

For the Christian Messenger.

DEACON JACOB KEMPTON'S MISFORTUNE.

Dear Editor,—

I received a few days ago a letter under date of Dec. 10, from my esteemed brother Dea. Jacob Kempton of Majland, Annapolis Co., giving me a recital of his great loss. As Dea. K. is quite generally known in the Province I have deemed it wise to give you an extract from his letter, with the hope that generous and wealthy friends in various parts of the country may be prompted to do something to relieve our brother who is now considerably advanced in life, and who at this inclement season of the year, must be greatly weighed down under this serious calamity.

"You will I know sympathize with me in my great loss. A week ago yesterday morning we were awakened by fire in our house. We tried to put it out until all hope was gone and it was too late to save much. All we saved worth mentioning was my writing desk, containing the price of a pair of oxen, just sold a few days before, one suit of clothes and a feather bed. Not even watch, clock or furniture, nor even a dish of any kind was saved. Some of the family were partly dressed and some in their night clothes.—Martha chilled her feet badly. Her husband who lived in the house with me saved the most of his furniture, but lost all his clothing, food and most of his grain. Most all of mine, was also destroyed. I had no insurance. I had just got the remainder of my house finished the past summer and was very comfortable. I estimate my loss at \$2,000."

Should any respond to the suggestion made at the beginning of this extract they will only be complying with the apostolic injunction, "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ."

Yours truly, ISA. WALLACE. Berwick, Dec. 27, 1875.

For the Christian Messenger.

THE NEW ACADEMY BUILDING.

Dear Editor,—

Please allow me to acknowledge the following subscriptions to the above object:—

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes C. W. New, Trenont \$5.00, Samuel Welton, 5.00, Geo. Spiney, 5.00, Isaac Parker, 5.00, Harvey Parker, 1.00, A. F. Chipman, Berwick, 5.00, T. H. Parker, 30.00, F. O. Weeks, Wolfville, 10.00, Z. A. Hubley, Worcester, plus \$5.00 given before, 4.36, Mrs. W. Chipman, Kentville, 5.00, Rev. G. Churchill, Canada, 20.00, Chandler Robbins, Yarmouth, 5.00, A. Frie, 4.00, Academy Institute, 4.65, Previously acknowledged, 8,657.32.

Total \$8,766.23 For the Committee, D. M. WELTON.

The Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, N. S., DECEMBER 22, 1875

TEMPUS FUGIT.

Time hastens on from stage to stage in his journey, carrying us with unwearied wing into the vast unknown. Here in this world we count our years—one, two, three, twenty, thirty, forty—as they pass away, and by deducting the number from that usually allotted to mankind, we judge somewhat as to what may be the remainder, and so shape our course accordingly. We have not the power of arresting his flight and would not do so if we could. Yet we may seize him by the forelock, and so by a wise appropriation of the moments

REDEEM THE TIME

already past, and if we have found the Pearl of great price, we may go on gathering up fresh pearls to be found all along the shores of the great ocean of eternity. We may thus secure wealth, of which the world knows nothing, and besides laying up treasures in heaven, have the wherewithal to bless our fellow-travellers and companions journeying with us towards the heaven of higher spiritual and intellectual joys; where brighter sunshine is obtained than the material orb of day, lent to us for a time in this lower world, can furnish, and sweeter flowers grow than we can get from the most congenial soil on the surface of this, our earth, Where everlasting spring abides, And never-withering flowers.

The pleasant myth of Christmas again comes on to afford gratification alike to youth and age; to awaken in the hearts of all, feelings of kindness and benevolence; in imitation of Him who gave himself for our sins, and of the great and loving Creator who gave his well-beloved Son as an expression of good-will to men, and opened up a bright prospect of heavenly peace coming down to earth as announced by the songs of angels.

Although the time of year of this great event is mythical, yet the great fact of Christ appearing amongst men, as a little child, is too precious to allow of any drawbacks. Pleasant recollections of the past are thus brought forward and serve to enhance the present joys notwithstanding that they are so fleeting and evanescent.

If these seasons do but assist to convince us that our joys in this world depend on our efforts to impart happiness to others, and if we keep this ever before us, we shall not in vain offer the hearty wish that all our friends may enjoy

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS.

ACADEMY COLLEGE AND HORTON COLLEGIATE ACADEMY.

The half-yearly examinations of the Students in the College Classes last week were of a most satisfactory character. The contemplated opening of the New Academy Building brought together a number of men of influence and gave the occasion an unusual degree of interest. The Examinations of the Classes in the Collegiate Academy were largely attended, and deep interest was taken in the proceedings. In addition to the usual tests applied to ascertain, and exhibit the efficiency of the institutions under the present management, there was a highly exciting Spelling Contest between twenty of the young men—students of the Academy, and twenty of the young lady-students.

TERMINAL EXERCISES AT HORTON ACADEMY.

The examinations closing the work of the present term of the Institution took place on Wednesday and Thursday of last week. Classes were examined by Prof. Tufts in Latin, Logic and Grecian History; by Mr. Coldwell in Algebra, Arithmetic, and French; by Mr. Eaton in Greek, British History, and Astronomy; and by Miss Woodworth in Physiology and Geometry. The Exercises reflected much credit upon both teachers and pupils, indicating that a large amount of good solid work had been done during the term. The young ladies in particular, acquitted themselves well especially in Logic and Geometry. In the afternoon of Thursday the Spelling Match took place. This proved to be the great attraction of the Examination.

Twenty young ladies were pitted against twenty young men, and three prizes were to reward the victors, a first of \$5.00 given by J. W. Barss, Esq., second \$2.50, third \$1.50, both given by another gentleman of the village. Dr. A. W. Barss and Prof. Jones were the referees. The words were given out by two of the teachers Mr. Eaton and Mr. Coldwell. The spelling on the whole was very creditable, the words being disposed of in rapid succession, and it was not till above sixty had been spelt that they claimed a victim. After this the contest was close and keen for some minutes, then the ranks of the young men began to waver as one after another "stepped down and out" till at the end of an hour, only four boys held the field against about a dozen girls. The contest now became extremely interesting, the boys holding their own manfully. Words of doubtful orthography, words of eccentric orthography and words whose only merit seemed to be the stubbornness of their orthography, were rapidly and mercilessly hurled at the contestants, yet they stood up bravely. Speller after speller, however, finally succumbed to this orthographical fusillade, leaving one on each side, Mr. Thompson, of Colchester Co., and Miss Curry, of Windsor. The interest in the contest was now intense. All the spectators in the densely crowded hall were eagerly awaiting the issue. At length, Mr. Thompson misplaced the letters in the word "gauging" and Miss Curry was proclaimed victor. Miss Annie Brown, of Wolfville, took the 3rd prize. Mr. Dykeman, of New Brunswick, deserves honorable mention as 4th in the list. The whole affair was voted a complete success. The credit of originating this match is due to Mr. Barss, and it is to be hoped that its influence will give a

renewed impetus to the study of orthography, a somewhat difficult, though necessary part of a liberal education.

OPENING OF NEW ACADEMY BUILDING AT WOLFVILLE.

About 300 sat down to dinner in the spacious Dining Hall of this beautiful edifice, on the evening of December 16th. The Hon. Dr. Parker presided, and after the repast was over, he, in his happiest style, called up various speakers who addressed the large assemblage in speeches, varying in matter, but of the most deeply interesting character.

The Rev. Dr. Crawley, the only survivor of the Committee who, in 1828, had the honor of establishing the Academy, was, the first gentleman to entertain the audience.

He referred to the small dwelling in which the Rev. Mr. Chapin, now of Kansas, first commenced the School. That small beginning having culminated in what he saw around him—the fine structure, capable of accommodating from 80 to 100 students; and in connection with which there are now six teachers, and 135 pupils—led the venerable Dr. into a train of remarks of which progress was the subject-matter. This gave full play to his thoughts in connexion with a subject most congenial to his noble mind and spirit. The gratitude and dignity of being allied with the Author of all true progress were set out in that felicity of diction for which the Dr. is so celebrated.

Dr. Cramp, another of the venerable Fathers, was then called to his feet; and, as ever, he was ready and happy. Although nearly an octogenarian, yet the fountain of facts flowed freely, and the effect was both pleasing and profitable. It was appropriate, said this Dr. that the other Dr. had been called up first, for, from the records, it appeared that Dr. Crawley was the only surviving member of the Committee, that was appointed by the Association, held in Wolfville, June 23rd, 24th, 1828, to carry out the decision of that body, to found an Academy. There were present at that Association Revs. Edw. Manning, the man of dignity and strength, T. H. Harding the ready eloquent preacher Joseph Dimock the man of love and benevolence. Thomas Ainsley, Munroe, Handy Chipman of Nictuax and others, now enjoying rest from their labours.

The year before, the Granville Street Church was formed, and was their received into the Association. Dr. Crawley must have penned the prospectus for the proposed Academy.

The Treasurer of the Society formed at this Association was Bro. Simon Fitch, the Secretaries, E. A. Crawley, Esq., and Wm. Chipman, Esq., now Dr. Crawley and the late Rev. Wm. Chipman.

Next year it was reported that a farm was bought for £550 and work was commenced, not farming, but school work. A gentleman from the United States, now Rev. Mr. Chapin was engaged as teacher. A letter to Dr. Sawyer from that gentleman was then read by Dr. Cramp. He laboured for only one year,—and then returned to his home. In his letter to Dr. Sawyer, Mr. Chapin expresses his pleasant recollections of his stay in Wolfville. Father Harding, Deacon S. Fitch, Dr. Johnston and the DeWolfs were particularly mentioned. In his "mind's eye there was still the little old Brown House of two rooms," in which he taught his School. A Mr. Best assisted him. The names of Charles DeWolfe,—late Rev. Dr. DeWolfe, Chipman and others were referred to as pupils whom he especially remembered.

At Wolfville Mr. Chapin says he preached his first sermon.

In 1828, Dr. Cramp, stated in his remarks, that there were 31 Baptist Churches and 1772 members in Nova Scotia; now there are 1173 Churches 20,495 members.

The ability of the body and the work done at the first, were contrasted with the ability and work of the present. The stringency of the present times is great, but the British and Foreign Bible Society was formed in 1804, when Napoleon was ravaging Europe, and it prospered. Jerusalem was built in "tight times," and the work succeeded. We know who overers the times. He can help those who undertake great things in his name.

When this address closed, Hon. Dr. Parker said that, on account of the "tight times," to which Dr. Cramp had referred, the Committee had not been able to raise quite \$9,000 for the cost of the building in which they were assembled, the expenses of which, furniture included, was a little over \$17,000. Young gentlemen and ladies

present accepted, with cheers, a hint from the Dr. that it would be well for them to inform their friends of this fact when they went to their homes for vacation; and the Committee would feel very grateful, if, on their return, the debt should suddenly become smaller.

Rev. A. S. Hunt, Superintendent of Education, was the next speaker. The audience was treated to some pleasant reminiscences of student life, the speaker having been a member of the second class that graduated at the College. He came to the Institution in the spring of 1840. A great revival of religion was then experienced in the Institutions, and among the neighbouring churches. The labours of Prof. Isa. Chipman were referred to, and a tribute of praise was paid to "the little energetic, persevering man." The educational work of the Baptists was then considered by the Speaker, first as a Baptist, and secondly, as a Nova Scotian. Our principles have prevailed, and a line laid down for future work. A tribute of praise was paid to the Scotch Presbyterians who had done great educational work in the Eastern part of the Province.

J. W. Johnston, Esq., was then called upon representing the first class of graduates from the College. The audience was favoured with some interesting facts, gathered from this gentleman's early College days, and with expressions of interest in the past and the future of the Baptists in the work which falls to their lot in the matter of education in this province. His memory carried him back to childhood when he heard the founders of the Institutions talk of matters connected with the work they had undertaken. He was convinced that the success that had come upon the Institutions, had come in answer to the earnest prayers of those who undertook this great work in the name of the Lord.

Prof. Tufts was then called upon, and in a few remarks made it plain that the prospects were good to have at least one hundred students in the College at an early day. Twenty-five matriculated last year, and the prospect is that there will be 36 after themselves as matriculates next June.

Prof. Elder of Colby University, Me. responded to a call from Hon. Dr. Parker, and as the time was limited, only made a few observations, in which he expressed his great sympathy with educational work at Wolfville; and also related some facts connected with the work of the Baptists of the State of Maine, in their successful efforts to provide academic instruction in that State. In the town of Halton, the Congregationalists and the Unitarians have turned over their institutions to the Baptists, to put them into a more efficient state, and to carry them forward more energetically.

Avard Longley Esq., M. P. P., being called upon, made a brief speech and sat down amid the regrets of all present, that time did not permit him to express his views on the great subject. One significant fact was referred to by Mr. Longley, that, so far as he had been able to inform himself, the institutions at Horton had never received from the provincial funds but \$2,000, while other bodies had received for the same purpose from \$30,000 to \$50,000 each.

J. B. North Esq., M. P. P. favoured the company with some interesting remarks made brief by the limited time at his command.

L. V. Chipman, Esq., said in a brief speech, given in response to a loud call from the company, at the mention of his name by Dr. Parker that he had felt proud in hearing an account of the work done in connexion with these Institutions by his ancestor. The late Rev. Mr. Chipman, his uncle, and the late Prof. Isaac Chipman, his cousin, receiving, as they did the tribute of praise from speakers who preceded him. It had awakened in his bosom a feeling of gratitude and of responsibility. He felt that the County of Kings should remove the debt from the building; and he then pledged one hundred dollars for this object.

The new building presents a fine exterior and the internal arrangements are of the highest order. The dinner was attended by a very large number of ladies and gentlemen; and the proceedings from beginning to end were of the most highly satisfactory character.

The chairman suggested that the New Building had not yet received a name, but that if any friend would make a donation of \$5000, he might have the privilege of giving it a name

which might be handed down to posterity. There is some hope that this proposal will not long remain open.

The entertainment closed with the benediction from Dr. Crawley. The time had arrived for the

RHETORICAL EXERCISES OF THE SOPHOMORE CLASS

in the Baptist Church, which was regarded as in advance of any similar occasion; the essay of the students being of a very superior order. The following is the programme:

- Practical Education, by E. P. Coldwell, Gasperaux
Poetry and its Mission, by B. W. Lockhart, Lockhartville.
True Manliness, by I. C. Archibald, Stewiacke.
Legends, by J. A. Faulkner, Lower Horton.
The Teaching of Facts (Excused), by W. O. Wright, Hopewell, N. B.
Hoc Age, by R. Bishop, Greenwich.
Social Position of Educated men, by T. Bishop, Greenwich.
Mountains make Men by M. R. Tuttle, Stellarton.

Fine classical music came in at intervals, and at the close the National Anthem.

As we approach the close of another year, we are reminded that the coming year will bring with it new wants, and new responsibilities. Our readers may rest assured that we shall not relax in our efforts to provide for them rich and varied repasts from week to week, to meet their wants, intellectual, moral, social, and spiritual. Our resources were never greater, and we judge of their wants by our own necessities. Our contributors were never so numerous. We have had assurances from some of our best writers in the provinces, that their pens shall continue to be employed in enriching our columns. Rev. Dr. Cramp proposes, if spared, to furnish some articles on "My Contemporaries." With the abundant stores at his command, these will doubtless give us an introduction to a number of choice spirits whose acquaintanceship will be worth possessing.

We are expecting to receive a quantity of new type, ready for the New Year, in which to convey the thoughts from our brethren to our readers, which will greatly increase their pleasure in perusing our pages.

"The Christian Messenger," a professedly Baptist paper, also had its little fling at Mr. Weeks. This also got its answer. We have reason to believe that a large majority of the Baptists of Guysborough voted for Mr. Weeks. "Morning Chronicle" 21st.

We deny the allegation in the above, and challenge the allegator to prove his assertion. Here is all we said beyond the simple facts of the nomination:

"Of course both parties are sure of the success of their candidate. We are informed that barrels of flour are to be seen just now, in great abundance in Guysborough county, whether they have anything to do with the election is not of course, very easy to learn."

Now if the Chronicle thinks this was a "fling at Mr. Weeks," he is greatly mistaken. It was neither more nor less than what we were told, without reference to parties. Why does the editor of the Chronicle suppose that it alluded to Mr. Weeks? We pause for a reply.

Rev. J. W. Bancroft has left the pastorate of the Windsor Baptist Church. He tendered his resignation but although the church refused to accept it, he (Mr. B.) was unwilling to withdraw it. We shall be glad to hear of his being soon settled again over one of our churches in this province.

SUCCESS TO ENTERPRISE.—The effort of the friends worshipping in Gerish Hall, last week was highly successful at the bazaar in Argyle Hall; the tables were well filled with useful and ornamental articles—the handiwork of the ladies, which reflected much credit on the industry which had for a good while animated many skillful hands. When people have a mind to work they find ways of applying their powers not previously developed or understood. Their labors were rewarded with large assemblages of patrons who purchased readily from both work-tables and refreshment-tables, and we believe they pretty generally received full value for their money.—These sales and admission fees amounting to upwards of \$500.

It is pleasing to find that the benevolent institutions in our city are receiving seasonable attention. The Infants' Home with its 20 or 30 little inmates is not forgotten. Christmas charities are highly appropriate to this young and much needed institution. It is in excellent hands.