of large and State Endowed Universities the verdict of the people is being silently but unmistakably cast in favor of what are called private and denominational schools. The fact would seem to be that the two classes of institutions are the necessary adjuncts and complements of each other. Those whose eyes are dazzled by the splendid equipments and over-shadowing prestige of the great institutions, are unable to perceive that the smaller ones, under denomi national auspices, have points of contact and means of influence with the people which the others can never acquire. How many thousands of the best minds in the soundest bodies which the continent produces are being trained for the highest positions in the small colleges, which could never have been brought within the circle of influence of the State Universities. The times demand not only the highest possible culture for the few, but liberal culture for the largest possible numbers.

The Ontario Churches have lately had a welcome addition to their stock of Pastors by the coming of the Rev. Calvin Goodspeed at the call of the Woodstock Church. He enters upon an inviting field of labour with encouraging prospects. As in many other places there is abundant scope for learning and piety and fervour.

Dr. Fyfe has returned from his European tour with improved though not fully reestablished health, to find the Institute buildings pretty well filled with students awaiting his arrival. The work is a large and responsible one, and could scarcely be performed in its entirety by other hands. Many are hoping that his strength may still be found equal to the very large demands made upon it.

J. E. W.

For the Christian Messenger.

THE PULPIT No. 1.

By a figure of speech " the pulpit," stands for those who occupy the platform as preachers and teachers of the Christian Religion.

Of such, and with a view of elevating the standard of sermonizing, especially among our own (the Baptist denomination) I propose to present a few thoughts to the renders of the Christian Messenger.

I may not be so well qualified to discharge the self-imposed duty of criticising the pulpit efforts of our public speakers, as many who are likely to peruse what I am about to submit, but to such permit me to say in the words of an ancient writer, Se quid novisti melius, imperti,-Si non his utere mecum.

It is not with the Baptists of Nova Scotia now as it once was-preschers or hearers. As a denomination, we have been using every effort to keep abreast, if not to excel others in an educational point of view. And although in the earlier history of the Province few if any of the Buptist preachers had received more than an ordinary, common school education, yet those who survive and can remember some of them, uniformly bear testimony to the fact that as a rule they were men endowed with a high order of natural intellect.

Long training, added to close reading ofthe Scriptures, and much mental effect, sanctified by great grace, enabled them to sustain relations to those who waited on these Ministers, that commanded respect, and ensured success.

Since those days, and since most of the class of preachers to whom I refer have gone to their reward, another, and for the most part, a very different class and style of men have taken their places. They present themselves, many of them, as accredited by diplomas, and certificates, from Colleges and Universities, or other credentials, and reasonably expect, that tribute of respect to which superior education entitles its possessors. And where deserved it should be cheerfully accorded-other things as we say, being equal.

But while those who minister in our pulpits have made advances in a desirable direction, many of them, it must not be lost sight of that their hearers too have not been stationary. And if I mistake not, the hearers in a promiseuous congregation of the present day, have advanced intellectually, if not educationally, quite in pro-

portion to their ministers. I am not about to write an essay on pulpit eloquence, and yet I am fully persuaded that it affords a fine field for profitable cultivation to any one possessed of the capacity and leisure required for such a purpose. It may be a more commendable ambition to desire to be a good, rather than a great preacher, but it is still excelsior to be, both a good and a great Christian Teacher. This none can deny.

am led into this train of thought in consequence of having, in the course of my career, witnessed a good many very wretched attempts, as I thought, at preaching, and pulpit oratory.

The pulpit orator possesses many advantages as compared with other public speakers. First, as has been well remarked, there is the dignity and importance of his subject. He has the language of inspiration, a storehouse of precious sentiments, full to overflowing, and with which he is, or ought to be familiar. He has an audience deeply interested in the topics he professes to terch and upon which he proposes to instruct them. His message has to do, not merely with the things of this life. Both worlds furnish themes upon which to expatiate The highest rewards of which men or angels can conceive is the result of piety and spiritual worship-the direst ruin, the fiercest ruin of a just and terrible God impending over all who neglect their duty and repent not at the announcement of his Gospel.

Compared with these, what has the orator of the secular character to place before his hearers? All his efforts, all his inducements, all his appeals are limited by that line of the horizon, which separates time from eternity. And yet compare the men. Witness with what forethought the secular orator, the scholar, and the philosopher prepares himself for the effort he about to make in order to convince and carry his hearers with him. Of course speak not now of your stump speech maker who is always ready "to rush in, where angels fear, to trend" but of those who by study and training, and who by severe discipline and close application have attained to such an eminence as to command attention and respect from the scholarly. men of the age.

Has it ever been your good fortune reader to listen to such a speaker? Mark how carefully and how correctly he introduces the subject of his discourse. Watch him narrowly and follow him closely and presently you will discover the design he has in view. It is no random dissertation with him. It may not be aystematic under a 1stly, a 2ndly, and a 3rdly, but it will not be less a rational, welldigested scheme by which truth after truth at least from his standpoint, will be unfolded to an attentive audience: Every succeeding sentence will appear to be, and indeed will be, the complement of what had preceded. And eventually it is rounded off with what is equivalent to a quod est demonstrandum.

Go into a chapel, to hear a sermon from a modern preacher. Fix your eye upon him as he commences the service of the day. He lines out a hymn or a psalm, and from the sentiment breathing through it already you feel justified in supposing you have some foreshadowing of the topic likely to engage attention. But you will be mistaken. Then probably follows a scripture lesson occupying well nigh half an hour, with or without comments in nine cases out of ten, if with, diluting and spoiling the effect, the plain simple reading, one-fourth of it might have produced. The scripture read not unlikely embracing half flock. a dozen topics, that have little or no connection with each other, or with the sentiment of song, and so unreasonably long withal, when finished, the audience might about as well have heard read a chapter on genealogy, from the Old Testament. One would almost suppose it was a shift to kill

Then comes the opening prayer. I remember being present once, on "such an it, I counted forty five times in this one prayer, the vocative case prefixed with Oh, or O were used. And the confessions and repetitions made use of, Oh dear! I suppose I might possibly have been better employed. Were it not that it may appear like irreverence, I should like to add that it was highly suggestive of a little game. where the formula runs-" tit, tat, O, rub out an X and put in an O."

Rev Mr. Steele's lecture delivered at the Ministers' Institute at St. John, is apropos on many points to which I may call attention in a future letter. And then I shall further compare this slipshod kind | Harbour church, explaining the reasons of exercise, and the preaching for which it serves as an introduction, with what I conceive to be a suitable standard of public exposition. Does the reader ask if I am to the ministry. describing the effort of a College bred minister? I answer yes. At least, as I remember, in the case referred to, he held himself so to be.

But what right has any person, whether College bred or otherwise, to insult the common sense of an audience, by appearing before them as a preacher or teacher evidently unprepared, perhaps without a text, trusting to Providence, And when by disconnected chattering, vain repetitions desultory anecdotes, stale, flat and improfitable, impose upon one's patience, for a mortal hour calling it withal a religious

Far be it from me to speak or write irreverently or unbecomingly of the worship, of prayer or praise. But the Master himself has left us on record a rebuke to such as indulge in long inappropriate addresses of the kind I am criticising, and has stamped them with indignant disapprobation,

MASSILLON.

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

To REV. A. W. BARSS :

Dear Brother, - The undersigned members of the church and congregation which have enjoyed the benefits of your Ministerial Labours during the past two years desire to convey to you an expression of their deep sense of the earnestness, ability and be present on the occasion. Although not zeal which have ever characterized your labours for our good. The rich blessing gaged almost ever Sunday in preaching the of the Great Head of the church has been so largely vouchsafed to your labours for the spiritual well-being of the Flock committed to your charge that we cannot feel sufficiently grateful to our Heavenly Father, in whose kind providence your lot was cast amongst us. We believe that we shall ever entertain feelings of profound to hear of the progress of the Mission. On respect for you as a Christian Minister as well as for your estimable family, upon whom with yourself, we pray that the rich blessings of our Heavenly Father may continually descend.

J. CRANDALL. W. H. T. SUMNER, G. W. BONNELL. LOVEL LEWIS. Т. Китешк. H. F. STAVENS.

C. CHARTERS. E. HICKS.

Moncton, Sept. 31st, 1874.

REPLY.

Dear Brethren,-Your very kind and flattering address with the accompanying present is gratefully received.

The two years of labour amongst you have been years of deep anxiety for the welfare of the church and congregation.

It has been my aim to labour with an eye to God's Glory in view of the great judgement day, though conscious of many tailings the blessings attending those labours are from God and He alone deserves the praise.

Had it have been his will for me to labour with you longer I would have gladly done it, but seems not to be, therefore we must bow in submission and say Not my will, but thy will O Lord be done.

I thank you dear brethren for your kind wishes for myself and family and pray that as God has permitted the separation to occur. He may provide you a pastor more worthy of the important trust of caring for the sheep and lambs of the

Yours in the hope of eternal life, A W. BARSS. Moncton, Sept. 26th, 1874. -

Religious Intelligence.

ORDINATION AT ISAAC'S HARBOR.

An Ecclesiastical Council called by the occasion as I am trying to describe, with a Baptist Church at Isaac's Harbor, convened | wick, New Jersey, a little girl of nine college student, a lad who called my at- Sept. 26th at 2 P. M., to consider the protention to the invocations used by the priety of publicly setting apart to the work speaker in his prayer, and to make sure of of the Gospel Ministry Bro. L. M. Weeks.

Moderator, and Rev. Geo. W. Thomas,

After a short time had been spent in devotional exercises the names of the following delegates were enrolled.

Home Mission Board, - Rev Isaiah Wallace, General Agent,

Isaac's Harbor,-Brethren Allan Me Millan, William Pride, William Lintless, Peter Paysanson,

Guysboro, - Rev. J. P. Beel,

Canso, -- Rev. Geo. W. Thomas, Bro W. H. Hutchison. Statements were received from the Isaac's

which prompted the call for this council.

Bro. Weeks, being then called upon, related his Christian experience and call

A rigid examination of the candidate's views of Bible doctrine followed, conducted by Bro. Wallace, and freely participated in by other members of the council.

The candidate's examination as well as his reference to Christian experience and call to the ministry, being of a very satisfactory character, the council uranimously decided to proceed with his ordination. At 7 o'clock the public services took

place as follows: Ordination Sermon, - By Bro, J. P. Beel,

very appropriate discourse founded on Rom, x. 13-15.

Ordaining Prayer, - Bro. J. P. Beel. Charge to the candidate, and right hand of fellowship .- Bro. Isiah Wallace.

Charge to Church,-Bro. Geo. W. Thomas,

Benediction, - By the Candidate.

A deep solemnity pervaded the services throughout which seemed to indicate the marked presence and aprobation of the Divine Master. Bro. Weeks enters his work with en-

couraging prospects. He is highly esteemed

by his people with whom he has successfully laboured during the past year. GEO. W. THOMAS.

Clerk of Council.

AT SACKVILLE .- On Sunday afternoon, 27th ult., Rev. Dr. Clay administered the ordinance of baptism to two persons here in the presence of a large congregation, many of whom had come from a long distance to filling a regular pastorate, Dr. Clay is engospel in various places in the county He is expecting again shortly to administer the ordinance of baptism.

FRENCH MISSION .- Rev. M. Normonday writes :- Dear Brother,- No doubt the friends of the French Mission will be glad Sabbath last I had the pleasure of baptizing two happy converts, one of them had been a member of the church at Rome, the other was a lady of some sixty years of age. We are hard at work on our New Meeting House. We intend to complete the outside this Autumn.

Saulnierville, Oct, 1st, 1874.

We rejoice to announce that through the kindness of three or four generous friends the entire cost of the mission premises purchased for the English Baptist Mission in Italy at La Spezia has been met There are now at that place large and convenient premises, available for a missionary residence, for schools, for a sailors' readingroom, and for public worstip. The school contains already upwards of a hundred children; and much interest is excited in the town and neighbourhood by the labours of Br. Clark and the evangelist at work with him .- London Freeman.

A German paper printed at Valparaiso, Chili says that, in a church belonging to the Jesuits, there is a representation of purgatory, in which are seen the figures of the Emperor William, Bismarck and Falck, This is exceedingly generous on the part of the disciples of Loyola, as they might have consigned the arch enemies of their order to another and warmer place,

In the Fiji Islands, where forty years ago the people were so debased as to drink blood from human skulls, strangle widows and children, bury alive the helpless and the aged, etc., 10,000 people are now under the Methodist ministry alone, 25,000 attend the class meetings, and 53,000 children are in the Sabbath Schools. A gentleman relates the following incident:

I was taking tea with the missionary and his wife in the lone island of Kandavu, in the midst of 10,000 of these Fijians. A we were at tea, the bell rang. The missionary said, " that is the signal for family worship. Now listen; you will hear the drums beat;" and immediately they began to echo to each other round the shores of that southern sea. "There are 10,000 people on this island," said be, "and I do not know of a single house in which there will not be family worship in the space of half an hour from this time."

At the First Baptist Church, New Brunsyears blind from her birth, was baptized. As she related her experience, the people were astonished at her intelligence and the soundness of her views, which had been Organized by choosing Rev. J. P. Beel, spelled out with her fingers from the raised. print of her Bible. As this blind, believing child went into the liquid grave in her pastor's arms, and before she was baptized said, "I believe in Jesus ; I love him;" the feelings of the great congregation could not be restrained.

ICELAND. - The following is the text of the Law, by which Christianity was established in Iceland in the year 1000:-

1. All habitations of the island shall accept Christianity, and whoever in the land is still unbaptized shall receive baptism. 2. The temples and images of the gods shall be destroyed.

of having publicly made offerings to the gods, or worshipped their images, he shall be banished from the land. 4. But should he do these things secretly,

3 It any one be convicted by witnesses

he shall suffer uo punishment. (!) 5. The old laws concerning the exposure of children, the eating of horseflesh, and all others which do not overthrow Christianity, shall remain in torce.

According to Bayard Taylor, a rich and marvellous literary age began soon after the introduction of Christianity.

A Tovening Signt .- At the First Baptist Church, New Brunswick, New Jersey, a little girl of nine years. blind from her birth, was baptized. As she related her experience the people were astonished at her intelligence and the soundness of her views, which had been spelled out with he fingers from the raised print of her Bible. As this blind, believing babe went into the liquid grave in her pastor's arms, and betore she was baptized, said, "I believe in Jesus, I love Him."

Dominion& Foreign News.

HALIFAX, N. S., OCTOBER 7, 1874.

The Dominion official Gazette of Saturday contains the appointment of W. B. Vail to be a member of Her Majesty's Privy Council of Canada and Minister of Militia

The Great Western Railway Car Shops. at Clifton, Ontario, were burned on Tuesday night, with Graham's hotel.

An engine and five ours of a special train on the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railroad. were overturned on Tuesday by running over a cow. The fireman was instantly

Hardman & Co's "annery and Beltine Factory, in Montreal, was burned on Mon. day 28th uit. Loss \$40,000 - insured. Three cottages adjacent were also burntloss \$5,000.

The loss by the Lennoxville fire on Monday, is estimated at \$200,000.

The military academy is to be located at Kingston.

The steam saw mills of J. H. Hullat, Hamilton, Ontario, with a million feet of lumber, were burned on Saturday last.

It is estimated that a railway tunnel can be put under Niagara for a million dollars,

NEW BRUNSWICK.

A terrible accident occurred on Wednesday night on board the freight train from Moneton to St. John. A switchman named George McWilliams was engaged in directing two loaded flat cars into the siding at Petiteodiae Station, and while doing so noticed that the chain with which the cars were connected had become loosened and was dragging. It is supposed that he stooped down between the cars to catch the chain, and while in that position the cars came together and completely crushed his head, killing him instantly. The still palpitating body fell between the two cars when they separated, and one of them passed over and cut off both legs of the unfortunate man. He was unmarried and aged 25 years.

SUDDEN DEATH .- On Tuesday evening of last week W. H. Needman, Esq., while walking from the Court House at Woodstock stopped at a house for a drink of water, and almost immediately expired. He was a lawyer by profession. He was prominent in public affairs, having represented St. John in the Common Council. He was several times in the House of Assembly of New Brunswick.

Manship, the boy murderer of Sackville has been committed for trial.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Railway work is expeditiously performed at Charlottetown, Mark Butcher, Esq., recently built four first-class railway cars in the extraordinary space of thirty-one days. There were 14 men on an average, employed on the work; which was equal to one man for 105 days to each car. The workmanship has been pronounced by competent judges to be first class.

Forty candidates for teachers' licenses appeared for examination before the Board of Education, but were all refused. Their failure was mainly due to the fact that the Board had raised the standard of required proficiency.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The House of Assembly has been dissolved, and a general election will shortly be held.

UNITED STATES.

The Grand Duke Vladimir will represent the Emperor of Russia at the contennial exhibition at Philadelphia.

Great damage was done to the crops in North Carolina by a storm on Monday of last week.

An escort to a supply train repulsed 400 Indians, after three days fighting. The Indiane had 27 killed; the troops 13 killed and wounded.

In New Orleans thirty houses in Mannis street were burned on the 1st Inst; loss \$35,000.

A fire at Greenpoint St., destroyed 25 buildings; loss \$100,000, insured \$59,000.

A passenger train on the Utica and Shenandoah Valley railroad was wrecked by collision with a gravel train on Friday, and two persons were killed and several wounded.

Fire at Steubenville, Ohio, on Wednesday, caused loss of \$100,000; and at Chieco, California, \$80,000.

Considerable damage was caused by a storm in a portion of South Carolina and Georgia, on Monday of last week.

It is reported that the New York agency of the Bank of Montreal loses \$250,000 by the failure of James Bishop & Co.

A collision Valley Raily was wrecked persons serio The Grand

destroyed by \$400,000. Another e York for to

Passenger pool have be SOUTH A refused the railroad.

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