

tions. He now sees the Lamb whom he loved to praise in his strains of fervid eloquence. Dr. Candlish too has gone to meet Chalmers by whose side he stood in many hard fought battles. His services were given to the church till he was crowned with the honours of age. He has rested from his labors in 1873.

Home Rule still works in the hearts of the marcurial inhabitants of the Emerald Isle. It has been named "disguised rebellion" by a leading State-man in Great Britain. The last grand move was for a Roman Catholic University, for Ireland, independent of state authority and state control. Its honours to bear the seal of the Church and not of the State. Poor Ireland lives in troubles; but the state of things has improved under the special laws, recently enacted for that unhappy country. 1873 has been for Old Ireland comparatively a happy and prosperous year.

Europe and England have been favoured with a visit from the Monarch of Persia. With his own eyes the Shah had the opportunity of contrasting Britain's wealth with Persian poverty. May he make good use of Baron Renner's gold; and give his impoverished and famine-stricken country, a little of the blessing of western civilization. If this follows, 1873 will prove a fortunate year to this old empire. If Persia shall be blessed as abundantly as England was entertained and amused, her good fortune will be unlimited. Such a comedy in social life was never before seen in fashionable circles as when the Shah turned the parlours of the noble and the Royal into cook shops, and flung about his ill-concealed contempt for ladies.

For the Baptists of the Dominion it has been a year of "new departures." With us there has been a grand, united movement, growing out of the fusion of old Home Mission Societies. The energy, order and enthusiasm, characterising the beginning of their labours, augur well for the future. May God give the work good speed, bless the Board, the agent and the labourers.

We shall also remember 1873 as the year in which the Baptists of the maritime provinces entered upon the work of a separate Foreign Mission. We have sent away one band of seven devoted Missionaries with our prayers and benedictions to join the one already in the field. May God give good health to those now with us and make this humble beginning far exceed the hopes of the most sanguine. While our beloved ones were going forth, the brethren of Ontario and Quebec whispered through the wires to MacLaurin in India, "Go join Gabriel in Coconada." We by the Grace of God have undertaken to give the True Light to the Karens in Siam; and our brethren of the inland country have also organized on an independent basis to give the True Light to the Telogoo. May the beloved MacLaurin be as successful in the upper country as he was in his old station.

Last year Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island made a small contribution to the Endowment of Acadia College; this year New Brunswick was to have enjoyed the same privilege. Next year all united should erect buildings for a Female Seminary. To our readers, one and all, we heartily say, A HAPPY NEW YEAR AND MANY RETURNS.

WEEK OF PRAYER.

Before our next issue reaches our readers the special meetings for Prayer at the commencement of the year will have commenced. We published the programme in full two or three weeks since, that our brethren at a distance might have the opportunity of making arrangements for said meetings. The Evangelical Alliance Programme has been sent to the ministers of all Evangelical denominations. We find that arrangements have been made in the principal towns of the Province for meetings to be held each day, alternately in the different places of worship. We may repeat in brief the places appointed, and subjects for each day in Halifax.

On Lord's Day in Argyle Hall, at 4 1/2 p. m., and every morning at 1/2 past 9 a. m.

The evening meetings at 1/2 past 7: Monday, in Brunswick Street—Thanksgiving for mercies. Confession of sin.

Tuesday, Crafts Street and Richmond—Prayer for the Christian Church.

Wednesday, For Massy, and St. John's—Prayer for families, schools &c.

Thursday, Granville St., and Poplar Grove—Prayer for Nations.

Friday, St. Andrew's, and North Baptist—Prayer for the evangelization of European, Mahomedan and heathen lands, and for the Jews.

Saturday, St. Mathews, at 3.00 p. m.—Review of 1873, and recognition of God's Providence and the happy issue of the Divine Despatchings.

AT WINDSOR there will be an exchange of pulpits on Sunday, January 4th. Meetings on Monday and Thursday in the Presbyterian Church; on Tuesday and Friday in the Baptist, on Wednesday and Saturday in the Wesleyan; on Sunday 11th, a union meeting in the Baptist Meeting House at 4 p. m.

AT YARMOUTH arrangements are made for meetings at 7 o'clock each evening.

On Monday in the Tabernacle. On Tuesday in the Temple and Wesley Churches.

On Wednesday in the Kirk and Milton Baptist Churches.

On Thursday in Providence Church.

On Friday in the First Baptist Church. And on Monday the 12th in the same place.

There never was a time when there was more need of God's grace and favor. God's storehouse is full of blessings, and it needs only that men should put themselves in the attitude to receive them:

ASK, and ye shall receive, Seek, and ye shall find, Knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

Men should pray always and not faint. There has been enough of preaching to effect the salvation of a very much larger number than are saved, if God had but made the word effectual. Prayer and Christian acts in accordance therewith, must be effectual. Let us try Him and see if he will not open the windows of Heaven and pour us out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER.

This is the day appointed by the Convention as a day of Humiliation and Special Prayer to seek an outpouring of the Spirit on the Churches. We trust that brethren everywhere will observe it; that the time past may prove to have been sufficient to live as we have lived; and that when tomorrow we awake to see a New Year, we may arise to newness of life, and more devoted service to Our Lord.

JOHN C. DAVIS, senior deacon of the First Baptist Church in Philadelphia departed this life last month, and he is spoken of as "one of its stateliest pillars," and was profoundly respected in the community.

In his will, Dea. Davis showed the same wise benevolence that characterized his active life. After suitable provision for his near relatives during their life time, he makes the following bequests:

- To the University at Lewisburg.....\$5,000
To the American Baptist Publication Society, for working capital.....5,000
To the First Baptist Church of Philadelphia.....5,000
To the First Baptist Church of Philadelphia for charitable purposes.....1,000
To the Pennsylvania Baptist General Association.....2,000
To the Union School and Children's Home, Philadelphia.....1,000
To the American Baptist Missionary Union.....1,000
To the American Baptist Home Mission Society.....1,000
To the American and Foreign Bible Society.....1,000
To the Pennsylvania Baptist Education Society.....1,000
To the financial office of the Grand Ligne Mission of Canada, with which Madame Feller is identified, for charitable purposes.....1,000
To the Northern Home for Friendless Children.....1,000
To the Union Temporary Home for Children of Philadelphia.....1,000
To the Howard Hospital and Infirmary for incurables.....1,000
To the Merchants' Fund of Philadelphia.....1,000
To the Old Man's Home.....1,000
To the Baptist Home of Pennsylvania.....1,000

At the decease of his niece five or six of the above institutions are made residuary legatees of one half of his estate.

MORELL, P. E. I., Dec. 15th., 1873.

Dear Sir,— Please find enclosed five dollars which you will please place in whatever funds of the church most needs it, or divide as you think best as a thank-offering to God, from A FRIEND.

The above came to hand a few days since with the amount named. We believe the Home Mission and Foreign Mission Funds are both greatly in need of being replenished by such donations, and we have therefore divided the amount between them.

THE LATE JUDGE JOHNSTON.

At a meeting of the members of the Bar of Nova Scotia, at Halifax, held on the 20th inst., the following resolution passed unanimously:—

Resolved, That the members of the Bar of Nova Scotia in Halifax have heard with deep regret of the death in England, of Judge Johnston, the late Judge in Equity of the Province of Nova Scotia. A few months since they parted with him on his intended visit to Europe, and at that time presented him with an address which expressed their appreciation of his long and valuable career as a Barrister and a Judge. They had expected this visit would have been but temporary; and when they heard of his appointment to the situation of Lieutenant Governor, they cherished the hope that they would soon have the opportunity of greeting him again on his return to the shores of Nova Scotia to fill the highest office in the Province. This hope has been in vain, and they have now to deplore the loss of him whose career as an advocate shed lustre on the Bar of Nova Scotia, and whose conduct as a Judge was marked not only by the greatest ability and integrity, but also by a courtesy which won the esteem of all who practised before him. The members of the Bar, after the death of the venerable Judge, can only reiterate the warm expressions which were contained in the address they presented to him when he was alive, and which he so kindly received, and they trust that the example of such a man may be the means of stimulating the members of an honorable profession to emulate his conduct, and follow in his steps.

The gentleman who has charge of our "Educational Record" on another page, sent us the account there given of "the Semi-Annual Review of the College and Academy," before our last week's paper went to press, but as the place he had chosen for it was already occupied, we were compelled reluctantly to hold it over for our present issue. He will pardon us for giving here the programme of exercises. It will interest at least the friends of those who took part on the occasion, and we believe also many others:

VOLUNTARY. PRAYER. ESSAYS. Music.

- "Patience," D. McDonald, Uigg, P. E. I.
"The Mighty Dead," F. D. Crawley, Wolfville. Music.
"What Constitutes a Laudable Ambition," G. B. Budd, Wolfville.
"The Electric Telegraph," D. H. Simpson, Cavendish, P. E. I. Music.
"Usus Historicus," M. W. Brown, Wilnot.
"Sociability," J. O. Reddin, Martock, N. S.
"The Human Voice Divine," E. W. Kiely, Collins, N. B. Music.

The allusion by Dr. Sawyer to Judge Johnston's death was timely and appropriate, and the further remarks called forth from Dr. Crawley must have been exceedingly impressive, Dr. C. having been a student in Mr. Johnston's office for four years.

We understand that it is expected Rev. Dr. Crawley will preach a sermon on the death of the Hon. JUDGE JOHNSTON, in the Dartmouth Presbyterian Church, on Sunday next at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

N. S. SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE.

We have received a copy of the "Proceedings and Transactions of the Nova Scotian Institute of Natural Science." It contains besides the proceedings of the Institute, twelve Articles from the papers read at the monthly meetings, on subjects of much interest and importance to the Province and to the world of Science. It is a great pity that there is not a liberal Provincial grant for the purpose of giving these papers more in detail. They are now simply "Notes" and a mere outline of the papers themselves. The Province is much indebted to the gentlemen, who, by their annual contributions, largely sustain this Institute. Dr. Honeyman the indefatigable Secretary in connection with the Provincial Museum has done much towards giving efficiency to the Institute. His own researches in Geology have opened up new material and presented the Province as a much more important field for the further development of that science than was heretofore supposed. If these could be published more at length, with the Transactions, from year to year, they would afford scientific men in other countries the opportunity of becoming acquainted with later discoveries, especially in the geology of Nova Scotia. If we had men in our Legislature who took an active interest in the promotion of Scientific knowledge, and would give encourage-

ment in the shape of a judicious grant for these purposes, they might greatly benefit the cause, and secure advantages possessed by only a few countries, and perhaps by none, of the same limited extent.

The subjects of these Essays are:—

- 1. The Geology of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, by Dr. Honeyman.
2. The Eagles of Nova Scotia, by Dr. J. B. Gilpin.
3. The Great American Desert, by H. S. Poole.
4. The Stone Age of Nova Scotia, by Dr. J. B. Gilpin.
5. The Metamorphism of Rocks in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton.
6. The Vegetation of the Bermudas, by J. M. Jones.
7. The grouping of the Pictou Coal Seams, by Edward Gilpin.
8. The Meteorology of Caledonia Mines, C. B. by H. Poole.
9. The affinity of Races, by Wm. Gossip.
10. The progress of weather knowledge, by Fred. Allison.
11. The History of a Boulder, by Dr. Honeyman.
12. The economy of Timber and preservation of structures from Fire and decay, by Dr. A. P. Reid.

The Meteorological Tables show that much attention is being paid to the keeping of registers of the atmospheric changes in our province. They are an invaluable record and will be more and more prized every year that is added to the amount of this species of knowledge.

It has become a habit with some of our contemporaries within a few weeks of the close of the year to spread themselves considerably and tell their readers, what they intend to do during the ensuing year. One of our friends a short time since, noticing this, suggested to us:—"Should not you, too, begin to puff yourself?" Our readers are perhaps aware that we have no liking for this sort of thing, and perhaps we err on the side of not enough calling attention to improvements. We would far rather that the year should speak for itself. We wish to make progress such as will be permanent improvements. It would be unsatisfactory to tell our readers what we would do, and soon afterwards find that we were unable to carry out our projects, and have to take a step backward. What the Messenger has been in the past that and as much more by way of improvement as it is possible it will continue to be.

Our Mission and Educational Department we certainly expect to have greatly improved.

In the former with the pens of the Foreign Secretary, Rev. Dr. Cramp, and the Home Secretary, and Rev. Dr. Day, employed in behalf of these two interests. And in the latter with the "Educational Record" in charge of one who stands in the front rank in that work, we may feel assured that our columns will be well furnished. Besides the regular contributions from these brethren, we have a noble band of writers in this and other countries, prepared to make contributions to our pages, so that we feel warranted in inviting our readers to expect a year for the Christian Messenger, in advance of any preceding one.

Our list of Subscribers has augmented even beyond what we anticipated or have been able to supply, but we shall now have an enlarged edition and be prepared to furnish all that our friends may succeed in sending us.

The Editor of the Presbyterian Witness tells his readers what he thinks of his exchanges; and, in reference to the Messenger, says:—"We should like to see a little less of the Baptist element in our contemporary; but then" he adds "it is not our taste that is to be consulted in such matters." This is pretty cool. We hope our friend would not like to see a little less of the Baptist element in "our great church Directory and Statute book." We dare not ignore the fact that our Lord, when giving the great commission to his disciples, said "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved," &c.

Believing that the Forerunner of our Lord, our Lord himself, his apostles, and all His followers in the first centuries were Baptists, we cannot comply with the desire expressed, the only way our brother can have his wish is for himself to seek a little more of the Baptist element in accordance with "our Greek Church Directory."

Here is an element of our brother's weakness when dealing with the high Ritualists, and Roman Catholics, as may be very clearly seen by the following anecdote, a little sharp perhaps, from one of our exchanges:

"A member of the French Presbyterian Church, under the leadership of the noted Father Chiniquy, was accusing a Jesuit at St. Anns, of being led by the nose by the priests, etc.

"And you," retorted the Jesuit, "are led by the nose by Chiniquy, for if you were led and governed by the Bible, as you profess to be, you would no longer be a Presbyterian; you would be a Baptist, for the Bible would make you a Baptist."

We remember that our Presbyterian friends formerly sought to claim Spurgeon, but he had "too much of the Baptist element," and he seems to preach more and more of this "element" as he sees its importance. Now see what he says:

"I shall give great offense if I now go further and say, as in the sight of God, that so long as infant baptism is practised in any Christian church, Popery will have a door set wide open for its return. It is one of those nests which must come down, or the foul birds will build again in it. We must come to the law and to the testimony and any ordinance which is not plainly taught in Scripture must be put away. As long as you give baptism to an unregenerate child people will imagine that it must do the child good; for they will ask 'If it does not do it any good, why is it baptized?' The statement that it puts children into the covenant, or renders them members of the visible church, is only a veiled form of the fundamental error of Baptismal Regeneration. If you keep up the ordinance you will always have men superstitiously believing that some good cometh to the babe thereby; and what is this but sheer Popery? And not only as to infant baptism, but as to every other doctrine, ordinance, or precept: we must each seek to get back to this Book."

The article our first page from the pen of the great Historian of the Reformation is worthy of careful perusal. The fact of his having written it for the proposed great gathering of Evangelical Christians, and then passing away to glory before that body met, must have rendered the reading of it very solemn. After spending a long life in recording the conflicts and victories of the truth, his judgment of what he wrote may be regarded as mature and profound. Although, we, in those provinces, do not find the same publicity given to the forms of error and infidelity as in many other places, yet, in various ways, we may find that the same principles exist, and we need the application of the same truth as the only remedy for error, and an application of the same Power as alone sufficient to meet the prevailing infidelity. Christ alone is the great theme for Nova Scotia and this continent as it is for Germany and the continent of Europe.

Philadelphia, instead of being a city of Quakers, as formerly (called the city of brotherly love) will soon be a city of Baptists if they go on increasing as they have of late. The fiftieth Baptist Church was organized there only a few weeks since. The following is the account given of it:—

The Committee appointed by the Philadelphia Conference of Baptist Ministers, to advise the North Star Mission in regard to organizing, after visiting the field and hearing from the brethren, advised them to form a church. They organized on last Friday evening, at Seventh Street and Susquehanna Avenue, as the Fiftieth Baptist Church, and called for pastor, Rev. E. C. Romine, who started the mission about nine months ago. A series of meetings are now in progress and many are seeking Jesus. Four were baptized on Sunday evening, the 7th inst. The chapel was packed, and about two hundred could not get seats. The Sunday-school numbers about three hundred. There were twelve new scholars last Sunday. This part of the city is improving very rapidly, and offers a very promising field for a Baptist Church.

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