Province generally, and for the satisfaction of those in the Western Counties in particular, I beg respectfully to offer the following report of my recent tour to the westward on behalf of the Institution:

Having of late years visited pretty fully the eastern section of the Province, including the Island of Cape Breton, together with a considerable portion of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, it was deemed proper to turn our attention again to the Western Counties of Nova Scotia, some of which had not been visited for six years, and others not since the summer of 1858; a period of seven years. This course was rendered more desirable by an apparent lack of interest and liberality, in regard to our work, existing on the part of the West as compared with the East—the latter, to its credit be it spoken, having, from the inception of this enterprise, manifested an intelligent interest in the welfare of the long-neglected "children of silence," and a spirit of enlarged and unwearied liberality in responding to their claims.—With the view, therefore, of reviving and widening public interest in our work throughout the Western Counties, I resolved to devote the present vacation to as thorough a visitation of them as time and circumstances would permit. And here, I rejoice to be able to state that we succeeded in our object beyond my most sanguine expectations. On this occasion, at least, the West has not only not been behind the East in philanthropic spirit and liberality, but has even outstripped her in the race of benevolence. May such noble rivalry, and generous emulation long prevail!

Leaving Halifax on Friday, the 28th of July last, we proceeded first to Chester, and thence by successive stages along the Southern coast, via Lunenburg, Liverpool, Shelburne, &c., to Yarmouth; then, skirting the shores of the Bay of Fundy and St. Mary's Bay, up through Clare and Weymouth to Digby; hence, eastward through the noble valley of the Annapolis, and the beautiful and fruitful county of King's to Windsor, whence we returned, by railway, to Halifax on Saturday the 9th of September—having been absent exactly six weeks and a day, during which we had travelled over 400 miles, held and addressed 31 meetings, and collected about five hundred and sixty dollars for the funds of the Institution.

Of the kindness and hospitality experienced I cannot speak too highly. Our whole party, including myself and four pupils, were almost everywhere gratuitously entertained, while free conveyance from place to place was also generously provided, thus rendering the collections, (with but a trifling deduction in one or two instances) wholly available for the funds—a fact which, in itself, speaks volumes for the warm-hearted generosity of the people.

Our meetings (with perhaps two or three exceptions) were largely attended, frequently even crowded to excess, by audiences representing all classes and denominations in the community, and in general, I believe, a sincere and permanent interest in the education of the benighted Deaf-mute has been awakened, which, it may reasonably be expected, will manifest itself in increased and regular contributions to the support of the only Institution in the Lower Province devoted to the intellectual, moral, and social improvement of this numerous and deeply afflicted class of the population.

Having in my letters to the Secretary of the Institution, published in the daily papers, at intervals during our journey, already acknowledged in detail the various hospitalities and attentions received from friends in every locality, I can only renew the general expression of our heart felt gratitude to all who, either by hospitable entertainment, gratuitous conveyance, kind assistance in making necessary arrangements connected with our meetings, free use of Halls, Churches, and Schoolhouses, for the same, or in any other way, contributed to the comfort and success of our mission. To the ministers of the various denominations we are under special obligations for their hearty and effective co-operation, without which, indeed, our labors must have been, to a large extent, in vain. I would take this opportunity respectfully to commend anew to their consideration the idea of an annual collection for the Deaf and Dumb in all their congregations on TRANKGIVING DAY, both as an appropriate expression of the gratitude of a Christian people for numberless blessings enjoyed, and as an easy and effective means of promoting the usefulness of the Institution.

The following is a list of the places at which meetings were held, with the sums realized at each:

Table with 2 columns: Location and Amount. Includes entries like Chester (\$1124 ex.), Mahone Bay, Lunenburg, Digby, Bridgewater, Dablin Shore, Petite Riviere, Mill Village, Fort Medway, Liverpool, Milton, Jordan River, Locke's Island, Shelburne, Clyde River, Barrington, Argyle, Tasker, and Yarmouth.

Miss Esther Comings's Card, \$14.32; Christiana Anderson's Card, 2.50; Mary Bailey's Card, 1.12; Amelia Doughty's Card, 2.75. Among, \$28.70.

Table with 2 columns: Location and Amount. Includes entries like Weymouth, Marshfield, Digby, Do. by Rev. H. L. Yewens, Bear River, Clementsport, Annapolis, Bridgetown, Lawrencetown, Aylesford, Berwick, Bliford, Canard, and Canning.

Before closing this report I beg to thank those ladies and others who took cards at our meetings and kindly volunteered to collect in their several neighborhoods on behalf of the Institution. May I suggest to such the desirableness of forwarding the same with the amount collected to the Institution at an early day—as it will probably be found better to go to work at once while the impressions left by our recent visit are still fresh in the memories of the people. It is to be desired that all the cards be returned by the end of November, if possible, in order that the results may be published in the next Annual Report, at the beginning of the year. In conclusion, I would respectfully request the Editors of the Christian Messenger and Provincial Wesleyan to do me the favor to reprint this report, as the Institution numbers among our Wesleyan and Baptist brethren some of its warmest friends, who, I have reason to know, will look with interest for some account of the results of our recent Mission to the West. J. SCOTT HUTTON.

October 2nd, 1865.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, OCTOBER 11, 1865.

Those who have not yet paid their subscription for the Christian Messenger, will much oblige us by sending it on immediately, as we are in great and pressing need of all that is owing.

The REV. GEORGE DIMOCK died at Newport on Saturday, Sept. 30th, and was buried on Tuesday, the 3rd inst. A funeral sermon was preached on the occasion by Rev. Dr. Cramp.

We believe our departed friend was about 88 years of age. By his removal the last one is gone who was at the formation of the first Baptist Association of these Provinces, at Granville, in the year of our Lord 1800. What is remarkable too, he was there as "Messenger from the church in Newport." "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord;" "their works do follow them." A more extended notice will appear shortly.

OUR SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS.

No. 4.

We have, in our two or three past issues, endeavoured to open up a few points in the School Law, especially as it applies to the City of Halifax; but have yet only referred to the mode of support. There are various other features of the subject which might be taken up, before it would begin to be exhausted. How the double management of the present proprietors and the Board of Commissioners will work, is a wide field for speculation. What are to be the regulations with regard to school-books, and how are the religious scruples of the people to be reconciled, are questions which must be met, and on which depends the success of the enactment.

There is, however, one point which should not be forgotten. A large number of respectable people have antipathies against some, and perhaps all, of our public schools. There having been so large a proportion of free scholars—free on account of poverty,—has had the effect of lowering their standing, and, in many cases, of lessening the value of their advantages in public estimation. Many of those parents who have sent their children to private in preference to the public schools, consider that it will be a great hardship to have to pay the school-tax, and yet have to send their children to a private school, as they do now, merely because they consider the associations of the public schools objectionable, and the regulations and discipline in them such as they do not approve. It would be well for the Commissioners to take these things into consideration, and make such arrangements for the future conduct of the schools, as will prevent said objection having any force. Not only should the quantity—extent of accommodation—be sufficient, but the quality—the instruction provided,—must be of a superior character to give general satisfaction. The city is, in many respects, differently circumstanced from the country. Where all the children of a section attend, the more intelligent parents will have a suitable school; but it has not been so in Halifax—here, perhaps, three-fourths of the scholars have been taught without paying even the small fees charged to the pay scholars, and the parents had no voice in any of their

school provisions or regulations. But now that the schools are to be free to all, they must be raised in tone as well as enlarged in extent, or they will not prevent the necessity for private teaching. The change must be a step in advance, and we shall hope to see progress continued until the wants of our city are fully met by a substantial Common School Education.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE commenced its annual session on Wednesday, the 6th ult., at Birmingham, England, under the Presidency of Professor Phillips.

The President's Inaugural Address took a survey of the advancement of Science, under the several heads of Astronomy, Meteorology, Chemistry and Geology.

In reference to the latter, Dr. P. remarked: "How instructive the history of that long series of inhabitants which received in primeval times the gift of life, and filled the land, sea, and air with rejoicing myriads, through innumerable revolutions of the planet, before in the fullness of time it pleased the Giver of all good to place man upon the earth and bid him look up to Heaven. Wave succeeding wave, the forms of ancient life sweep across the ever-changing surface of the earth, revealing to us the height of the land, the depth of the sea, the quality of the air, the course of the rivers, the extent of the forest, the system of life and death—yes, the growth, decay, and death of individuals, the beginning and ending of races, of many successive races of plants and animals, in seas now dried, on sandbanks now raised into mountains, on continents now sunk beneath the waters. Had that series a beginning? Was the earth ever uninhabited, after it became a globe turning on its axis and revolving round the sun? Was their ever a period since land and sea were separated—a period which we can trace—when the land was not shaded by plants, the ocean not alive with animals? The answer, as it comes to us from the latest observation, declares that in the lowest deposits of the most ancient seas in the stratified crust of the globe, the monuments of life remain. They extend to the earliest sediments of water, now in part so changed as to appear like the products of fire. What life? Only the simpler and less specially organized fabrics have as yet rewarded research among those old Laurentian rocks—only the aggregated structures of foraminifera have been found in what, for the present at least, must be accepted as the first deposits of the oldest seas. And what is the latest term in this long series of successive existence? Surely the monuments of ever advancing art—the temples whose origin is in caverns of the rocks; the cities which have taken the place of holes in the ground, or heaps of stones and timber in a lake; the ships which have outgrown the canoe, as that was modelled from the floating trunk of a tree, are sufficient proof of the late arrival of man upon the earth, after it had undergone many changes and had become adapted to his physical, intellectual, and moral nature. Compared with the periods which elapsed in the accomplishment of those changes, how short is the date of those yet standing monoliths, cromlechs, and circles, of unhewn stones which are the oldest of human structures raised in Western Europe, or of those regular fabrics which attest the early importance of the monarchs and people of Egypt, Assyria, and some parts of America."

After the formal proceedings concluded, a lengthened discussion took place on a motion made by Dr. Hunt, and seconded by Sir E. Belcher, to the effect that a separate section be formed entitled H. to be devoted solely to the subject of Anthropology. Sir Roderick Murchison strongly opposed the proposition, on the ground that a further multiplication of the sections would render the Association unworkable. He recommended the Anthropologists to follow the precedent of the Royal Agricultural Society and found a separate association for the cultivation of their favourite science. Dr. Hunt's motion was ultimately negatived, as were also two others having a similar object.

A HINT TO THOSE WHO NEED IT.—The development of muscle in the game of cricket does not require the assistance of rum or any other stimulant. There is no muscular christianity in rum or tobacco. The miserable fellows who cannot engage in such recreation without intoxicating drinks, should be regarded as unworthy contestants, and allowed leg-bail.

NEWS SUMMARY.

The English Mail Steamer China arrived much earlier than usual,—about 4 o'clock on Monday morning,—making her passage in eight and a half days from Liverpool.

It appears by an article in the Times that the Government of the United States has come to a definite resolution in reference to Mexico, and that the Emperor Maximilian will be recognised by the Washington Government. The leading paper in Paris—the Moniteur—indicates that the French army is soon to commence its departure from Rome, in accordance with the Convention of September, 1864.

The Lord Mayor elect—Alderman Phillips of the City of London, is of the Hebrew

The harvest in Ireland is secured and the result is satisfactory. Although the blight has affected 25 per cent of the potato crop, the yield is above the average.

In Russia there has been a fearful storm, lasting two days, the 12th and 13th ult. The damage done to the shipping at Revel is very heavy. Trees of a hundred years standing were blown down on the shore.

The marriage of the Hon. Arthur Gordon, Lieut-Governor of New Brunswick, youngest son of George, fourth Earl of Aberdeen, K. G., to the eldest daughter of Sir John G. Shaw Lefevre, K. C. B., took place Wednesday evening, at St. Martin's Church.

By the English mail we received from Dr. Hobbs a copy of the Sydney Morning Herald of July 21st. It gives an account of a very destructive fire which occurred at Sydney on the 29th of June, by which the St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral was entirely consumed. The building is said to have cost £50,000. Some valuable pictures—one of which was valued at £1000—were also consumed. The organ, which cost £2000, was also destroyed.

An interesting incident of the conflagration relates to the fortunate escape from death of an old man named Anthony Brady. Brady, who is 108 years old, and is stone blind, and usually sleeps under the sacristy, was fortunately got out, and but for timely aid would have perished in the flames.

The fire was visible for many miles distant. An advertisement in said paper states, that "Dr. Hobbs has removed to 45 Liverpool Street, where he can be consulted daily on the various branches of his profession."

The cessation of warlike intelligence in the United States, renders it difficult to supply the demand for sensation news. The recent explosion in Ireland of the Fenian bubble, is being made the occasion of speechifying and a considerable amount of tall talk in several of the American cities. The friends of Ireland are pouring forth their ebullitions of wrath against England, and indulging in bombastic threats. These meetings are very convenient safety valves at which the Anti-British part of the population may expend their ire and eloquence. Whatever encouragement may be given by the powers that be in that country to this movement, is doubtless for the purpose of keeping the troublesome spirits occupied, seeing that they might otherwise be causing trouble between the different sections of that country, and render the work of reconstruction more difficult. The British government has taken the matter in hand, and it is likely that the leaders will perceive their folly before long. The account of the arrests in Dublin and Cork will be found on another page. If the statements of some of the leaders are to be believed, there are 300,000 Fenians in the United States, 200,000 in Ireland, 45,000 in British America, 30,000 in London alone, and about 5,000 in the British Army.

A general gathering of the Head Centres is to be held in Philadelphia on the 16th inst. It is supposed that the real object is to attack Canada. Arms have been shipped in France for Ireland, and the government of the former country have apprised the British Cabinet of the circumstance. The affair will be injurious to the welfare of Ireland.

The Washington Cabinet are still engaged in the solution of the many difficult and embarrassing questions which have resulted from the termination of the war. President Johnson, notwithstanding the very questionable moral character, and the violent political leanings attributed to him on his coming unexpectedly into office, appears thus far at least, to have acted with judgment and moderation. Urged on one side by the ultra Republicans of the North, who would continue to treat the South as a subdued country at the mercy of their conquerors, and on the other by the demands of the still unsubdued spirit of the South,—with the numberless applications for pardon by leading and influential persons implicated in the rebellion, and above all with the question of the social and political status of the vast population of emancipated slaves, awaiting his decision, his task must be confessed to be no very easy one. If anything can allay the animosities which must long survive an intestine war, such as has just closed, it must be the doctrine of conciliation, carried out in principle and practice. President Johnson, it would seem, considers this to be his true policy, and seems diverted from his purpose by the virulence of contenting parties, would fain carry it out.

Trade is just beginning to be revived in the South, but upon a very limited scale. A long time must elapse before it will resume its former activity, if it ever does. It is said that the wheat crops in the North have been below an average yield. The rise in the New York Market in the price of flour at this season, would seem to indicate as much. The prices of all essential articles of human