ing came.

one to hundreds of our churches, pendent. which have long been languishing in spiritual drought. If we want spiritual blessings, we must dig the trenches to receive them.

The first trench that ought to be opened in some churches is a deep. broad channel of mutual confidence and | for the day of decision. The subject brotherly love. When Christians grow of Education is especially dear to them cold and neglectful of their own duties, just now, particularly University Eduthey grow censorious toward each cation. The state of the country is other. As love declines, the critical suddenly found to be quite deplorable temper increases. All along the eaves | and efforts are to be made at once to of a cold church hang the sharp, icicles bring about a more favorable condihis share; his most honest efforts are the most censured. The officers of the church are blamed roundly, and those who happen to be unpopular are made the luckless scapegoats on which to load the failures of the church. Each blames the others; but no one goes down in the dust of contrition and blames himself. Sometimes this censoriousness is born of the very impatience at the want of success. Sometimes good men and women, vexed that things do not go better, fall to hitting right and left their fellow-members, their officers, the pastor getting a blackened eye among the rest. It and takes to battering his comrades with the butt of his rifle. Whereas his own example, in just standing firm and taking sure aim at the foe, would do more to restore the battle than all his disorderly assaults on his fellow-soldiers. The charity that "thinketh no the minds of the people." evil," and is "not easily provoked," and that "seeketh not her own," (way) is the first grace to be exercised in many a cold, discordant, fault finding church. How can Christians expect the outside world to put confidence in them when they put so little confidence in each other? The first duty in such a church is to run a deep, broad trench of cordial charity and brotherly love right through the whole congregation. This trench must be dug by every one before his own door.

Another trench to be opened speedily is earnest, penitential prayer. This is God's appointed "channel to means is not clear; but if the intenconvey the blessing He designs to tion is to say that, if it had not been give." I sometimes think that there are no equal number of utterances by | College, we should probably hear reputable people in which so many falsehoods are told as in public prayers. Loving words are often spoken by people whose hearts rankle with mean spites and malicious grudges. Sins are glibly confessed in prayer which if anybody else should charge upon the face with wrath. Words of solemn self-consecration are fluently uttered by persons who are living to themselves, and not to Jesus Christ Such prayers are a mockery. They cut no channels for God's blessings. But genuine prayer-born of contrition and soul-thirst, poured out with faith and up to the Throne of Infinite Love. Such prayer always brings a revival; nay, it is itself a revival. A third work of preparation for the

Divine blessing is equally indispensable. It is personal repentance of sin. Not of other people's sins, but of our own. The best draining of a farmer's field is sub-soil drainage. In our This statement in regard to the obchurches we need a sub-soil repent- ject of Acadia College is quite incorance. It must cut deep. It must cut rect. That College is an institution up sin by the root. If the plough- for literary and scientific culture apart melon-patches of our self-indulgence, writer who affirms the contrary, shows salvation.

that are needed-such as hard work It is enough to say that the Baptists and liberality in giving for Christ. will be satisfied with impartial dealing. The wider we cut these channels the broader and the fuller will be the stream of God's blessings. Thus saith leges and begin anew with a scheme the Lord to his people, " Make your for a Provincial University, the Bapvalley full of trenches." We may "see no wind nor rain." We may hear no sounds of violent excitement. But silently and steadily the tides of spirit-As the tides rise from the ocean over. keels of grounded vessels, so shall these the Lord."

looking under it. It is a suggestive If you want water, dig for it !- Inde-

For the Christian Messenger.

OUR COLLEGES.

The politicians are at work preparing of criticism and censoriousness. Then tion of things. Here is a specimen everybody suffers. The pastor catches of the recent utterances on this important subject:

"The attitude of the Nova Scotia Gov. ernment to Colleges has been rather an extraordinary one all along, though it was perhaps forced on it by circumstances, and there are now symptoms that it is attract ing their attention and that reform may soon te looked for. The Province has now a complete system of unsectarian schools. and a fair provision for Academies outside of Halifax. The cost is enormous, but the people do not seem to grudge it. Any at fatal to a politician. But with the base laid so broad and deep, and with the second story not so very inadequate to the plan of the first, what kind of a top story have they? Only an apology for such in is as if a rifleman on the battle-field, the shape of four or five ecclesiastical doveby the Province to establish a University. of Dalhousic by a few zealous friends of unsectarian education, the very idea of a college where all the best intellect of the Province could be trained in Arts and Sciences would probably have died out of

This is a very remarkable paragraph. In the first place our " complete system of unsectarian education, in the opinion of many competent judges, needs careful revision at many important points; and the system of county academies is likely to prove a delusion. The first story of the writer's ideal structure is by no means as substantial and complete as could be desired, the second scarcely shows signs plan, and surely there is no need of baste in putting on a "top story." What the last sentence of the extract for the reorganization of Dalhousie nothing now of a Provincial University, this is probably correct.

Here is another extract from the same article:

"At the village of Wolfville there is is to train up Baptist ministers. It is speaker, he would grow red in the owned by the Baptists, and governed by them. Its professors and students are all Baptists, though there may be a rara avis of another color among them. No one can object to this, but a public spirited educationist cannot help objecting to he Government giving £350 to such an Institution, and then lancying that it should do no. more for college education. And the wonder is all the greater when we learn that wrestling importunity-breaks its way | those who clamour for this "suparate college" grant, are fiercely opposed to one penny being given to Roman Catholic separate schools for little children who surely need dogmatic religious instruction much more than young men between 18 and 25 years of age, who are studying sp cial sciences and investigating principles We have, however, heard before of men straining at a gnat, and swallowing a saw mill."

share run through the flower beds and from any professional training. Any so much the better. The trench that that he does not understand his subdrains off our sins will be a channel ject. There seem to be some covert for the sweet, life-giving waters of political and personal allusions in the last part of the paragraph, which for We might mention other trenches | the sake of peace, we omit to notice If the Government wish to withdraw appropriations from all the existing Coltists will be disposed to offer as little opposition as any other part of the community. We are able to take charge of our own College and manual influence will flow into our souls. age our part in a provincial institution after year, and hurrying us on from besides. But let no Government sup- infancy to youth, from youth to mature bare and slimy ground, and lift up the pose that the people will support them in concentrating all the funds that tude and dissolution. Every succeedblessings of the Holy Spirit flow into may be given for higher education, on our churches. Not by might, not by Dalhousie. That College is not Pro- on communities, and on the world. A human power, but "by my Spirit, saith vincial in its organization or govern- reflecting mind cannot look on these ment. If the present Government of passing events without the enquiry Brethren, this plain-spoken article the Province, or the men who hope to being started, What is to be the end? may reach scores of churches who are succeed them, really intend to move To what are we all tending? The

blessings, or they will never come. trolling them, sell the incommodious the boundless realms of space, under ropes and pulleys, with ropes fastened This is the pithy and practical truth When your trenches are ready, the Building overlooking the Parade, the guiding hand of its Almighty that we find by lifting up this text and currents of spiritual power will flow in. secure ample grounds in some suitable Ruler. And while it, in common with drizzling rain in the gold digger's tent, locality, expend two hundred thousand the innumerable hosts of heavenly while the men are busy trying to save somedollars in the crection of proper edifices and in laying out and ornament- its course, every individual inhabiing the grounds, a hundred thousand tant of this speck of creation is working more in furniture, libraries, apparatus out his destiny and approaching his &c., and then to appropriate at least state of permanent good or evil. In twenty thousand a year for professors' taking a look over the world we may salaries and other expenses, place the perceive evident indications of prowhole under the control of a Board of gress, and in many things manifest im-Governors representing the various provement. As we approach nearer interests in the community and appointed by some branch of the Gov- periods, we can but think more about ernment of the country for a limited the past and the future than on orditerm, and who shall be competent to nary occasions. One week may be to determine the form and character of us very much like its predecessors, and the various departments of a Univer- it may be regarded as more in imagisity,-let them come forward with nation than in fact that the last in the some such scheme and we will agree | year is more suggestive than the others, to give it a candid and generous hear- | yet the changes brought to mind by its ing. But if the plan should be to approach prove that it is one of the concentrate appropriations on the in- shadows which coming events send on stitution now existing as joint-stock to direct our thoughts towards the end property between the Government and of our years in this life. whatever religious bodies or individuals may choose to join the part- cure resting place on the " Rock of nership, it will be considered as some Ages," the passing on of the years politician's hocus-pocus. Between will not injuriously affect us, but will our brethren in the Church of Rome, only bring us nearer to our "house tempt to break up the system would be on the one hand, who will demand, as not made with hands, eternal in the they always have, that they sould heavens"; but if, there be any doubt have their share of the money appro- on this point, and if on a review of priated for higher education to be ex- the past year, it appears full of broken pended under their own control, and, promises and unfulfilled good intenon the other hand, the friends of the tions, there is still opportunity of letseeing the fight go badly, quits firing cotes. There has been no attempt made existing colleges, except Dalhousie, ting the year 1871 be the last one of who can command no small influence such a character, and of commencing its and had it not been for the re-organization in the country, if once they are roused, successor with higher aims and nobler the situation of the political aspirant purposes. To secure this we need Paradise. is just now quite interesting. If it less of confidence in human ability, were only a question whether one party should stay in or the other get in, we could afford to be amused.

We call attention to another extract from the article under consideration.

" And so it happens that Dalhousie. which is the only Provincial College in Nova Scotia, and which has more students in Arts than the other five put together, gets £250 a year from the Province that owns it, while the others get £1,750 from the same Province that does not own them and does not appoint one of their Gov-

We are decidedly of opinion that of existence, except on the paper the payment of a large part of this money is an admission on the part of the Government that they do not own Dalhousie. The writer is evidently ignorant of the history of the Province for the last seven years. His statement about the attendance at the different Colleges is quite as unsatisfactory. Any one who will take the pains to refer to the reports of the Education Office, will see that Acadia has had nearly as many in attendance in the Arts course as Dalhousie. There Acadia College, the avowed object of which | has been considerable exaltation of this quasi-provincial institution by its friends of late; and this may have re sulted in some accession to its numbers; but it hardly comports with good sense for its friends to talk and write as if there were nothing like it in the country. The article from which the above extracts are taken contains, also, unjust allusions to Kings and Mount Allison. The former of these institutions may be suffering a little temporary depression, but the old life is in it and it will yet be worthy of its fame in the past. And every lover of learning must rejoice in the enterprise of the friends of Mount Allison, and be encouraged by the purpose they have set forth to make a College deserving of the name.

have been taken from a communication in the St. John Telegraph. It is to be hoped that the correspondence of that paper is not generally so untrustworthy as the specimen we have been examining. KINGS.

Dec. 18, 1871.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 27th., 1871.

THE LAST WEEK OF 1871.

How full of suggestion is this simple announcement. Day succeeds day and week follows week, one month goes and another comes, making up year age, and from mature age to decrepiing year effects changes on individuals, so dry that there is " no water within a for a Provincial University, let them | world revolves, as we suppose, in the his tent opposite our wreck. He sees our See advertizement.

prepared for a blessing, and the bless- God's command to you is to prepare for Funds from the company now con- years ago, and is passing on through they threw the rope, and then by means of bodies, is directed and sustained in thing from the ship. They worked at this to the close of another of these greater

If we have a firm footing and seand more dependance on strength by Mr. W. G. Parsons, of Kingston. from on high-even from Christ the Lord of Heaven and Earth.

Good wishes and the compliments of the season, as they are called, are choice pieces of music which afforded the order of day on the first of the a pleasant variety, and aided in makyear As therefore it will be too late | ing it a profitable evening. for us to do this in our next, we embrace the present opportunity of tenand foe, and wish to all A Happy New Year.

Many of our readers were acquainted with the REV. ALBERT PORTER, before he left Nova Scotia for New Zeala d a few years ago. We have received the following extracts from a letter to one of his friends. They will be read with interest by many sympathizing friends. Other items concerning our unfortunate brother and family, are received and will shortly be forthcoming :-

EXTRACTS OF LETTERS FROM NEW ZEALAND

Martin's Bay, Aug. 8th, 1870. We have, I think, in other letters mentioned our intention of returning to New

On the 8th of April we, with two other families, left Victoria, and in six days arrived in Dunedin; there we remained some time, preparatory to going to the New Settlement at Martin's Bay. We had expected that the Government would provide a steamer to convey us hither, but were dis pointed, so we chartered a small vessel, and set out on the voyage; the distance is only about 300 miles, and we of course expected it would be performed in a few days, imagine then our discomfort when it was prolonged to the astonishing length of nine weeks and three days. Several times we had nearly gained the desired harbor and then were driven back by head winds; but as all things, whether pleasant or otherwise must have an end, so this miserable voyage had an end on Sunday the 10th of We may add that the above extracts July. They attempted to run the vessel into the river at low water, but instead of running into the river, on account of the strong current and low tide she ran on the rocks, and only through the mercy of God do any live to tell the tale-for had she struck a few yards farther down we must all have perished in the foaming billows.

The most of the harbers on the west coast are barred harbors, and so is this. We had heard much talk during the passage about crossing the bar. Well, when we came to this, the women and children were all sent below and the door fastened to prevent the water coming down, as a vessel is liable to take in heavy seas crossing a bar. Our feelings, when we felt her strike the rocks, I leave you to imagine -at length one of the men came below and said to his wife, come Ann you may go ashore now. I hastily gathered up a few carpet bags and went to the deck, when lo what a scene met my eye, the vessel dashing against the rocks, the wind blowing a gale, and the waves rolling and breaking at a tremendous height, and we expected every moment that the vessel which was already to be done? They lowered a boat which thrown ashore, but who on this rocky desolate place will come to catch it? Truly God is good, and in our distress sends help. gold-digger in travelling from one diggings

channels for God to pour it in. They compass of seven days' journey." propose to withdraw the Dalhousie same orbit as it did five or six thousand distress, and comes to our relief. To him are swung ashore and find shelter from the as long as prudent, then gathered round a large tent fire, where prayer was offered and thanks returned to God for saving us from a watery grave.

At the next low tide the men went again to the wreck and got out a good deal of the stores, but mostly in a wet state. The next day tents were erected out of the sails. of the ship, so that by night every one had shelter-poor enough tis true-but we were thankful for this when we considered how much worse off we might have been.

A. PORTER.

THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF ACA-DIA COLLEGE was held on Thursday last, 21st inst., in the Baptist Meeting house at Wolfville.

The stormy weather interfered w th the attendance and rendered the audience smaller than usual on these occa-

The President and Faculty were present and occupied the platform. The chair was taken by the Rev. Dr. Crawley the Professor of Rhetoric, &c.

After Music by the Choir and Prayer, Orations were delivered by the members of the Sophomore Class, as fol-

"The Majesty of Mind," by Mr. G. F. Currie, of Fredericton, N B.

"The Grand in the Minute," by Mr. G. N. Ballentine of Wilmot. " The Spirit of Inquiry," by Mr. J. I.

De Wolfe, of Wolfville. "The Unseen," by Mr. I. M. Longley, of

"Conquest of the Inductive Philosophy,"

We learn from a gentleman who was present that they indicated careful culture and independent thought.

At intervals the choir gave some

At the close Dr. Sawyer gave a brief address expressing his satisfaction with dering our warm greetings to friend the productions of the class, and offered some excellent advice and suggestions, encouraging the speakers to continued "labor and study to enable them to attain high excellence in their

The National Anthem was sung at

The American Board of Foreign Missions is the principal Pedobaptist Missionary organization in the United States. The President of the Board recently made a somewhat disparaging remark with reference to Baptists, which has induced some of our Nova Scotia brethren to institute a comparison between the work being done by that Board and toat of the Baptist Missionary Union. The comparison is given under the following items :

duder the following	American Board of For. Mass.	
No. or Missions	111	29 1664 60 63
Native Pastors	87 847 172 8,486	167 698 766 48,763
Added last year	978	4402

WHAT DOES IT MEAN? - We find the following paragraph in the Philadelphia National Baptist:

A peck, by measure, of silver coin, was collected for missionary purposes, at the Nova Scotia Free Will Baptist Convention.

We should be glad to know when and where the said Convention was held, and what is the authority for this statement.

Our readers who take an interest in the Foreign Missionary work, and especially the members of the Women's Missionary Aid Societies will be gratified to read the letter on another page from Miss Norris to the Secretary of the Central Board. Her remarkable facility of acquiring languages appears to have been turned to good account, in rendering her able so soon to take charge of the Seminary at Bassein. Our Sisters will feet that their labors have hereby become very affective, and of much value to the mission there.

VICK'S FLORAL GUIDE FOR 1872 is a combination of the useful and ornabreaking would go to pieces. What was mental, which renders it worthy of the profession to which its author belongs. almost immediately filled. A rope must be It is one of the most beautifully got up pamphlets we ever saw, and all it contains is adapted to be of service to those who have any opportunity of cultivatto another, had just the day before pitched | ing floral beauties or useful vegetables.

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