

in eating, in drinking, in business, in pleasures, in everything, and so become old while they are yet young, suffer from dyspepsia, and die decrepid. The accessories of life, the means of rapid transit, and the many helps in the way of knowledge and usefulness, go far in our day to enable us to live three lives in one. The power of doing three times as much in one day renders time thrice as valuable and thrice as responsible. Still, there is no royal road to true learning—there is no railway express to ripe scholarship. Men may cram you, but it is not what you take in which does you good, it is what you digest. There is no express train of mental digestion, no spirit-speaking telegraphy, quick as lightning conveying knowledge. The old story of true scholarship, the story of the past, is the story of to-day, "Toil on." Materials abound, indeed, in our own language to render our students effective ministers, whilst we want scholars who will gather from all sources, and combine the truth. Yet the saying of Seneca is worthy of attention in every department of life, "Shun no toil to make yourself remarkable by some talent or other. Yet do not devote yourself to one branch exclusively, strive to get clear notions about all."—*Id.*

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, AUGUST 30, 1865.

THE BAPTIST CONVENTION.

On Monday morning the Rev. W. V. Garner preached the Convention Sermon from Psalm cxxvi. 5, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy." It was a chaste able discourse, on "The exercise of a minister's emotional nature necessary to the successful proclamation of the word of God." He shewed that the best discourses often failed in being extensively useful, because there was no application, or because the preacher did not secure the sympathy of his hearers. When fervency is wanted in the pulpit, it produces coldness in the pew. Truth may be announced, but if it does not reach the heart it is powerless to affect the life. Preachers who have been largely successful have been men of warm emotion. This is the case with Spurgeon. It was also with the apostle Paul; he warned the disciples "with tears." The seat of sin is so deep that the soul requires to be deeply stirred to be aroused so as to cry out, What shall I do? The absence of emotion in the delivery of such truths as are to save men from hell, and place them in heaven, is a denial of the truth of the message. The high office of the minister of the gospel was well maintained by the preacher, and shewn to be, of all positions which men can occupy, one demanding great earnestness.

A request was made by the Convention that the sermon be published. The afternoon was occupied with educational matters. The report of the Governors of Acadia College, and the Treasurer's report and accounts for the past year, were submitted and explanations afforded. In the course of these explanations several excellent speeches were made.

The first of these was from the Hon. Judge Johnston, by request of the chairman. He said he felt disinclined to commence the discussion of this important subject, and would rather speak after others, but, as it would only require a few remarks from him at the opening, he was the more ready to accept the invitation. The younger men would then have the more scope for taking up the question. He felt that, in advocating the interests of the College, he was standing on ground that had been long ago taken by himself and others. The pioneers are departing one by one, and, in the mourning around this pulpit they had the symbols of the death of another. But few remain. We have with us still in Halifax one who for many years has taken an active interest in promoting the higher education of the denomination—the amiable Mr. Nutting, though in feeble health, is still warmly attached to the college and looks upon its operations with deep interest. He (Judge J.) was glad to meet this brethren, but, as was evident to all, he bore indications of years, which shew that he would not often again address this Convention. But he saw before him a cheering sight in the number of able younger men which afforded a guarantee of continued success. The statements contained in the Treasurer's Report were of a highly satisfactory character, inasmuch as they shewed that each succeeding year was in advance of the past, and indicated a growing interest in the great work before them.

The cause of education had received a great impulse during the past few years and such an impulse as must be felt in all the future. Every boy and girl might now receive a common school education free of charge. Some differences of opinion prevailed respect-

ing certain minor matters, but the boon had been provided for by the people's representation, and a general system of education established, which made the demand for higher institutions of the utmost importance. Any relapse in the educational cause could only be brief, and it becomes us to adapt our plans to meet the altered circumstances of the country. Every decennial period would witness a fresh manifestation of the vast benefits our institutions have conferred, and are calculated to confer, on the people of this country.

Rev. Dr. Pryor said his earlier days had been given to the Academy and College before such facilities existed as those now belonging to them. He could but feel thankful that he had been permitted to witness the progress made, and was more than ever convinced that labor and money expended in promoting the objects of these institutions was sure to produce good fruits. He thought there was everything in their present aspect to afford encouragement that they would go on and prosper.

Rev. I. E. Bill referred to the speech of Judge Johnston as awakening in him reminiscences of the past, and bringing up the memory of those now gone from our midst, who formerly pleaded so earnestly in behalf of ministerial education in these provinces.

The opposition they had to encounter had, in a great measure passed away. Many now present knew but little of the hostility, arising from ignorance, sectarianism, political faction, and the infernal regions, which assailed those who formerly laboured to establish higher education in these provinces. He still regretted to find some who but little appreciated the educational advantages offered to them, but there were others, who, having failed to secure them, felt that their life would be a comparative failure, and desired when too late to obtain those invaluable blessings.

Rev. W. McKenzia, of Providence, R. I., shid he did not feel that any speech was required from him. Others more familiar with the institutions and their present state were present, who could speak more to the purpose. He thought that speeches made at the Convention were too often worse than lost, because they were the only speeches made by the speakers. If the ministers and delegates would but save some of the best speeches to take home and deliver to their people, they would be of far greater value to them and to the institutions. He had been advised when partially through his course of study to be contented, and engage in ministerial work, but he was resolved that he would continue, and replied that only one power should hinder him—the will of God. He felt that this was now the only barrier in the way of any young man from receiving like advantages. He advised all the brethren present to go home and talk to their people just as they were now talking at the Convention.

Rev. W. Hall spoke of his experience during the past 29 years. He had formerly thought a metropolitan university would have been better than a number of denominational Colleges, but had been since led to see that the Baptists could not consistently have taken any other course. Whilst he saw the advantages of education, he felt that it was not easy for many young men to get a degree or even a thorough course of education. He thought the Baptists of these provinces should have one of the first institutions of the land.

Rev. Isa. Wallace suggested that some of the churches which had not forwarded the amount apportioned to them by the Governors would yet do so, and even a larger sum. He also referred to the circumstance mentioned in the Governors' report of Professor DeMill's removal. He thought that the parties who had engaged him had wished to get a Baptist in that institution. On expressing a supposition that the Baptists would thus be represented there, an emphatic "No" was given from all parts of the Convention.

T. H. Rand, Provincial Superintendent of Education, said as long as he could remember, he had heard the story of Acadia College. He thought a new era had been inaugurated in Nova Scotia. The free school system had struck its roots into the heart of the province, and it was not likely to be uprooted again. It may cost some expenditure of means; but, it is worth it all, and was a good exchange. He had heard of a certain king who had a vast amount of his treasure in a ship with his courtiers. When a storm arose the king ordered his courtiers to be thrown overboard, to lighten the ship, but on coming to land his riches were of no avail, as he was without men to assist him in governing his country. It might be the same with us. When we have the choice of throwing aside either the money or the children, shall we throw over the children and keep the money, or expend the money and thus save the children? He thought it would be policy to do the latter.

It is necessary to go on with the march of improvement. Other religious denominations

are going on, and shall the Baptists stand still. He was satisfied they would not. After hearing what was contained in the Report he was glad to find that a high standard of matriculation was insisted upon. This would keep up the character of the students, and this, he thought, should be carefully guarded. There might be some temporary difficulty, but ultimately the institution would reap the benefit.

Rev. Mr. Fulton, of Tremont Temple, Boston, corrected a statement made, that there were but two or three Baptist Colleges in the U. States, and gave a string of names shewing that there was almost one to every State in the Union. He thought it desirable to have as many as possible, but to make the Theological Institutions less numerous and more efficient. His strong expression of Baptist sentiments on the previous evening had called forth remark from one of the speakers as to their effect on the Episcopalians and Methodists present. To this Mr. F. remarked he did not come here to take care of the Methodists, and thought they would not expect him to do so, but he was a Baptist and came to speak to Baptists, and proceeded to shew that Baptist principles are being extended, and must ultimately extend and pervade other denominations, until they shall all become either Baptists or Roman Catholics.

We were proposing to take a few notes of the speeches, and had done so up to this point, but the bold, racy, and eloquent utterances of this speaker made us forget pencil and paper, and we found ourselves at the close of his speech without a note. However his remarks will not soon be forgotten. He was glad to find the Baptists of these Provinces in no respects behind those of his own country, and not afraid to preach Christ. He congratulated his brethren in the ministry that they had not here the same errors to meet that appeared in many places in his country. No apology was needed here for introducing Christ into Christianity. He recommended a more liberal use of money in behalf of the truth. It was well, he thought, that he was not rich, or he might do many things which would prevent others reaping the benefit of giving to church objects.

Rev. E. C. Cady was glad to see signs of progress at Acadia, as he believed it was for the honor of God. When a man was called to the work of the ministry it was of no consequence whether he were rich or poor, he need not be without the needed mental training. He would point him to Acadia, and there he believed he would receive what would fit him for a life of usefulness. He did not like the idea of Acadia College belonging to either N. S. or N. B. nor to both combined, as he did not think either province quite as large as Acadia. He ignored all sectional feeling and thought the churches should look at the College as their appropriate work, in providing for the future ministry and higher education generally.

Rev. W. A. Caldwell was glad to have an opportunity of expressing his love for education. He had long been connected with educational affairs. He believed that ministers should have more education than their people, or they would soon be tired of listening to his discourses. God occasionally raises up men for some great occasion, and makes them successful in doing that particular thing, but the ordinary work of the christian ministry needs the appliances of instruction. The men who have been the pioneers in this and other lands, were as miracles attesting to the truth of their teachings. He contended that we should not be satisfied until we had provided educational advantages equal to those of other lands. Whenever young men go abroad for education there was great danger of their returning, if they ever did return, with principles corrupted. He finely illustrated the difference between the demands of former days in the christian ministry and those of the present, and believed that a more christian and sound sentiment was beginning to prevail respecting the remuneration they should receive.

The time of adjournment having arrived, the Report was adopted.

The Governor's Report shewed that forty-three Students had attended the Classes during the year, of whom thirty-eight were present at the final examination, five of the graduating class were candidates for the christian ministry, and were now engaged in important fields of labor.

The Library had received valuable additions during the year, of ninety volumes, by purchase and gift. The Museum had also received several valuable contributions of minerals, apparatus and curiosities.

In addition to these ordinary contents of the Report, it stated that three days previous to the Convention, Professor DeMill had sent in his resignation. The notice had been so sudden and unexpected, that the Governors could only at present assure the Convention that every effort would immediately be made

to secure the services of an adequate successor, so as to keep the College up to its present standard of efficiency.

Rev. S. Robinson introduced a resolution recommending the Governors of the College to extend an invitation to the Rev. Dr. Crawley to take a Professor's chair. In doing so, he referred to the misfortunes of Dr. C. after removing from this province; he having invested all his property in the Columbia mines, which proved worthless, and subsequently removing to South Carolina, where the war had produced such devastation and distress. He (Mr. R.) thought if we could induce Dr. Crawley to return, it would be beneficial to the institution and to himself.

Rev. I. E. Bill seconded the motion, and in doing so referred to his (Dr. C's.) early labors and devotion to the best interests of Acadia College. He believed a cordial welcome would meet him on coming back to this country. With the valuable experience gained, he would doubtless work harmoniously with the present faculty, and become a blessing to the churches and the country.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

On Monday evening, Dr. Cramp presented the Report of the Committee appointed last year respecting Dalhousie College. The report shewed the various steps taken by the committee, before the Legislature and otherwise; and stated that the House of Assembly had voted \$400 a year to each of the denominational colleges,—except the Presbyterians; by way of removing the dissatisfaction which had arisen from the attempt to resuscitate that institution in connection with the Presbyterian bodies.

Several members of the Convention expressed their dissent from the action of the committee, if so be the receipt of \$400 a year was to be considered an equivalent for the nine hundred pounds and upwards per annum, appropriated to Dalhousie College. The early history of Dalhousie was related with much minuteness by the Hon. Judge Johnston. The particulars of the experiment of resuscitation were laid before the Convention by A. Longley, Esq., shewing the difficulty which surrounded the whole question then as well as now.

Much anxiety was felt and expressed by members of the Convention that no decision should be arrived at which would be a source of embarrassment in future, or would compromise the Governors of Acadia College. Eventually the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That the Report of the Committee be adopted; but, that, in adopting the report, this Convention do not accept the Grant of the sum of one hundred pounds per annum, as an equitable and final settlement of the Dalhousie question, but hope that some occasion may arise for a more satisfactory arrangement; and, if the government are not content to pay the said sum annually with this explanation, the Governors of the College be directed to refund the amount already received."

On Tuesday morning the election of six new governors of Acadia College, resulted in the re-election of the retiring ones, together with the Rev. E. C. Cady, in place of the late N. S. DeMill, Esq., of St. John, N. B.

We prefer to reserve the remainder of our report until next week, rather than make such abbreviation as would be required for our present issue.

The *Presbyterian Witness* in a paragraph respecting the Baptist Convention gives a somewhat perverted account of proceedings there. The editor says: "A warm discussion took place on American affairs—the Hon. Judge Johnston opposing successfully a series of resolutions moved by Dr. Cramp expressive of sympathy with United States." The question respecting the resolutions (given in another page) was not brought to an issue. The objection of the Hon. the Judge, was not so much to the resolutions proposed, as to taking up any of the time on other than strictly denominational subjects. The opinion of the body might have been on one side or the other, but Dr. Cramp being unwilling to have any division in the Convention, withdrew the resolutions.

Latest concerning the Atlantic Cable.

The whole particulars respecting the Atlantic Cable have now come to hand. Dr. Russel, the London Times Correspondent, who was on board the *Great Eastern*, gives a graphic account of the occurrence, from which we make the following extracts. It appears that a defect in insulation was found, and supposed to have been caused by a piece of wire said to have been seen by one of the men on the watch, and thought to be six miles away when the paying out was stopped. The cable was being hauled in for the purpose of examination when it broke asunder.

"Respecting the piece of wire, it was remarked, that this fault occurred in the same watch as all the previous ones. As the fault was too serious