

moral restraints of Buddhism are not weakened until a higher Teacher can take the place of Gautama, succeeding generations will see a reformation of opinion and life such as state education in India cannot produce.

For the Christian Messenger.

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

FROM THE BAPTIST CHURCH AT GREAT VILLAGE, LONDONDERRY. TO THE REV. JAMES E. BALCOM.

DEAR BROTHER.—Having at your own request accepted your resignation of the Pastorate of this Church, we esteem it a privilege as well as a duty, to tender you some token of our attachment and of the high esteem in which you and your companion have been and are still held by us.

During the six years and eight months which you have laboured with us in the Gospel we believe you have had the hearts and sympathies of your brethren and sisters with you, and now assure you that we very reluctantly consent to part with your valued services. It has been with pleasure and much profit we have sat beneath your ministrations, and when we view our connexion both in its social and religious phases we are constrained to say it has been most happy and pleasing.

We feel that we are about to sustain a loss, and sorrow fills our hearts. We sorrow that we are so soon to be deprived of the society of yourself and kind partner, that we are to be left without one to break to us the bread of life. But we sorrow not without hope, believing that God will overrule for the best interest of his own cause and for the promotion of his own glory, what is our loss.

You have laboured most faithfully both in and out of the pulpit for the advancement of the cause of God in this place, and have been instrumental of much good; this Church having more than doubled its membership during your pastorate. In conclusion we would crave the best gifts of Heaven for yourself and family. May you and Mrs. Balcom be long spared to each other and to the Church of Jesus Christ.

Signed in behalf of the Baptist Church at Great Village.

H. C. UPHAM, T. B. LAYTON, AMOS FOUNTAIN. } Committee.

REPLY.

Beloved Brethren and Sisters,—I am deeply affected by your affectionate address.—Had I felt it to be my duty to continue longer with you, I should not have resigned the pastoral charge of the Church, but as a separation has taken place, it is pleasing to know that the termination of our connexion, as pastor and people, has arisen, not from dissatisfaction on either side, but a sense of duty on my part—

a tender regard for you all, and know that in leaving you I am leaving kind, sympathizing friends. I shall often think of you and the happy seasons we have spent together in worshipping God. May heaven's choicest blessings ever be enjoyed by you, and when life's pilgrimage shall have ended, may we all, sanctified through the atonement of Jesus, enter into "the rest that remains for the people of God."

Permit me in behalf of Mrs. Balcom to tender her warmest thanks for the constant kindness you have manifested towards her. She fully appreciates it and unites with me in these sentiments of tender regard.

J. E. BALCOM.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, AUGUST 21, 1867.

The circumstance of the Baptist Convention having its Sessions largely occupied in devising measures for promoting the well-being of Acadia College, and in providing for sending the gospel into Foreign Lands gives it somewhat more of a pecuniary character than the Associational gatherings, and therefore less connected with the promotion of religion directly in the churches from which the delegates come.

We would not for a moment intimate that there is not sincere earnest prayer on behalf of the objects brought forward for consideration. But we think the feeling should prevail more generally, that it is the work of Christ, and whatever is done is likely to benefit the churches, only as it is done in a prayerful, unselfish, trusting spirit.

Much should be said upon the paucity of men preparing for an entrance on the work of the Christian ministry. From this gathering there should go forth such a voice as would awaken in the hearts of suitable persons a resolute determination to give themselves to the great work of publishing the gospel of peace and of making Christ known everywhere.

This is, we believe, no ordinary crisis in our history, and, if our brethren could but realize the commanding position they at present occupy in the church and the world, they would allow no considerations to deprive them of the honors already put upon them, and others, still greater, hold out to them in this department of christian labor.

A Picture.

Much of error is often taught by pictures. Some are so imperfect that they fail to give correct ideas of what their authors intend to shew by them. Others are more truthful in their delineations. It is not now as formerly that glaring errors appear in the perspective, and incongruities mar the design of the artist.

The greatest incongruities are to be seen in what profess to be historical pictures. The artist commonly puts his own fancies into the design, and not unfrequently, either from ignorance or superstition, the most ridiculous blunders are the result. Error is thereby taught, and it is afterwards very difficult for those whose minds are not well informed to get rid of the erroneous notion. One of these errors is that of the ring of glory, and rays of light, often seen surrounding the head of what pretend to be likenesses of our Saviour—an artist's fancy, without a particle of fact on which to rest.

It is, however, a long time since we saw a picture which passed so far over the line which divides the sublime from the ridiculous as one in Dr. Guthrie's Sunday Magazine for the present month. It pretends to illustrate the baptism of the eunuch, as described in Acts viii. 38. The position of the Eunuch standing in about six inches of water, mincingly lifting his short tunic—for what earthly reason does not appear—is ridiculous in the extreme.

As a work of art the picture is below par. As a picture it is poor, but as an illustration of scripture it is far poorer.

The University of Chicago.

The great West is not only great in the vastness of its extensive prairies and its supplies of the staff of life, but its people take an enlarged view of the wants present, and future, of its rapidly growing population. The Baptists have not been behind in this preparatory work. The University is an institution of which the people of Chicago may be justly proud.

In 1855, several of the Baptist leaders were drawn together in conference upon the needs of the Northwest in the matter of higher education, and made up their minds that the necessity must be met, and a seat of learning founded adequate to meet it. Providence favored them at once. They chose for a site the very ground upon which the University now stands—a spot which cannot be excelled in the country for beauty or convenience of situation.

The charter requires that the President of the University and a majority of the Board of Trustees shall be Baptists. The Law Department include in its Faculty, Commercial Law, Personal Property, Equity, Jurisprudence, Evidence, etc. There is no better law-school in the West.

The Edifice is an attractive and imposing structure, and may be seen from afar out on prairie or lake. It is built of Illinois marble, is of a composite style of architecture, in which the Norman predominates, and reflects very creditably upon its architect, W. W. Boyington, Esq. of Chicago.

The present value of the University property is about \$300,000, and will, to all appearances, soon reach a half million of dollars.

The Hon. W. B. Ogden, has subscribed \$50,000 on condition that \$100,000 are raised besides. The President of the University is now endeavoring to make good that generous subscription. He is getting on well with his work. About \$40,000 have been subscribed, and it is probable that half the amount necessary will be secured by the time this is printed.

THE ELECTIONS.—The Writs were issued on Wednesday the 7th, and are returnable on the 24th of September. The following is the Proclamation:

CANADA.—MONCK, L. S., Victoria by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, defender of the Faith &c., &c., &c.

Whereas we are desirous and resolved as soon as may be, to meet our people of our Dominion of Canada and to have their advice in Parliament We do make known our royal will and pleasure to call a Parliament, and do further declare, that by the advice of our Privy Council for Canada, we have this day given orders for issuing our Writs in due form calling a Parliament in our said Dominion, which Writs are to bear date on the seventh day of August instant, and to be returnable on the 24th day of September next, except, however, the Writs for the electoral district of Gaspe and for the electoral district

of Chicoutimi and Saguenay, which Writs will be returnable on the twenty-fourth day of October next.

In testimony whereof, we have caused these our letters to be made patent, and the great seal of Canada to be hereunto affixed.

Witness our right trusty and well beloved cousin, the Right Hon. Charles Stanley Viscount Monck, Baron Monk of Ballystramon, in the county of Wexford, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Governor General of Canada, &c., &c., &c.

At our Government house, in our city of Ottawa in our said Dominion, this sixth day of August in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty Seven, and in the 31st year of our reign.

By Command. EDWARD J. LANGEVIN, Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, Canada.

His Excellency has appointed Wednesday the 11th of September, for the Nomination of Candidates, and the 18th for the Polling to take place. The elections for the General Parliament and for the Local Legislature, will be at the same time,—the poll-books to be kept distinct.

It is now definitely known when the Elections are to take place, and of course politicians will be using all their energies, up to the time of going to the polls, to improve the position of their own party and to damage that of their opponents. It is well for christian men to set a special guard upon themselves at such times. We do not believe in christians being indifferent about who shall be placed in offices of authority and trust. Let there, however, be no dishonorable means used on behalf of their party. Men sometimes forget that what they do at election times will be remembered long after those times have passed away. This is perhaps the lowest view to take, and one of the meanest motives which can be presented, for a course of strict integrity in carrying on the work of putting in "the best men." A triumph obtained at the expense of principle and character, we regard as worse than a defeat. More harm is often done to the moral character of a community during a week of a contested election, than can be overcome by a year's labor. Even in a temperance aspect election times are often the ruin of many young men and the turning point of their downward course. Let there be measures put in operation for preventing such sad consequences without delay, in every community; and then, whichever party prevails, there will be no unavailing regrets to be indulged when it is too late.

NEW IDEAS IN HOUSEKEEPING.—It may be questioned if housekeeping has yet arrived at the highest point of development. In large cities there are good opportunities for experimenting for the purpose of ascertaining whether some new ideas may not be developed for the purpose of securing the comforts of home, without having them so frequently interfered with by the freaks and changes of domestics. The experiment has been tried by builders in Boston, and we believe with complete success. One of our exchanges supplies the following on the subject from New York:

One of the living problems in New York, and in fact in every populous city, is how to maintain the independence and necessary isolation of household life, yet to be rid of the troubles, annoyances, and nameless vexations of servant and kitchens. The matter has been studied with care in all its aspects, and it is now becoming a pretty general conviction that houses on the Parisian plan come as near to satisfying the prevailing wants as any that can be devised. And capitalists have completed their preparations to build, as soon as there is the least chance of a fall from the present prices of materials and labor. The buildings projected are to be on a large scale, to cover several lots of land in unexceptionable localities, of an imposing architectural impression and still showing that they are truly domestic and of a home-like character.

As they are to be divided, they will give a full suite of rooms, from five to ten in each, to every family occupying the building, each suite entirely independent of and detached from the other, and having a frontage on a spacious staircase. A restaurant is to take up the whole of the street floor, leaving of course rooms enough of a public character to supply the needs recognized in a hotel. This private housekeeping and hotel life would be agreeably combined. That has long been the desideratum. A family's meal may be taken in the restaurant, or served to them in their rooms; and thus all the troubles and annoyances of overlooking and taking part in kitchen work are as far as possible avoided. There is nothing in a plan like this to hinder a family from living as elegantly under it as if it occupied the entire block which will erect so impressive a front for the public admiration. Since something of the sort is so much needed, we hope the present plan may prove a complete success.

When will some enterprising builder be found to make a similar attempt in Halifax? It would doubtless be a good investment of capital.