

happy solution of this difficulty about dates, and in future we would suggest that 1809 be given as the "date of organization" of both of the said churches.

It is not at all an unusual thing for such changes to be made, when fresh light is thrown on the page of history; for instance, Halifax City kept its Anniversary for over a hundred years, on a certain date, but afterwards it was found that it should have been another day, on which day it has since been observed.

"THINKER."—BAD THEOLOGY.

Dear Brother.—I feel grieved that such a paper as that in your last week the signature "Thinker" should have appeared in your paper, and more especially as from "Acadia College." Will the writer, if he be sincere, just try to reconcile his theory with Genesis 1st, or Revelation 22nd, or any other chapter in the Bible—say Psalm 91st, 107th, or Acts 7th. Does he soberly think that the great Creator has so bound up his own hands that he cannot do as he likes? Can he imagine that Infinite Power cannot change the course of a cloud, or turn about the wind as easily as a pilot can turn about a ship or an engineer reverse his engine? Pray what law has to be violated in doing either of these things! And pray how far "away up the mountain" did his "good man" live in a "drought" while his neighbours' fields "down below" were "deluged with rain," so as to make it impossible for Him with whom all things are possible, to bring a cloud and a shower in answer to prayer over the parched field up there without doing "injustice"!!! to his neighbor in the valley? The writer in his "learned nonsense" has not quoted a single passage of Scripture. Does he ever read the book? does he ever pray? If he does, let me exhort him to consider carefully and prayerfully Colossians 2: 8. "Beware lest any spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit &c," and may he learn to "cast all his care on Him who careth for him," without whom "not a sparrow falls to the ground" and who counts all the hairs of his children's heads.

Yours truly,

BELIEVER.

Perhaps "Thinker's" article should not have been dated from "Acadia College," seeing that by so doing he might to some extent involve others who are residing there more or less permanently.

We regarded the circumstance of our correspondent having adopted such a signature as an indication that he was feeling after the truth; and we were supposing it probable that some kind Aquilla or Priscilla, or perhaps one more intimately acquainted with the Apostle Paul and his writings, would "expound unto him the way of God more perfectly;" and shew him as that Apostle did the Mars' hill people, "That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him and find him, though he be not far from every one of us; for in Him we live and more and have our being."

AUSTRALIA.

By the last mail we received a letter from Rev. A. F. Porter—an extract of two will be interesting to his friends. It is dated TARNAQUILLA, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA, August 19th, 1869.

"I seem to converse with you once a month, through the Christian Messenger, which is now the most welcome visitor I entertain. I should be lonely enough at times without it. I am sorry it does not come to me direct, but if you got my last letter it should very soon. It now comes to Melbourne, then to Wellington, then to Wanganui, where it is eagerly read, then it goes back to Wellington, to Melbourne, then finds its way to me. So it is quite old and worn before I see it.

I am sure you would be amused to visit these parts to see miles of country all dug over, and heaped up in all shapes with ugly holes from 6 to 60 feet deep, where gold hunters have sunk for the precious metal. Many of them in vain. This town has been all dug over, and the alluvial washings are nearly used up, and now they are mostly deep sinkings for quartz, which is beginning to pay pretty well. These give more stability to a place than superficial works, and they do not run out. Just now there is a tremendous "rush" to a place called Berlin, about 12 miles from here, where they find large "nuggets" in the earth of pure gold, from 1/2 oz. to 40 lbs. weight. The place is fast becoming a city of Calico tents. It has been discovered but a few weeks and already there are 2,000 people on the ground, and hundreds are being added daily. Many of our people have gone to try their fortunes there, and consequently this place is very dull at present, but this state of things will not long continue. During the last four months our prosperity as a church has steadily advanced. We have in this time increased from 30 to 65 members, and we hope the good work has but fairly commenced. The Baptist cause is comparatively feeble in these Colonies. They do not increase rapidly except in a few instances where they fearlessly exhibit the distinguishing features of our peculiar tenets; then the Lord smiles upon them. Dr. Cramp's name is much honored here. His "Baptist History" sells fast at 8s. sterling. There are some flourishing Baptist churches in and around Melbourne.

A great sensational preacher has recently come from England, Rev. Mr. Clark, he has taken Mr. New's place, who is superannuated. Thousands flock to listen to his great eloquence. It is to be hoped he will do good service to our cause there, in Albert St. Church. The second in Melbourne.

We find by our N. B. contemporary that it is proposed to hold a Week of Prayer in St. John, commencing on Sunday next. The following is the published programme:

Monday, Dec. 6.—For the Church of Rome and all estates of men therein—lay and clerical—that they may be blessed with true saving grace, delivered from all human error, and endowed with full knowledge of Scripture Truth: For the persecuted and oppressed, the troubled and doubting therein.

Tuesday, Dec. 7.—For the Reformation in Spain, France, Belgium, Italy, Austria, and other traditional centres of Romish influence, by the abundant outpouring of the Spirit, and the conversion of souls to the true knowledge of the Saviour.

Wednesday, Dec. 8.—The Protestant Countries: That they may be delivered from ritualism, rationalism, and other erroneous systems, and for the removal of all sins tending to hinder our testimony to the Gospel.

Thursday, Dec. 9.—For ancient churches: The Greek, Armenian, Nestorian, Syrian, Coptic, and Ethiopic, and the Jews; for the attainment of deeper knowledge of the Word of God.

Friday, Dec. 10.—For Missions; the conversion of the heathen and Mohammedans, and for the downfall of Antichrist; for the increase of meekness, self sacrifice, union, faith, and active labors of love and evangelization.

Saturday, Dec. 11.—For ourselves, our Province, and City and Churches therein, for the supply to us in more abundant measure than heretofore of that grace of the Spirit, which combines zeal for the salvation of souls with gentleness to all that err.

The meetings are to be held at 12, noon, for one hour each day, in the Wesleyan Church, Germain street. A collection will be taken at the doors to defray expenses, and the balance, if any, will be paid into the funds of the New Brunswick Auxiliary Bible Society.

The following gentlemen were appointed to act as chairmen, viz: Messrs. Reynolds, McMillan, Welsh, Dr. Botsford, A. McL. Seely, and Prichard. Each day's meeting is to be addressed by one of the following ministers upon the special subject of the day. Rev. Messrs. Dr. Donald, G. M. Armstrong, Stewart, Dodd, Harley, Baylis, and Houston.

No arrangement has been made in the Halifax Churches for meetings of a formal character, but the subject has been so publicly noticed that it has obtained consideration more or less among all denominations, and in all probability it will be brought before the several churches in their social gatherings.

A powerful sermon was preached by the Rev. E. M. Saunders, in Granville Street Church, on Sunday last, on the "the Signs of the Times," in which he alluded to the general agitation in all lands on religious matters, and the conflict which the truth is engaging. He regarded the aspect of the world as full of encouragement to labor and pray for the coming of Christ's Kingdom.

MASONRY.—The following editorial article from a recent number of the Montreal Witness, a Congregationalist paper, we have had placed in our hands, with a request for its publication:

HOW ELDER COLVER CAME TO OPPOSE THE MASONS.—This venerable gentleman, whose name, as an earnest consistent Christian minister, stands as high as that of any man on this continent, was, in the younger days of his ministry, a zealous mason, as were nearly all the men of mark in York State. At the time of the Morgan excitement his best deacon, an earnest Christian worker, came to him one day and told him that Morgan had divulged their secrets, but that he had met with his deserts. "You don't mean to say that he has been murdered?" said the elder. "He has been put to death, as he deserved, for violating his oath," replied the deacon. This staggered the young minister not a little, and he accompanied the deacon out into the street. They had not gone far when some acquaintance said, sneeringly, to the deacon that Morgan had revealed their secrets. "It's a lie," said the deacon; and this finished Colver's masonry. The fact that his best deacon justified murder, and unhesitatingly called that a lie, to an outsider, which he had just acknowledged to himself to be true, showed him that a system which produced such fruits was not for him, and from that time forth he became an earnest opponent of Masonry. He was further stimulated to this course, by seeing that the sheriffs, magistrates, constables, &c., all of whom were masons, persecuted, in the most shameful manner the Baptist ministers, who were at that time among the chief opponents of masonry. For instance, venerable men of the highest respectability were frequently hauled up for horse-stealing and other offences, of which they were as innocent as the Judges on the Bench. These statements were made by Elder Colver himself to a gentleman of Montreal, and though they have reference to a past generation, they yet show clearly what a dangerous element in the community and in the church such a secret society is.

Having copied Mr. L. Auger's letter from the Canadian Baptist, we feel under obligation also to copy the following from the same source:—

THE KANKAKEE FAMINE.

We, the undersigned, Elders and Deacons of the 1st Presbyterian Church of St. Anne, declare that we have taken notice of an article written by Mr. L. Auger and published in the Aurora, of October 8th, and in the Canadian Baptist, dated October 14, 1869.

And we further declare that the statement of Mr. Auger is opposed to truth and filled with perfidious and false details, which cannot but harm, to a great extent, our poor families, who are without bread and clothes for the long coming winter:—

Moise Morin, Moise Langellier, Fabien Langueudoc, Francois Pirois, Silvestre Fancher, Augustin Freijeau, Pierre Drolet, Louis Mercier, Augustin Fancher, Athanase Bétououray.

KANKAKEE CO.

St Anne, Nov. 1st, 1869.

A FACT, WELL PUT.—We copy the following from a contemporary. It is from an Associational Report on Denominational Literature.—

"No family should be without one or more religious periodicals. In this age of light and action we can find no excuse for a Baptist family living without a medium of religious intelligence. This is as indispensable to the moral health and successful enterprise of a religious denomination, as bread and corn is to the comfortable support of a family."

The British American Book and Tract Society have got out an edition of BUNYAN'S PILGRIMS PROGRESS, 18 mo. 192 pages. Price 25 cents; by mail 31 cents. This, we believe, is the first of their publishing—a good beginning. We hope they may be induced to bring forth other equally valuable books in a cheap popular form.

We have received from the London publisher, a specimen number of a new edition of DR. CRAMP'S "BAPTIST HISTORY, from the foundation of the Christian Church to the Present Time." It is to be illustrated by above fifty first-class engravings. It is to be brought out and completed in twelve Monthly Parts. It is thus securing a very large number of readers in Great Britain. It is highly spoken of by the various periodicals and reviews. The British Quarterly says of it, "Chapters devoted to historical and biographical notices are full of interest; for the sake of these we would recommend our readers to look into the book."

Notices, &c.

DAY OF HUMILIATION AND THANKSGIVING.

Special Union Meetings will be held, tomorrow, Thursday, in the Baptist Churches in Halifax. In the morning, at 11 o'clock, at the North Church, Gottingen Street, and in the evening at 8 past 7 in Granville Street Church.

We regret to learn that we shall not have the pleasure of the Rev. A. R. R. Crawley's presence on these occasions, as was anticipated, as he has found it necessary to delay his departure from Nova Scotia for a week or two.

JUBILEE SERVICES AT WINDSOR.

The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Baptist Church at Windsor will be celebrated on Lord's Day next, by appropriate Services. Ministering brethren who can make it convenient to attend are respectfully invited to be present on the occasion.

Acadia Athenaeum.

The next lecture before the Acadia Athenaeum will be delivered by the Rev. J. Hogg, in the Vestry of the Baptist Meeting house, Wolfville, on the evening of Friday, Dec. 10th. Doors open at 7 o'clock. Subject—"Jerusalem"

L. B. OAKES, Cor. Sec'y.

Acadia College, Nov. 27th.

Some of our friends who are in arrears appear to think that we were not in earnest in making our late appeal for payment of amounts due, as they have not yet sent on either the cash or any explanation. If they have any doubts we would entreat them to dismiss them at once. We are most anxious to get all arrears paid before the close of the year, and shall be much obliged if parties owing will send on as early as possible.

Ministers' Institute.

The first regular meeting of the Nova Scotia Ministers' Institute in connection with the Baptist Denomination, will be held at Wolfville, during the month of December, prox.

There will be preaching in the Baptist Meeting house on Monday, Dec. 20th, at 7 P. M.

During Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and the forenoon of Friday, Dec. 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and 24th, Lectures will be delivered on the following subjects:

1. Introductory, Rev. A. W. Sawyer, D. D.
2. Methods of preaching, Two Lectures, Rev. E. A. Crawley, D. D.

3. Church Development, Two Lectures, Rev. J. M. Cramp, D. D.
4. Uses of the Old Testament, Rev. C. Tupper, D. D.
5. Doctrinal Preaching, (Rev. Geo. Armstrong, A. M.
6. Campbellism, Rev. D. Freeman, A. M.
7. Pastoral Visitation, Rev. E. F. Poshav.
8. Skeptical tendencies of the present age and the way to meet them, Rev. T. A. Higgins, A. M.

Ministers wishing to attend will please communicate early with the subscriber, in order that provision may be made for their entertainment during the session.

The N. S. Railway Department will grant free Return Tickets to all Ministers. The Manager of the W. & A. Railway has kindly consented to afford the like privilege to ministers attending this meeting. They can apply at any of the stations.

S. W. DEBLOIS, Sec'y. pro tem.  
Wolfville, Nov. 18th, 1869.

St. Margaret's Bay.

A Tea Meeting will be held at Ingram River, on Wednesday, the 16th of Dec., under the auspices of Ingram Division. Proceeds to be appropriated to finishing the new Temperance Hall.

Doors open at six o'clock.  
Tickets 37½ cents.  
P. S.—Should the weather prove unfavorable, the first fine day after.

J. WEBBER, Sec. of Committee.

Cape Breton Quarterly Meeting.

The next C. B. Quarterly Conference will meet in the Baptist Meeting house in Mabou, on Saturday, the 11th of December next, at 2 o'clock, P. M. A great blessing is needed. Brethren, pray for the presence of Christ with us.

By order of Conference,  
J. F. KEMPTON.

Margaret, Nov. 8th, 1869.

Alumni of Acadia College.

A Special General Meeting of the "Associated Alumni of Acadia College" will be held (D. V.) in the vestry of the Baptist Church, Wolfville, on Monday, the 20th day of December next, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

Certain proposed changes in the Constitution, and the propriety of altering the time for holding the Annual General Meeting of the Association, will be considered. A large attendance is desirable.

EDWIN D. KING,

Sec'y. Acad. Alumni Acadia College.  
Halifax, Nov. 20th, 1869.

WANTED, 500 NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

We believe there are hundreds of Christian families in the province who only require a suggestion from some one of our present subscribers to induce them to become good reliable subscribers to the Christian Messenger. Reader, have the kindness to try.

As an extra inducement we propose to send the paper to New Subscribers, from the date of securing their name up to the end of 1870, for the advance payment for one year. We will also send a copy of the new "SELECTION OF HYMNS," postage paid, to the person who sends us, we shall demand the payment for such new Subscriber.

To any person who will engage heartily in getting New Subscribers, we propose to allow them six for the price of five: That is for every six new Subscribers, in advance, they may send us, we shall demand the payment for only five,—Ten Dollars.

Let the address be given very distinctly.

Letters Received.

Rev. E. N. Archibald, \$5. Rev. J. E. Balcom. Rev. A. F. Porter. S. D. Bayers. J. Lewis, \$5. Rev. Dr. Tupper, \$5.—We send no parcel addressed "Allison's W. O." S. Smith. J. Ehler, 3rd. \$4. Rev. S. B. Kempton. Rev. J. F. Tooker. E. M. Chesley. D. P. Morgan. Rev. R. D. Porter.

IMPORTANT.

YARMOUTH, Sept. 29th, 1869.

DR. J. D. DAVIS,—

Dear Sir,—A sense of duty, and not the desire of notoriety, impels me to make public the following statement of fact:—

Two years ago I had all the symptoms of Consumption in its advanced stages,—racking coughs, shortness of breath, pain in the lungs, back and shoulders, loss of appetite, and great weakness, being able to sit up only a part of the time. A year ago last winter, I applied to Dr. J. D. Davis, and have been under his treatment the most of the time since. Contrary to the expectations of my friends, I have recovered my health, as those who know me can testify, and do most cheerfully recommend to consumptives a fair trial of Dr. Davis' new treatment of a disease which is one of the most terrible scourges of the human race.

MRS. WILLIAM ALLEN.

I the subscriber do hereby certify that Mrs. Allen is a near neighbor to me, that the statement made by her in the above, I know to be strictly true.

A. C. WHITE.

UPPER PORT LATOUB, Sept. 22, 1869.

DR. JOSEPH D. DAVIS,—

Dear Sir,—I take great pleasure in informing you that under your treatment I have received much benefit. In the winter of 1867, when I commenced taking your medicine, I had a bad cough, severe pain in my shoulder, and feared that consumption had claimed me for its victim. I took your medicine for about a year regularly, and since occasionally, and do not hesitate to say that my health is better now than it has been for the last ten years, and consider it is owing to your treatment and the blessing of God alone that I am alive to-day, and able to look after my family as usual. Hoping that all who are suffering from lung affections will not fail to try your medicine.

I remain, Dear Sir,

Yours Respectfully,

ELEANOR J. PATTERSON.

Oct. 14, 1869.