

teacher."—*Comments and Regulations* of Council of Public Instruction, p. 51, reg. 5.

2. Whereas it has been represented to the Council of Public Instruction that Trustees of Public Schools have, in certain cases, required pupils, on pain of forfeiting school privileges, to be present during devotional exercises not approved of by their parents; and whereas such proceeding is contrary to the principles of the School Law, the following additional Regulation is made for the direction of Trustees, the better to ensure the carrying out of the spirit of the Law in this behalf:—

ORDERED, That in cases where the parents or guardians of children in actual attendance on any public school (or department) signify in writing to the Trustees their conscientious objections to any portion of such devotional exercises as may be conducted therein under the sanction of the Trustees, such devotional exercises shall either be so modified as not to offend the religious feelings of those so objecting, or shall be held immediately before the time fixed for the opening or after the time fixed for the close of the daily work of the school; and no children, whose parents or guardians signify conscientious objections thereto, shall be required to be present during such devotional exercises.

It is quite right that the matter of devotional exercises should rest with the Parents of the children and the Trustees of Schools, and not be subject to legislative enactment, seeing that the different localities vary so much in their proportion of the different denominations. Our Public Schools should be neither godless nor sectarian. We believe this has been the case, generally, throughout the province, and hope it may continue to characterize the education supplied to young Nova Scotia. The common School principle lies at the foundation of our liberties. Let it be carefully guarded, and preserved in its integrity. Any attempt to deprive it of this character, by introducing into it a foreign element, we are persuaded, would be met by the same resistance it has received on former occasions.

The progress made during the past year in the matter of Education, speaks volumes for the intelligence of the people, as well as the value of the Law. Prejudices against its provisions are giving way and admiration for it is taken their place. The objections which were brought against the School Law some time since have been commonly chargeable to the inequalities of the assessment for the support of Schools. It doubtless bears heavily on many parties, but where it is faithfully applied it is worth all its costs.

We find from the Superintendent's Report that during the past year

"There were 45,131 pupils registered in the Winter Term, and 56,017 in the Summer. This is an increase over last year of 9,980 for the Winter, and 12,246 for the Summer. The number of different pupils at school during the year is estimated at 71,059. This estimate supposes that of the 45,131 pupils at school during the winter, one third, or 15,043 left school to engage in the various industrial occupations during the summer months."

The amount raised by the people, during the year for the support of their schools was \$140,486, while the sum paid out by the province was \$114,844, about 81 cents to the dollar of that raised by the people; a larger proportion than ever before, and nearly double that of any year preceding 1865. The mode by which the appropriations to Teachers were formerly made, was in many cases open to much objection, and often resulted in injustice to the teacher, but the change effected last year in this respect has proved a most salutary one. The *Journal* remarks very correctly:—

"The principle which the law establishes for the distribution of this large fund is an admirable one, and furnishes a most beneficial stimulus to the people of every section to keep their school open as continuously as possible within the prescribed period, and to secure the constant attendance of every child of school age. The Provincial grant being distributed according to the quality and amount of work performed, also co-operates powerfully with the county fund in these respects. Local exertion now determines the actual appropriation of all educational funds in Nova Scotia."

Since the above was in type we have received the Superintendent's Report giving a vast amount of statistical and other information with regard to our Schools. We shall probably refer to this at another time.

POLITICIANS are on the alert and preparing for the coming campaign. As we remarked at the commencement of the present session of Parliament, "the last session of the House is always the most trying to men of honor and integrity." Influences are often brought to bear on the members by schemers outside, seeking to obtain for themselves advantages and promises as an equivalent for support promised at an approaching election. This may not be the case with our present representatives, now in session, but, knowing the course of human nature, we are led to believe that such expedients are resorted to some-

times and think it not impossible that it should be done in our own Legislature.

At the present time there is more inducement for such things than usual. The parliament soon to expire brings to a close an era of colonial history, and the elections shortly to take place will inaugurate a new and untried state of things. It might be supposed that acts of delinquency perpetrated in the present session would not be so sure of being brought up against the perpetrators as heretofore, seeing that the constitution will hereafter be changed. If however any attempt be made to take advantage of these circumstances, the person or party so doing must expect to be branded with political infamy. Men will have to be returned—one for each county, and two for Halifax—to meet on the same platform with representatives of the Canadas and New Brunswick, and there to legislate for the "Dominion." It will therefore be necessary for the electors to be very careful, and choose such men as will do no discredit to them, and be capable of taking enlarged views of government, finance and commerce. Names have been mentioned of those who will be candidates for seats in the House of Commons at Ottawa, but we shall mention only those we have on reliable authority.

Meetings have been held at several places in the country, got up, in some cases, by parties who would like to secure a nomination. These are not sure indications of the prevailing sentiment.

It was the wish of many that the Hon. Provincial Secretary would be one of the representatives of the metropolis of this province in the House of Commons, but on Saturday last a letter was published by him, stating that he would not "desert his native county where he had been so generously sustained since the first hour, that he entered public life." A note from the Hon. Mr. McFarlane appended to it states that although he, (Dr. Tupper), had offered to forego any claim in favor of him, (Mr. McFarlane), yet he had come to the conclusion that in the present important crisis of public affairs, the interests of Cumberland would be better subserved by his (Dr. Tupper's) continuing to represent it. It is consequently uncertain at present who will be the Union candidate for Halifax, Mr. P. S. Hamilton has offered himself to the Electors.

We learn from the *Morning Chronicle* that the following gentlemen will be candidates for legislative honors on the Anti-confederation ticket, and that requisitions to them are in course of signature.

For the Dominion Parliament—Alfred G. Jones and P. Power, Esquires.

For the Nova Scotia Assembly—Henry Balcan, James Cochran, and Jeremiah Northup, Esquires.

The following names have been mentioned as the twelve gentlemen who will probably be honored with seats in the Senate at Ottawa.

- Hon. E. Kenny, President of the Council.
- \*Hon. J. McCully.
- \*Hon. J. H. Anderson.
- \*Hon. T. D. Archibald.
- Hon. R. B. Dickie.
- Hon. J. Holmes.
- Hon. J. W. Ritchie.
- \*John Locke, Esq., M. P. P.
- J. Bourinot, Esq., M. P. P.
- C. Bill, Esq., M. P. P.
- W. Miller, Esq., M. P. P.
- \*B. Wier, Esq.

It will be seen that seven of these gentlemen are from the party who have sustained the present government, and five—those marked with a\*—from those who were in opposition. There appears to have been a faithful adherence to the ground first taken, respecting Union, that it should comprise men from both parties, some of those abovenamed have been not only so, but have expressed themselves hostile to the Union. We presume there will be some modification of their views, and that all who will be sent to form the Confederation Parliament, whether by Her Majesty's command, or by the people, will go unitedly to sustain Nova Scotia's interests, and not to be a divided, powerless part of the Confederation.

We have received the April number, No. 2 of our new periodical from Philadelphia—the Baptist Quarterly. It contains seven capital articles, which with other denominational notices, fill 256 pages Royal octavo. It will be seen by our readers that we have made some use in another column of one of its articles.

Although we noticed this work on the appearance of its first number, yet we deem it well worthy of further attention. The following are some of its high aims:

"To maintain a high standard of Theological, Biblical and Literary culture in the denomination; to foster the scholarly and literary activity of its ministers and other members; to promote an intelligent interest in the history and polity,

the growth and progress of our churches; to state and defend those truths which are our warrant for ecclesiastical separation, and, at the same time, to do its part in the common defence of the Evangelical faith."

The conductors of the work are among the leading names and the more learned and intellectual men of the denomination in the United States, as are the contributors to the present number. We have read with some care two or three of the articles, these bear the stamp of sound practical knowledge, a thorough acquaintance with the subject under discussion, and ample ability to handle it in a clear and scholarlike manner. Should the publication continue to keep up to the promise which its first number affords, it will doubtless amply fulfil the purposes for which it has been commenced. Its type and paper are of the very best description, and we heartily wish it every success. Whoever among us, whether minister or layman, can afford to take the periodical, which will only cost \$3.00 per annum, will, we doubt not, find himself well repaid by the sterling information it will supply.

THE MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, we learn from the *Monthly Record* in the matter of salaries, "have not much reason to complain." But the *Record* adds:—

"We must not forget that much of the satisfactory state of matters in our own case is due to the generosity of the Parent Church. The time has now arrived when we should aim at two things, first, to dispense as far as possible with the aid of the Colonial Committee, so long enjoyed; and second, to avoid the disagreeable state of matters experienced in other churches."

As there are two or three changes in the friends who kindly aid us as Agents in their several localities, we take the liberty of inserting the list on another page. In doing so we would also beg to remind all who have not yet forwarded their subscription, that we shall be glad to receive their several amounts as soon as convenient. We are in great need of the whole.

NEWS SUMMARY.

The sensation makers at Washington recently sought to annex Russian America, but the large sum asked—seven millions of dollars—for mountains of ice and snow, was deemed rather too large a price. Frozen territory with but a very scanty population was not considered of much value, but then it was thought that, if obtained, it would be kept from the English!! This was the argument used to urge on the Washington Senate, but there appears to have been a little more discretion amongst the senators, and the project is abandoned. The *N. Y. Examiner* had some very sensible remarks in reference to this project:—

"It also urged that it is the manifest destiny of the United States to control every portion of the American continent. But if it be our manifest destiny to grow to such large proportions, let the growth be a slow and healthy process, like the gradual upbuilding of an oak that lasts for centuries—rather than like the springing up of mushrooms that only endure for a day. It is one source of our political troubles that, as a nation, we have grown too fast. Our population has increased too rapidly, in proportion to our means of instruction, so that we have to deal with a vast number of naturalized citizens who are entirely ignorant of self-government, and of the true meaning of republican liberty. So, too, our territory has increased so rapidly that vast tracts in the South and West are entirely out of the reach of civil government, and are filling up with a lawless population, to whom the restraints of the Eastern and Middle States are utterly unknown. It surely cannot be good policy for the Government to increase the number of these wild tracts already under our jurisdiction, and which must be placed at once under an expensive system of military supervision. Far better would it be to expend the seven millions of dollars, which the Russian territory would cost, in improvements that should add to the moral and material well-being of the country. When we consider what it will cost to repair the awful ravages of war in the Southern States, the broken levees to be rebuilt, the manufacturing to be restored, and all the hidden resources and industries of the country still to be developed—we cannot think well of the purchase of a barren breadth of territory which the people do not want, and which can be of no use to them."

And yet the sensation-mongers are not content. A telegram received from New York on Friday last says:—

"It is reported from Washington that negotiations are pending for the purchase of British America by the United States."

It is a great pity the telegraph wires should be made use of for such silly messages. One would think that, if this emanates from any of the legislators of the United States, they have but little to do, and are desirous of finding employment. If, however, they would follow out the suggestion of the *Examiner*, they might find enough to attend to at home without troubling themselves about us.

Notices, &c.

Acadia College.

MATRICULATION.—The Examination of Candidates for Matriculation will occupy two days, viz. Thursday and Friday, May 30th and 31st. Candidates are requested to attend in the Library on Thursday morning, May 30th, at nine o'clock.

For the convenience of those who may not be able to attend on the above mentioned days, two other days will be appointed, in the latter end of August, of which due notice will be given.

J. M. CRAMP, President.  
Acadia College, April 19th, 1867.

Digby County Ministerial Conference.

The Baptist Ministerial Conference of Digby County will meet (D. V.) at Sandy Cove, on Wednesday, the 1st of May, at 10 o'clock, A. M. Preaching on the preceding evening. A full attendance is desired.

J. C. MORSE,  
Secretary of Conference.

Acadia Athenaeum.

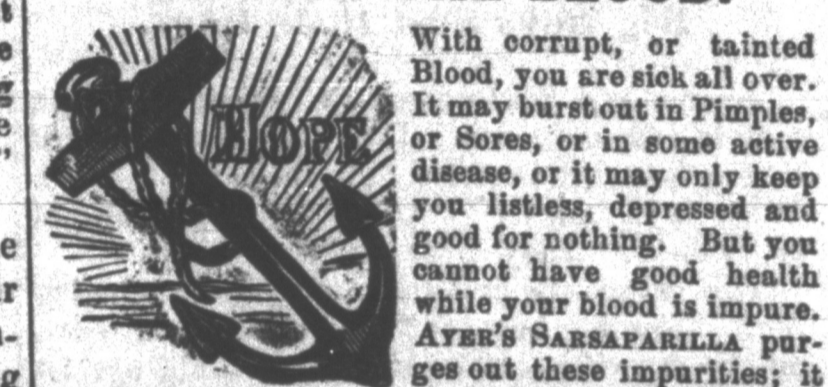
The next lecture before the Athenaeum will be delivered in the vestry of the Baptist Meeting-house, Wolfville, by the Rev. C. B. Pitblado, on Friday evening, April 26th, at 7 o'clock.

J. W. WALLACE, Cor. Sec'y.  
Acadia College, April 15th, 1867.

Letters Received.

W. J. Gates, \$15 69. M. Kinsman, 67cts.—  
Rev. Dr. Tupper, \$5. Chas. McNeill, \$6. Rev. J. C. Morse. Rev. W. H. Richan, \$4. D. H. Jenks, 40cts.

CLEANSE THE BLOOD.



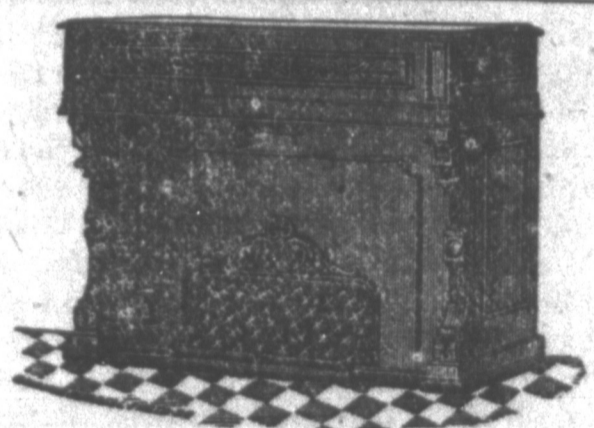
With corrupt, or tainted Blood, you are sick all over. It may burst out in Pimples, or Sores, or in some active disease, or it may only keep you listless, depressed and good for nothing. But you cannot have good health while your blood is impure. AYER'S SASSAPARILLA purges out these impurities; it expels disease and restores health and stimulates the organs of life into vigorous action. Hence it rapidly cures a variety of complaints which are caused by impurity of the blood, such as Scrofula, or King's Evil, Tumors, Ulcers, Sores, Eruptions, Pimples, Blotches, Boils, St. Anthony's Fire, Rose or Erysipelas, Tetter or Salt Rheum, Scald Head, Ring Worm, Cancer or Cancerous Tumors, Sore Eyes, Female Diseases, such as Retention, Irregularity, Suppression, Whites, Sterility, also Syphilis or Venereal Diseases, Liver Complaints and Heart Diseases. Try AYER'S SASSAPARILLA, and see for yourself the surprising activity with which it cleanses the blood and cures these disorders.

During late years the public have been misled by large bottles, pretending to give a quart of Extract of Sarsaparilla for one dollar. Most of these have been frauds upon the sick, for they not only contain little, if any, Sarsaparilla, but often no curative ingredient whatever. Hence, bitter disappointment has followed the use of the various extracts of Sarsaparilla which flood the market, until the name itself has become synonymous with imposition and cheat. Still we call this compound, "Sarsaparilla," and intend to supply such a remedy as shall rescue the name from the load of obloquy which rests upon it. We think we have ground for believing it has virtues which are irresistible by the class of diseases it is intended to cure. We can assure the sick, that we offer them the best alternative we know how to produce, and we have reason to believe, it is by far the most effectual purifier of the blood yet discovered.

AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL is so universally known to surpass every other medicine for the cure of Coughs, Colds, Influenza, Hoarseness, Croup, Bronchitis, Inipient Consumption, and for the relief of Consumptive Patients in advanced stages of the disease, that it is useless here to recount the evidence of its virtues. The world knows them.

Prepared by DR. J. C. AYER & Co., Lowell, Mass., and sold by all Druggists and dealers in medicine everywhere.

AYER, BROWN & Co., General Agents for Nova Scotia.  
April 10. 2m. insa.



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Several of THE MOST IMPORTANT IMPROVEMENTS, which have been effected in this class of instruments, are Exclusively Controlled by Mason and Hamlin and have originated in the factory of, and are patented by Mason & Hamlin.

ENGLISH AMERICAN HOTEL, SHELBURNE.

NOTICE is hereby given to the traveling public, that the subscriber has opened the above named Hotel, nearly opposite Mr. Cornelius White's, in the Town of Shelburne.

Every accommodation and attention will be given to travellers or permanent boarders, on Temperance Principles. Good stabling is also provided for horses.

March 8th, 1867.  
March 27.

SAMUEL HARLOW.  
1m.