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WHOLE SERIES.
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Poetry.

THE CLOCK AND BLUE EYES.

BY RHODA EMORY.

"Time, time, time!"
The old clock rings out the hour,
Wee Blue Eyes rides on her rocking steed,
Of babes the pink and the flower.
"Time, time, time!"
She sings with note of a bird,
While loud the strokes resound from the tower
And noontide's echo is heard.
"Time, time, time!"
She gaily twitters and trills;
Those sober words in her merry tones,
Are glad as the laughing rills.
"Time, time, time!"
The hour is told, and the child
With thoughtful air to her mother turns,
Speaks softly in hissing mild.
"Time, time, time!"
I hear the great church bell say:
That story again, dear mamma, you know,
It talks to me every day.
"Time, time, time!"
Wee Blue Eyes no more will sing;
The violet eyes are veiled, and hushed
The voice with its joyous ring.
"Time, time, time!"
Still sounds from the quaint old tower;
For little one safe in the beautiful land,
No longer it tells the hour.

OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

Over and over again,
No matter which way I turn,
I always find in the Book of Life
Some lessons I have to learn.
I must take my turn at the mill,
I must grind out the golden grain,
I must work at my task with a resolute will
Over and over again.
We cannot measure the need
Of even the tiniest flower,
Nor check the flow of the golden sands
That run through a single hour,
But the morning dew must fall,
And the sun and the summer rain
Must do their part, and perform it all
Over and over again.
Over and over again
The brook through the meadow flows,
And over and over again,
The pond rous mill-wheel goes.
Once doing will not suffice,
Though doing be not in vain;
And a blessing falling us once or twice
May come if we try again.
The path that has once been trod
Is never so rough to feet;
And the lesson we once have learned
Is never so hard to repeat;
Though sorrowful tears may fall,
And the heart to its depth be driven
With storm and tempest, we need them all
To tender us meet for heaven.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

FROM ROME.

Rome, Feb. 29th, 1874.

The real estate belonging to the suppressed Religious Corporations in Italy which was sold by auction during the month of January amounted to 2,151,645 lire or about \$430,329. The total sold from the 26th of Oct., 1873, to the end of last month amounted to 449,809,542,62 lire or about \$889,961,920. That this great change will prove of incalculable benefit to Italy cannot be doubted. The mere absorption of property and wealth was not all the positive evil with which the monastic institutions were chargeable. That, in process of time, would have affected the ruin of society, and but for the Reformation, Europe would have become a region of monasteries and monks. It is the moral influence which they exerted, that rendered them pre-eminently infamous, and threw over their guilt its deepest and darkest shade of atonity. Boccaccio, the witty and ingenious Italian writer, in his tales severely criticised and satirized the licentiousness and immorality which prevailed during his time in the monasteries of Italy, and exposed the scandalous lives and vices of the monks, nuns, and other orders of the Papal

ecclesiastics. Contemporary historians also delivered the most disgusting accounts of their intemperance and debauchery. As evidence of the purifying influence of the Reformation, I may state that the reform of the nunneries was the first step that distinguished the government of Pope Sixtus IV., at the close of the sixteenth century. The Reformation, in effecting the overthrow of the monastic system, promoted, in no ordinary degree, the prosperity of every State in which it accomplished its beneficent operations.

One of our daily papers contains the following interesting facts:—

The clearing out of the arena of the Colosseum has commenced with the removal of the present incumbrances of the cross in the centre, and the chapels of the *Via Crucis*, that have existed since their erection by Pope Benedict XIV. in 1749. The pulpit from which the Franciscan friars have held forth every Friday during the last hundred years and more, has been laid low, and the earth has been removed in parts down to the original level of the amphitheatre. The structures disclosed are said to correspond exactly with those of the arena at Capua, and to resemble the subscenic arrangements of most modern theatres. The chapels which are built of travertine belong to the confraternity of the "lovers of Jesus and Mary;" and Signor Rosa the director of the Government excavations wrote to Cardinal Guidi, the Protector of that society, informing him of the necessary destruction of the *Via Crucis*, and requesting, if possible, a prompt reply. His Eminence replied with a courteous note intimating the affair to the Holy Father. The results of the excavations, which antiquaries have vainly pleaded for since early in the present century, are expected to be extremely interesting.

A party of English and French visitors led by a French Monseigneur went to the Colosseum to witness the removal of the *Via Crucis* stations. The Monseigneur addressed them from the step of one of the few Chapels, his remarks being of the most sentimental character. They then proceeded to the shrine of the Crucifix opposite the entrance of the Amphitheatre, and found that the workmen were engaged in its removal. Some of the party burst into tears and several times the word *profanation* was heard. All the nails, fragments of stones, and rubbish were eagerly gathered from the ground. The French people, determined not to lose a chance, restrained their sentimental feelings and sold to each other the crown of thorns and then to their co-religionists until each leaf realized fabulous prices. Some of the party filled their pockets with earth and all went away murmuring *profanation!*

A letter from Carpignano Sesia in the province of Novadra to the *Opinione*, gives information of a course of extraordinary preachings, commonly denominated "missions," which lasted for 15 days; during which time no less than 45 sermons were preached by preachers who came from long distances. They worked on the minds of the inhabitants, and then opened a confessional, denying absolution and condemning to the eternal penalties of the lower depths, all those who had purchased property of the Religious Corporations from the government. They added however, that by one means only it remained to them to obtain divine pardon and safety for their souls, and this consisted in a formal renunciation of the afore mentioned property in favour of the Church, by signing their names to a deed to that effect in the house of the parish priest which the missionaries were to witness, in order that the affair might not be divulged; and this was to be for the greater benefit of their souls hereafter. By this maneuvering many were deceived, and falling into the priestly snares, went to the parish priest's house and signed their property away. The Missions finishing, and upon their realising what they had done, together with the fear of losing their present

substance again, those foolish persons, heedless of the welfare of their souls that they so far prevailed in fear of future punishment, against them, informed the authorities of the circumstances; upon which, the Regia Procura has instituted a process against the priestly sharpers. Doubtless justice will make an example of those little reverend ministers whose chief aim is to profit by the superstition of an ignorant peasantry.

W. N. CORE.

For the Christian Messenger.

NEW ENGLAND NOTES.

A State Foreign Mission Convention was held last week in the Brown St. Baptist Church, Providence, R. I., March 11th and 12th. Rev. H. C. Graves, pastor of the church, and Prof. S. S. Greene alternately presiding at the sessions which were continued morning, afternoon, and evening. Essays and addresses from clergymen and laymen from various parts of the state made up the order of exercises. Dr. N. M. Williams from Wickford read an able paper on "Foreign Mission Effort in the Apostolic Age." Rev. C. C. Burrows, of Newport, recounted the story of American Baptist Foreign Missions, presenting the remarkable facts of their commencement in India by the conversion of Judson and Rice to Baptist principles. These two young men cut off by conscience from the support of the Congregational Board, stretched out their hands over the wide ocean to clasp those of the Baptists in America, and received the warm grasp of their brethren in the Lord. God thus by his Providence said to our denomination, Go work in this far-off vineyard.

This paper was followed by a letter from the Rev. Dr. Benedict, of Pan-tucket, the venerable historian of the Baptists, now in his 95th year. Unable to be present himself, Mr. Graves read the interesting reminiscences written by this aged minister, who still retains his mental faculties unimpaired. He was a class-mate of Judson, in Brown University, though at that time Judson was not religious, and their Christian friendship did not spring up till years afterwards. Among the pleasant incidents Dr. B. related was that of himself and the Rev. Dr. Gand, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Providence, going with their own horse and chaise, to save expense, to Philadelphia, for the purpose of attending the First Missionary organization of the Denomination.

Wednesday afternoon, Rev. Mr. Bixby gave an earnest address on "Mission Work the chief design of the Christian Church." Mr. Bixby formerly a missionary, unable on account of his health, to live in the East is actively engaged in building up a mission church in the skirts of Providence, and in promoting the cause of foreign missions at home.

The remainder of the session was given to the ladies for a meeting of the Rhode Island Branch of their Women's Missionary Society, conducted by Miss Durfee, State Sec'y. The lecture room was quite filled with ladies interested in this good work. The meeting was addressed by Mrs. Appleton on Woman's Work for Missions; by Mrs. Thomas, widow of our Missionary Thomas, who will return next autumn to Burmah. Her only son is now in Brown University, preparing for his life work in his native country, Burmah. He is a young man of much promise, and still retains a knowledge of the Karen tongue. Ah-bo-rab, a native Karen is his classmate and together they hope to return to that country, after finishing their studies here, and at Newton.

Extracts of a letter from Mrs. Arthur of the Japan Mission, were read by her sister, Mrs. Lyon, giving first impressions of the country and some details of the work there. Mrs. Arthur's Missionary Hymn beginning, "The sails are set" was also read in this connection.

After an earnest and eloquent address by Mrs. Alvah Hovey, of Newton, Corresponding Secretary, of the Society, the meeting concluded its exercises with singing and prayer.

Thursday afternoon, "A Missionary Literature for our Sunday Schools," was the subject of an essay by the Rev. T. M. Butler, of Hopkinton, which was followed by remarks on the theme by Superintendants Lyon, of Brown Street, and Boyce, of the Central Baptist churches. The speakers pointed out the facts that Sunday School Libraries were almost barren of interesting books such as children will read, on Missions and subjects connected with the work in foreign lands. The question was raised whether a Monthly Paper for children illustrating and simplifying this kind of information, might not be needed.

Rev. H. C. Graves read a paper on the "Relation of Missions to the Millennium," which was listened to with earnest attention; and followed by remarks by Rev. Mr. Tingley.

On Thursday evening the closing exercises of the Convention were held in the audience room, and Rev. President Robinson, of Brown University, favoured his many brethren with his views on the "Needs of young men in preparing for Mission Work." We would be glad to give a short sketch of this able and interesting discourse, but this letter would be too long. Dr. Gardner of the Missionary Union followed in an earnest appeal for renewed exertions in prayer and effort.

We noticed the Rev. Mr. McKelzie formerly of St. John, N. B. now of the Mission Rooms in Boston, in some of meetings. He has many friends in Providence, this being his field of labor before going to New Brunswick.

R. E.

Educational Record.

OUR ACADEMY.

The managers of Horton Academy are exerting themselves to make it in all respects what it should be. They find many hindrances in the way, and the process of working out their ideal is slower than they could wish. But they persevere while they see any improvement. About two years ago, in answer to a general demand, the school was opened for the admission of young women. The experiment has been continued in unfavorable circumstances, but it has become clear that a large patronage from this class would seek the school, if suitable provision could be made for it.

The Executive Committee have decided that the time has come when some changes must be made, in order to give better accommodations to the Female Department and improve the condition of the Academy as a whole. It would awaken much pleasure, if they were able to transfer it to new buildings properly fitted up for it. This would require at least \$25,000, and they fear that that amount of money could not now be found for this purpose. But if the money could be obtained, it would require two or three years to accomplish the work; and the school must go on in the mean time. It is wise, therefore, to attempt such repairs and improvements as are needed in order to meet present demands. The Committee wish now to change some of the divisions of the Boarding House, that more room may be given to young ladies; to clean and paint the Building throughout; to repair the drains and the basement; to enlarge and remodel the recitation-rooms in the Academy; and procure some new settees for the large Hall. It is estimated that to do all this will require at least \$12,000.

The regular income of the Academy barely meets the ordinary expenses; and the Committee are evidently under the necessity of appealing to benevolent individuals to furnish the means for these changes. Many have expressed sympathy with the attempt to enlarge the Female Department, and it is hoped that now, when the opportunity

is presented, they will prove that they have been sincere.

While the writer has been preparing this statement, a communication has been received by him to the effect that two gentlemen, whose names are for the present withheld, will pledge themselves for two hundred and fifty dollars each for the changes here proposed, provided the whole sum asked shall be made up. This proposition shows that the movement of the Committee is in the right direction. It ought not to be difficult to raise the balance, and even more.

The responsibility of meeting the ordinary expenses of the Academy is quite serious, and no debt should be incurred for this extraordinary outlay. The proposed changes cannot be made until the present academical year closes, but attention is thus early called to the subject, that the money may be all subscribed, and the larger part or the whole of it paid, before the Anniversaries at Horton. The work can then be done in the vacation, and all be in readiness for the next year.

To employ an agent to raise this money will involve an undesirable experience. All who are interested in the object can just as well enclose their donations, whether the sum be one dollar or a hundred, to the writer, or to the Treasurer, A. DeW. Bass, M. D., and all sums thus received will be safely deposited, subject to the order of the Treasurer, till the time comes when they will be needed. Let it be remembered that the Committee mean not to incur debt for these repairs, and they must know by the middle of June what funds they will have at their command. If any prefer to send their names with pledges for particular sums to be paid at some future date, such will be thankfully received.

For twenty-five years the Academy has quietly done its work, depending on its own resources and making no appeal for pecuniary aid. It presents to the public now a very modest request, let it receive sympathy and prompt assistance.

In behalf of the Executive Committee of Horton Academy.

A. W. SAWYER.

Wolfville March, 21, 1874.

In a late number of the *Dalhousie Gazette*, it was stated that the appropriation of public money to Acadia College is \$1400 a year. When the editor of the paper was requested to correct the mistake, he justified the first assertion on the ground that Horton Academy "is virtually a part of Acadia College." It is virtually a part of the college in the same sense in which Pictou Academy is part of Dalhousie College. And with the same degree of fairness it may be said that Dalhousie receives an annual grant of \$2000, besides the monopoly of valuable real estate and the income of large invested funds which were unjustly turned over to the control of that close corporation.

In May 1871 the Missionary Union, at Chicago, voted to establish a College for the Karens and to endow the same that year with \$100,000.— But it is easier to get a magnificent scheme before a popular assembly and secure their approval of it, than to find individuals of the assembly who, after voting for the measure, will do anything towards carrying it out. The endowment is not yet made up, and an appeal has gone forth to benevolent Baptists of the United States to complete the work. It is now estimated that \$240,000 will be needed for this College, as it will require an annual income of more than \$10,000. The Missionary Union is, also, expected to have under its control Colleges and Theological Seminaries in Sweden and Germany, among the Telooqos and Burmans. These will require large sums of money, but the cause demands the expenditure. Education of itself has no regenerating power. But it cannot be right to send converts from teathenism back to schools pervaded by the influences of idolatry, and it will not be much better to send them