

For the Christian Messenger. The New Academy Building.

Dear Editor,—

Will you please allow me to call the attention of your readers to the above object again? From the silence which has been maintained the last three or four months, some of them may be almost ready to conclude that this building has been permanently placed beyond want, and that no further subscriptions are required. This, I am sorry to say, is not the case. The total cost of the building together with that of outbuildings, grading, fencing, furnishing students' rooms and steward's department, dishes and cutlery for dining room, furnace, elevator, tanks, foats up to \$17,500.

From the figures given below it will be seen that the subscription list, after allowing for the shrinkage to which such papers are liable, will no more than cover half this sum. And when, in addition to this, it is borne in mind that over \$2000 of subscriptions remain yet unpaid, it will be apparent that the debt standing against the building is still large—too large to be carried without greatly crippling the energies of the school.

As the principal means of meeting the interest on this debt is the rental of the rooms, it becomes desirable to have all the rooms occupied. But in order to this the rent must not exceed the financial ability of the student. A high rent will have the effect of closing many of the rooms; with a very low one the interest on the debt cannot be met. It is then plainly important to reduce the debt, and as soon and largely as possible.

For this purpose I have to ask, first, that those who have not yet sent in their subscriptions, will kindly do so at their earliest convenience; and secondly, that those who have not yet rendered any assistance will give us the pleasure of acknowledging a subscription from them also.

It is important that as much as possible be done between this and the approaching anniversary on June 1st. Will not our friends, subscribers and non-subscribers to this object generously come to our help at once.

As a splendid offset to the debt, we have the building itself—worth more to the school and denomination than twice its cost in mere money.

During the past term it has been pretty well filled, and the schools as a whole have been in a healthy and prosperous condition.

Please allow me to acknowledge the following subscriptions:—

- Rev. C. Corey, Richmond, Va. \$ 4.60
Mrs. Robt. Fulton, Upper Economy..... 2.00
Mrs. W. W. George, Burmah... 18.17
Chas. W. Fitch, plus \$12 given before, Wolfville..... 13.00
Previously acknowledged..... 8,913.30

Total.....\$8,885.53
For the Committee, D. M. WELTON.

For the Christian Messenger.

Cruelty Self-inflicted.

The young man, selected from the class of eight which graduated from the Presbyterian College in Halifax last week, to give the valedictory, made reference critically to several other Colleges in his address. In referring to Acadia College, he was understood to suggest that the study of Greek and Latin Composition should be introduced into that institution.

When it was remembered that this matter receives special attention at Acadia, and when it is remembered that the class, represented by the facetious Valedictorian, sat by without courage to enter the lists of competitors for a great public prize, and that this prize—the Gilchrist Scholarship—was carried off by Mr. Schurman, a member of the class in Acadia, of the same year as that in Dalhousie to which the Valedictorian belongs—when all this is borne in mind, the irony of the Valedictorian's reference to Acadia College becomes as cold as steel, and as cruel as the grave! Was the young man hitting Dalhousie College or his own class? It is too bad to be so cruel to his mother or to himself and brothers.

VISITOR.

A telegram from Montreal on Monday informs us that a copy of a miraculous picture in Rome, said to have effected a large number of cures in cases of sickness, was carried in a procession into St. Patrick's Church on Sunday, and there deposited in a shrine, having been previously blessed by the Bishop, who was present. Marvellous!

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., May 3rd, 1876.

The approach of Spring brings with it the anticipation of brethren meeting together in the several organizations for co-operation in christian work. The condition of the funds for sustaining such operations, how they may be more effectively employed and increased will be matters calling up the attention and earnest thought of the brethren. Proposals for modification of plans and carrying out more fully those already formed will demand consideration.

Perhaps none of these are more needing attention than those employed in our Home Missionary operations. The Union now located at Yarmouth was formed after long and grave consultation, with the design of combining the active benevolence of the churches in the whole province. It has since embraced Prince Edward Island. This department of our churches has had the best services of a number of the most devoted ministers and brethren in carrying forward its operations. The discontinuance of the labors of the first General Agent somewhat interfered with the ability of the Board to reach the more distant churches and ascertain their condition or meet their necessities.

Perhaps it would not be wise to spend further time in matters of organization, as it may not as yet be apparent what are the full results already shewn by the existing machinery, or what are the possibilities that may be effected by the union, as now formed. What we want is a more hearty sympathy and general support of the operations and designs of the Board by the churches, large and small. When every member of each church feels the responsibility of the work resting upon him, whether he be a member of the Board or not, and that the same obligation rests upon him to spend himself in prosecuting the work or sustaining those who are engaged in it, then, and not before, will the full power of the organization be developed.

There has been much of effort employed by some of our friends in seeking to enlarge our organization and make it cover the Maritime Provinces. The more practical men, however, have regarded this project as somewhat premature. Our contemporary the Visitor of last week has an article making some allusion to the matter from the New Brunswick standpoint. Our brother says:

"We confess that, though apparently easy, yet it is a difficult question to decide. Because much, as regards results will, under God, depend on the spirit and energy with which an organization or cause is worked and carried on; so that mere organization, large or small, old or new, will not, of itself, afford any pledge of efficiency or success."

While he makes this admission in theory, he follows it up by saying:

"We think union in Home Mission work is very desirable, and every proper effect should be made to enlist all our churches and congregations in it. We are favorable to a union of all our churches and congregations in the Maritime Provinces, at least, in this holy and benevolent enterprise; and yet we have no desire for such union unless good reasons present themselves for believing that greater interest and zeal in the cause would be awakened; greater liberality called forth; more thorough cultivation of the mission fields, and greater efficacy secured, and, therefore, rational ground to expect greatly enlarged success by the blessing of God."

Further he remarks: "A union of different Associations or Provinces, in order to be satisfactory, must be well understood by all, be cordial, on a right and proper basis, be brought about in an acceptable manner, and placed under wise and efficient management—those who will recognize themselves as servants of the denomination, and not its masters. In other words, the Board of Management should have the confidence of the denomination, and be able to draw out largely and direct wisely the benevolent contributions of the churches for Home Mission work. But if the larger organization designed to include all these Provinces, should from any cause be unacceptable to any considerable portion of the brethren, and was rather acquiesced in than cordially advocated, or welcomed, it would receive but a reluctant and scanty support in the work contemplated, or perhaps lead to unhappy, and it may be bitter feelings, or possibly alienation and division; we do not think that under such circumstances, it would be wise or useful to form, or press the formation of such Union. But leaving the matter respecting union with the other Province in Home Mission work to time and a better understanding for adjustment there is one thing that seems very desirable to accomplish in our own Province, viz., that instead of having, as at present, several distinct Home Missionary Organizations

and Boards, the churches should be requested to recognize and work through one Board for the entire Province, and locate that Board in the best position, and among the brethren most competent and willing to carry forward with zeal and energy the great enterprise of Home Missions."

It may be that the plans on which our New Brunswick brethren are working if put into vigorous operation are as effective as any larger one they might adopt. So far as we, in this province, are concerned, it is plain that having formed the Union machinery we have but to unite in and make it a union in reality rather than in name.

Rev. W. B. BOGGS, with his wife and infant, arrived on Monday about mid-day in the mail steamer Caspian, from India via Great Britain. We took the earliest opportunity of visiting them on board the steamship, and found Mr. B. with the evidences of his sickness in the East and also at Liverpool, G. B., on his countenance. We learn from him that, notwithstanding the roughness of the voyage he had greatly improved in health since leaving England, and he seemed now quite cheerful and happy in meeting friends.

It is hoped that Mr. Boggs will be able to be present at the meeting to be held in the Granville Street church this evening, and give some account of his mission in Burmah, Siam and India.

REV. DR. TUPPER.

Since the commencement of the severe sickness of our aged friend Rev. Dr. Tupper, a report became pretty generally circulated that he had died on the 14th inst., and was buried. When this appeared in the Halifax papers copied from one in the country, we immediately gave the necessary correction. Still many had heard and as it came from one of the Annapolis county papers, they believed the report. Some of our readers—we have since learned—thought it strange that we did not refer to the matter. As however the report had not appeared in our columns, we judged it best to let it alone lest we might give it further currency and so distress his friends.

A letter from Rev. I. E. Bill appears in the number of the Visitor in which he speaks of a visit he recently paid to Dr. Tupper. This our readers will be pleased to peruse:

VISIT TO REV. DR. TUPPER.

On our way to Wolfville the current report on the cars was that Dr. Tupper was dead and buried. This report prevailed in Wolfville until contradicted in the papers received on Friday evening. On our return through Berwick a gentleman informed us that report said that Dr. Tupper died on Friday, the 14th inst., and when he saw us he proposed going to the funeral. As we passed on through Aylesford we ascertained that he was still living, and though we had full intended to proceed directly to St. John by Saturday's boat, yet it seemed that we must pause on our journey and call upon our loved brother in his affliction, and strange to say, as if sent by Providence, when we arrived at Kingston Station, there was Bro. Tupper's team all ready to take us over to his house. What could we do but go? He and his family gave us a most cordial reception. Such a visit to a sick bed we seldom had. There lay the hero of a thousand conflicts with the power of darkness, and one of the chosen leaders of the army of the living God; physically pale, languid and helpless, but strong in faith, giving glory to God; memory as tenacious as ever, and his mind as clear as the morning light. As we looked upon the man of God a thousand touching reminiscences rushed into our minds,—his baptism by Father Manning in the Sheffield Mill Stream, the first baptism we had ever seen. As he was raised by the administrator he stood in the baptismal waters, and with a countenance clad with deep solemnity he addressed the vast congregation in words of telling power. In 1817 we witnessed his ordination as an evangelist in the Old Canard Meeting House, by Fathers Manning and T. Harding. That was the first ordination we had ever witnessed. Prior to this his preaching in Cornwallis, Aylesford, Parrsboro', and other places have been attended with much unction from the Holy One, and souls were converted. Though then in the days of childhood impressions were made on our young heart that can never be erased. Nearly 60 years have passed over his head since his ordination, and to him they have been years of careful study, of increasing Christian work in the pulpit, in the press, and from house to house, bearing with him wherever he went the marks of his Saviour's footsteps. His protracted life has been one undivided and practical testimony to the Christianity of the Bible. As we looked into his calm and peaceful countenance, we would seem to see that life shining with all the brilliancy of the noon-day sun.

He is trustful, and at sometimes joyful in the prospect of death, trusting alone in the finished work of his Redeemer as the only foundation of human hope. He has been greatly comforted by visits from his sons—Hon. Charles Tupper, and Doctor Nathan Tupper. His medical adviser is Dr. Beckwith, son of the late Mahew Beckwith, Esq. He is exceedingly kind and attentive. He expresses great gratitude to his heavenly Father for having given him a wife that is now especially acting the part of a ministering angel, to shed light and comfort all around him. It seems a great satisfaction to him also to have his loved daughter, Mrs. Bleakney with him; and then he is favored in addition with an excellent nurse who gives unremitting attention to his wants. The members of the two churches, over which he presided so successfully for so many years, embrace every opportunity to express their love and good will in this time of need. We mention these facts so that his numerous friends in these Provinces may know that all is done that human sympathy can suggest to administer to his comfort, but best of all God is with him, filling him with the full assurance of faith and guiding him securely over the swellings of Jordan.

We tarried with him over night, and when we took our leave of him on Sunday morning, he said, "Give my love to all my friends, and tell them I hope to meet them all in heaven."

"Soldier of Christ, well done, Praise be thy new employ; And while eternal ages run, Rest in thy Saviour's joy."

DALHOUSIE COLLEGE CONVOCATION.

The Annual Convocation of Dalhousie College was held on Wednesday last in the Assembly Room, lent for the occasion, the usual place of meeting, it was said, was occupied. The students filled the seats on the floor of the House, while the visitors sat around the sides and in the galleries. We learned from one of the faculty that the attendance was not so large as on former occasions—probably caused by the fall of snow which commenced just before.

Rev. Principal Ross took the chair and opened with prayer.

Professor McDonald read the Pass List of Students by which it appeared there were of the

Table with 2 columns: Year, Number of students. 4th year..... 8, 3rd year..... 13, 2nd year..... 30, 1st year..... 11, Total..... 42

The giving of the prizes to the students occupied a long time, and was enjoyed and applauded by the whole. They consisted of books, and money, and the Governor-General's Gold and Silver medals. The latter had not arrived, but the names of the successful contestants were mentioned.

Dr. Lawson, Dean of the Faculty presented the Class of the 4th year for graduation, when the Principal conferred the B. A. degree on Francis H. Bell, George H. Fulton, Isaac McDowall, James A. McLean, John W. McLeod, Joseph S. Morton, John Munro and James M. Stewart; and the degree of M. A. on the Rev. John M. Allen, of Miramichi, N. B.

Mr. Stewart, of the graduating class, then read a brief valedictory, which was a highly instructive paper, as showing the ladies and gentlemen at present belonging to other denominations what kind of spirit was cherished towards the other educational institutions of the Province, and what they may expect from this in the future. Such a paper might have served very well as an article for the Dalhousie Gazette, but as a specimen of what might be supposed to have received the imprimatur of the Faculty was disreputable and insulting. If the President or any member of the Faculty had offered any apology, or explanation that they had not had time to review the paper before presentation it might be overlooked; but the Governors and the visitors present by invitation must have regarded it as in very bad taste to hear such remarks from the one supposed to be the most advanced of the students.

This address was the only production presented by any of the students.

The Principal then announced that the exercises had concluded and called for addresses from gentlemen present.

Mayor Richey spoke to good effect. Being an ex-officio governor he could but think that there should be a University in Halifax.

Rev. Dr. Burns gave a good address on the position and prospects of Dalhousie. He gave some excellent advice to the graduates and students shewing how they might best promote the interests of their Alma Mater.

Mr. D. C. Fraser, President of the Alumni Association spoke to the monied

men of Halifax of the need of an Endowment Fund for Dalhousie, and proposed that \$100,000 be raised for this purpose. He said one gentleman had already offered \$10,000 for a free unsectarian college. This sum we suppose is not to be for the purpose of sustaining a Presbyterian or a Universalist Professorship, as the present law provides, but a bona fide endowment. It will be seen now whether the Presbyterians and others will really endow Dalhousie College, or invest their money in such a way as that they can, as at present, withdraw their funds at any future time from Dalhousie and put them into any other Institution they may think proper.

NEWSPAPER POSTAGE.

The following is a return of newspapers and periodicals in those cities of the Dominion, sent from the office of publication, and the amount of revenue derived therefrom for the three months, ending 31st December last:—

Table with 3 columns: Cities, No. of papers, Postage paid. Toronto..... 35, Montreal... 31, London..... 8, Halifax..... 17, St. John, N.B. 16, Quebec..... 13, Hamilton... 6, Ottawa..... 7

REV. DR. MCGREGOR.—The Senate of Queen's University, Kingston, Ont., at its session on the 25th ult., conferred the honorary degree of Doctor in Divinity on the Rev. P. G. McGregor, of Halifax. We tender our hearty congratulations to Dr. McGregor on his reception of this mark of respect.

NOTICES.

RECEIVED FROM WOMEN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES.

- Barrington,—Mrs. M. D. Forbes...\$2.64
Hillsburgh,—Mrs. L. S. Marshall... 4.00
Wolfville,—Miss BARRS.....17.50
M. R. SELDEN, Sec'y.
Halifax, May 3, 1875.

RECEIVED FOR HOME MISSIONS.

- Dear Editor,—Please announce in the Messenger, that our Board have received the following sums for Home Missions:
"A Friend," Guysborough.....\$20.00
Great Village, in addition to the amount before reported..... 2.75
Upper Londonderry, per Rev. M. P. Freeman..... 9.60
Wilmot Church, per Rev. M. P. Normandy..... 10.00
2nd. St. Mary's Church, per Rev. J. B. McQuillin..... 7.74
Total.....\$50.09

Rev. P. A. Shields has been appointed by the Board for a few weeks to collect funds. The churches will please receive him as our agent and give him all the assistance in their power.

"A Constant Reader" complains that somebody uses too frequently the pronoun "I." The writer referred to might escape his criticism by following my example. I use the "royal" pronoun "we."

G. E. DAY.

Yarmouth, April 29, 1876.

Letters Received.

- J. M. Smith, 50 c. N. J. McDonald.
Jas. R. Reid, J. M. Parker Esq., \$5.
M. Kinsman, \$4. Rev. O. C. S. Wallace, \$1.
Dr. Webster, J. Desbrisay, Esq., \$4.
O. Brown, 1 sub. J. W. Irving, Rev. A. Cogswell, Mrs. Bent, \$2.
Rev. J. Williams, J. D. Marsters, \$20.
F. A. Kennedy.

LOCAL NEWS.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Halifax Co.—To be a Commissioner for giving relief to Insolvent Debtors, &c.—J. M. Geldert. To be Justices of the Peace—Samuel Murphy, Mount Uniacke; and Henry Wright, Bedford.

Kings Co.—To be Issuer of Marriage Licenses for the District of Gaspereaux—Ambrose Vaughan.

Shelburne Co.—To be a Coroner—A. M. Perrin, Esq., M. D.

Digby Co.—To be a Commissioner for giving relief to Insolvent Debtors, &c.—John G. Nowlan, Esq., of Tusket, Clare.

To be Issuer of Marriage Licenses at Tiverton—St. Clair Ruggles. To be Justices of the Peace—Edward Walsh, Bear River; and Ambrose A. Comeau, Clare. To be a Commissioner of schools for the County of Clare—Rev. P. W. Brown, vice Rev. J. T. Bernard, removed to Parrsboro.

Six convicts now confined in the Halifax Penitentiary are to be tried, under the Act of 1875, at the present session of the Supreme Court, for escape from imprisonment.

It is proposed to build a gymnasium for the use of the pupils in the Blind Asylum.

The Reporter says it is proposed to invite Messrs. Moody and Sankey to Halifax in August or September.