

For the Christian Messenger.

PROSPECTUS OF "ACADIA ATHENEUM."

The above is the name of a literary periodical about to be published by the students of Acadia College...

During the past, various papers in this and the neighboring Province, have shown their interest in Acadia by placing before their readers more or less prolonged accounts of matters in connection with her growth and progress...

It shall be the object of those to whom the care and management of the Acadia Athenaeum is assigned, to place plainly before the public such matter as will be acceptable to all lovers of truth, and pure literature.

Our paper will be issued monthly; the first number appearing as early as the middle of the ensuing month...

We have already the names of three hundred subscribers, to whom we tender our thanks, and would solicit patronage from others.

We are fully aware of the responsibility involved, as well as our inexperience, yet, we feel that with attention and care our efforts will be appreciated, and the desired and worthy object attained.

Editors for first issue: I. M. LONGLEY, D. H. SIMPSON, B. P. SHAFNER, S. WELTON, JR. Acadia College, Oct. 17, 1874.

THE LATE REVIVALS.

The Church of Christ is never more in danger than when it has been blessed by a revival. There are infirmities and vices that find a genial soil in its excitement...

BLACK DIAMONDS; or the curiosities of coal, by Rev. Sydney Dyer, A. M., \$1.50. Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia.

Here the whole subject of coal and coal mining is treated in a familiar dialogue style and made most pleasing and attractive.

The Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, N. S., OCTOBER 21, 1874.

A BAPTIST CENTENARY.

The Philadelphia Baptist Association held on the 6th inst., and following days, was a remarkable session, being its 167th Anniversary.

During its session a committee of four was appointed to prepare some suitable minute commemorative of the efforts made by the Association and other friends of religious freedom one hundred years ago...

This session of our body completes a century, since we, in conjunction with our brethren from the Warren Association, and with representatives of the Society of Friends, met at Carpenters' Hall, in Oct. 1774...

We desire at this time to express our hearty thanks to Almighty God for having advanced so wonderfully the principle of soul liberty and the doctrine of entire separation of church and state...

We rejoice to know that our doctrine of soul freedom, without which civil liberty would be almost in vain, has been incorporated into the Constitution of nearly all the states of our Union...

Remembering, as we do, the labors of our fathers in behalf of religious freedom, and that many of them suffered stripes, and imprisonment, and death itself, rather than yield their principles...

After appropriate and spirited addresses, the report was adopted and ordered to be entered upon the minutes. The committee being duly selected...

My country 'tis of thee, were sung. Prayer was offered and Horatio Gates Jones then read from the Life of Isaac Backus...

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

TOBACCO USERS are in high feather over Mr. Spurgeon's shewing his weakness for the weed. Although we would be sorry to take the responsibility of giving any encouragement to the use of tobacco...

Mr. Spurgeon, a little while since on a Sunday evening, had been holding forth to his flock upon the way in which "habitual indulgence in small sins leads to the commission of great ones."

Then, with a genial smile upon his countenance, up rose the great Spurgeon. He had been touched upon a tender point, and felt that he must relieve his mind...

The following editorial paragraph from the London Baptist although not...

and he must give it up. Whatsoever is not of faith is sin, and that is the real point of what my brother Pentecost has been saying.

Mr. Spurgeon's avowed partiality for a cigar excited much disgust, and his remarks were distorted, whereupon he wrote to the London Daily Telegraph as follows:

I demur altogether, and most positively, to the statement that to smoke tobacco is in itself a sin. It may become so, as any other indifferent action may, but as an action it is no sin.

The expression "smoking to the glory of God," standing alone, has an ill sound, and I do not justify it; but in the sense in which I employed it I still stand to it.

I am told that my open avowal will lessen my influence, and my reply is that I have gained any influence through being thought different from what I am.

We are well satisfied that our readers do not think Mr. Spurgeon infallible. Great men are not always great, or great in everything.

The Tobacco question has for several weeks been under discussion in the London Freeman. Here is the substance of a communication in the last number:

The fearful increase of smoking is to many a public calamity, the habit to our ministers especially is injurious to health, character, and public morals.

The following editorial paragraph from the London Baptist although not...

exactly on the above subject is nevertheless somewhat connected therewith:

"Beer and bishops—the national beverage and the national church—played, as all our readers are aware, a by no means insignificant part in the general election; and the singular alliance has received a striking illustration in the provinces."

Rev. Dr. Cramp writes from Montreal that he had received letters from Rev. W. B. Boggs, dated London, Sept. 22, 1874.

Dr. C. in his closing paragraph says: "We may think of our Brother now as on the Red Sea, and can pray for his safe passage."

Brother Boggs hopes to reach Bangalore in time for the Burmah Baptist Convention which will meet on the 7th prox.

Brother Churchill, but must reserve extracts from his letter for my next.

What IS CLOSE COMMUNION?—At the recent session of the Philadelphia Baptist Association, Rev. Dr. J. Wheaton Smith offered the following, which was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Our views as Baptists are greatly misunderstood to the hindrance of our work and the injury of our good name among the followers of Jesus; therefore,

Resolved, That as the representatives of twenty thousand Baptists, we declare, "First, That we are not and never have been 'close communionists,' but that in common with Christians generally, and the Christian church in all its history, we simply hold to the plain old doctrine that baptism naturally and Scripturally precedes communion at the table of our Lord."

Second, That so far from being close in our communion, we lay claim to a special openness, since all to whom we administer the rite of baptism are freely admitted to the table, a fact which cannot be truthfully avowed of any but the Baptist churches.

Third, That we ask what we have a right to ask, that the scandal be abated, and that our brethren of other denominations, whatsoever they may think of our views of baptism, should at least relinquish their refrain of sad and ceaseless lamentation over Baptist close communion.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE:—The Annual Session of the Grand Division of N. S., will be held in Halifax, commencing Tuesday evening, 27th inst., at 8 o'clock. The authorities of the Intercolonial and Windsor and Annapolis Railways have granted a reduction of fares for the week as follows:

The recent conferences of the "Old Catholics" in Germany give but little prospect of their coming out into clear evangelical truth. The great doctrine of justification by faith is not clearly announced as one of the cardinal truths held by them...

vocation of saints is not commanded as a duty necessary to salvation for every Christian" it was strongly resisted by the representatives of the Greek church, and was subsequently withdrawn.

"As a fact of political significance, this conference is perhaps important. It gives to Germany a reason for and a help in its policy of resistance against Rome, but to the Church of Christ it gives only additional proof that learning, position, and power are helpless in the Divine service without the simple Gospel of Christ."

Rev. I. E. Bill writes from England to the Visitor, and gives some account of Rochdale where he has been lecturing on "the resources of Canada, in general, and of New Brunswick in particular."

The latest of Mr. Spurgeon's literary works is, The Interpreter, or Scripture for Family Worship, now just completed by the publication of part 21.

From the Journal of Education for October we learn that a School History of Nova Scotia, by Duncan Campbell is to be published on the 15th of November next.

NORTH BAPTIST CHURCH.—Difficulties have arisen between the brethren of the North church, and we are informed that a number of the members purpose forming another congregation shortly.

"WORDS OF TRUTH."—We have received a specimen copy and prospectus of a small monthly religious paper under the above title, to be published by Messrs. Sancton & Piper, Bridgetown; Rev. John Clark to be the editor.

THE BAPTIST QUARTERLY for October, fresh and bright, has come to hand. It is, as usual, full of valuable new thought on subjects of interest to all Christians.

"Elements Essential to a True Theory of the Atonement," by L. E. Smith, D. D., New York; "The Diversities of the Apostles," by N. M. Williams, D. D., Wickford, R. I.

The Canadian Convention Session will be in Montreal 23rd of Sept. reports of the were read, ments to 1 amounting Muir, Esq Rev. J. I Farlane, 8 was divided tions appoi to the chur A com ed ten th read and ad pted. The 1st Missions C thankful past year Independen urging on prayer for department The 2nd of the abut the Holy S is demand The 3rd row at the date by do The 4th of the Ca The 5th nadian Lito The 6th granted to ary relief ministers a of decess mentation all the chu The 7th members from the u use active and for the traffic. The 8th churches E encourage ministry. The 9th churches appointed as a day o The 10th railway au in travell friends for A Pub held in the President, pted the ch read a syn showed th Home Mis employed evangelist county e the East some of th the entire Three o for years funds of year dec taining, w mission c nized. F it appear ceived fo been \$3. bursement ance due The sy that has t the Conve in our his interest 'good or where thr territory coming h ter we he "Come o Never complish amount s vestment On the Mission collection ed to th dollars, over nine "The mises at a special over 15 p the premi now temp urgently Serious arisen in Park, L dents hav ments ha Institution