

geography and geology; and 9. Logic and psychology. It is doubtless the peculiar position of the London University as an examining body only, that has allowed her to adapt herself so readily to the requirements of the times, and which permitted her to throw open her degrees some twenty years ago to all students whether resident in affiliated colleges or in private homes.

EDUCATIONAL RECORD.

American Character and the American Common School.

Rev. A. D. Mayo recently gave an address on the relation between the American Common Schools and American character, in which he presents some facts and reflections that may be worth consideration by our readers.

The idea of the founders of the American republic was that of a state in which every citizen should be at once subject and sovereign,—where every individual should be secure in every enjoyment of rights consistent with the growth of a powerful, progressive christian civilization.

The American Common school must be the seminary of American character. The final object of this institution is not the imparting of a modicum of valuable information, nor the training in the skill to do any special sort of work, nor the discipline in mechanical habits of blind routine, nor the polishing of the mind with the finest culture;

Owens College, in Manchester, England, which was created by the munificence of one individual and has been aided in its development by the generosity of many individuals, has become an educational institution of no second-rate character.

powers of a University. They have sent letters to a number of gentlemen of high rank in literary and scientific circles, asking their advice in the matter. For the most part, the answers were such as the Senate desired.

The Halifax Reporter, in one of its issues of last week, calls attention to the published opinions of these educationists, and attempts to make some practical application of the same to the interests of education in this Province. The reasoning is curious, to say the least. Briefly stated, it is this: As these twenty gentlemen in Great Britain have declared their opinion to be that the power of conducting examinations for degrees should not be exercised by a body alien from the teaching body therefore the University of Halifax, or rather the Senate of the University of Halifax must be made an organization for giving instruction as well as conducting examinations.

It is not easy to tell whether the article to which reference has been made in which reference has been made to Halifax University, or not. If it proceeded from a friendly source, then the University may well pray to be delivered from its friends; for a little more of such assistance will place it beyond the possibility of receiving help from any source.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Christian Messenger.

Acadia College Endowment in Yarmouth County.

Dear Editor,—

Your readers will be pleased to learn something of the movement in Yarmouth County towards endowing Acadia College.

At the urgent request of the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors, I consented to co-operate with the friends of the College in Yarmouth County, while absent from my church on vacation, in any effort they might make to begin the endowment of Acadia College.

I regret to state that Dr. Day is absent on his vacation; but the people had a mind to work. Our first meeting was held with the first church; and a most interesting meeting it was.

Rev. W. H. Warren was elected Chairman and brother H. P. Cogswell (Licentiate and graduate from Newton now supplying the pulpit of the first church) was elected Secretary. Prayer was offered by Bro. Sim, of St. John.

Kierstead (Licentiate) Bro. Kierstead is supplying the church at Milton. I enclose you the resolution that was discussed and passed.

Moved by A. C. Robins and seconded by Robt. Brown, and

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this meeting, the resolution of the Baptist Convention, passed at its last session, to raise \$100,000 additional endowment for Acadia College, was a wise and timely one, especially as the demands, obligations and relations of Acadia College have been changed by the coming into existence of the University of Halifax:

That, as the Baptist population of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island is, in round numbers, 100,000, an amount equal to at least one dollar for each Baptist in these provinces should be raised in four years:

That the six thousand Baptists of Yarmouth County will undertake to raise in the four years \$20,000 of the amount named by the Convention:

That, in order to bring every Baptist in the County into direct and personal sympathy with the College, so that it may be profitable to all, and be profited by all; and that the \$20,000 may be raised most advantageously in all respects, a donation to this object should be solicited from each Baptist in the County; and that the donations may, if desired, be paid in four equal instalments, without interest till due, one at the end of each of the four years.

That, as a tribute to the memory of the venerated and much beloved Father in the Gospel, the late Rev. Harris Harding, whose arduous, abundant and successful labours were given chiefly to this County, the \$20,000, when raised and paid over to the Governors of Acadia College, shall be known and called "THE HARRIS HARDING PROFESSORSHIP;" and that the Governors of the College be requested to invest it apart from the general endowment so that it may be kept distinct and enlarged from time to time, if it should be found necessary and desirable.

After these resolutions were passed a subscription was opened and between ten and eleven thousand dollars were subscribed on the spot.

On Wednesday evening a large and interesting meeting was held in the Temple Church. The same resolutions were discussed and passed at that meeting, and another thousand was subscribed. The resolutions were moved at this meeting by A. S. Murray, Esq., and seconded by J. B. Kinney, Esq. It is our purpose to hold meetings next week as follows:—Monday evening, at Beaver River; Tuesday evening, at Lake George; Wednesday evening, at Deerfield; Thursday evening, at Ohio; Friday evening, at Hebron; and Saturday evening, at Milton. The remainder of the week I intend to take for rest.

Mr. Editor, you had better advise the Baptists of King's County to raise \$20,000 for the College and call it "THE HARDING-MANNING-CHIPMAN PROFESSORSHIP." You would do well to tell the people of Annapolis County that it would be a nice thing for them to begin to raise \$20,000 to be called "THE AINSLEY-CHIPMAN PROFESSORSHIP."

Then you can think of some other good name for the other parts of the provinces.

Perhaps it would be just as well to suggest to the people of Shelburne County that they might raise \$20,000 for the College, and have it start at that little seaside gem—Lockeport—and call that "THE JOHN LOCKE PROFESSORSHIP."

The heart of Yarmouth Baptists is with Acadia College. The President and Professors are beloved by the people.

Truly yours, E. M. SAUNDERS. Yarmouth, Sept. 28th, 1876.

For the Christian Messenger.

A Family Gathering.

MR. EDITOR,—

Some of your readers may be interested in a brief account of a "GOLDEN WEDDING" celebration at which the writer had the good fortune to be present yesterday.

Fifty years ago, on Tuesday, the 26th, of September, 1826, Mr. George J. Creed, of Faversham Kent, England, Clerk in the Royal Engineer Department, and eldest son of the late Mr. Richard Creed, Clerk of Works, R. E. D., was married by the late Archdeacon Willis, to Susan eldest daughter of Mr. J. Andrew Wellner, of Halifax N. S. The fiftieth anniversary of their wedding was celebrated by a very pleasant family gathering at Faversham Cottage, South Rawdon, where Mr. Creed has resided since his retirement from Her Majesty's service in 1861.

A pavilion of white cotton, constructed for the occasion on the lawn in front

of the house, was tastefully decorated with garlands, evergreens and drapery; and in this a company of over forty persons sat down to a sumptuous repast. Among these were all the surviving grandchildren, to the number of eighteen, with their parents, (five couples,) and two adopted nieces with their husbands. More than thirty of the uncles, aunts and cousins to whom invitations had been sent, were unable to be present. Various amusements occupied the time till evening when the pavilion was brilliantly lighted, and the company again gathered around the festive board. After a collation worthy of a city table, the eldest brother, as master of ceremonies, announced the valuable gift which the brothers and sisters presented to their parents as a memento of the day.

Appropriate speeches were made by each of the brothers and by other gentlemen guests; a short poem written for the occasion was read; and the festivities were concluded by the singing of a number of good old fashioned home songs.

Lines written for the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of my dear Aunt and Uncle. May the love that prompted the writer supply the gilding! I cannot be with those who meet To celebrate this GOLDEN DAY: The restless waves of time and change, From childhood's friends have made me stray.

But oft, when Memory's magic wand Brings back the golden past to me, Your faces blend with those dear scenes Now flooded o'er by Sorrow's sea.

My thoughts shall blend with yours to-day, In praise for all these golden years; Though pain and sickness, care and death Oft dimmed the pathway with their tears.

Long life and children's bairns has God Allowed to be your portion here: We thank Him for His goodness shown, And in your joy we fully share.

We thank Him too for that blest hope, Which cheers us in our darkest hours, That, when this changeful life is past, A better one shall then be ours.

When Christ shall come,—then some now dead Shall live again; once more we'll meet The loved and lost, in that glad throng Who rise their risen Lord to greet.

God bless you in the years that yet May follow on this golden day; And when the last dread summons comes, May He be still your strength and stay. Quebec, 1876. MARY.

Mrs. Birt's Children.

St. JOHN, N. B., Sept. 26, 1876.

To the Editor of the Christian Messenger.

DEAR SIR,—Having been informed by a note from Colonel Laurie that a number of the persons holding Mrs. Birt's children, whom I have visited, have used my name as authority for not furnishing the Colonel with their quarterly reports, and as I know of no better way of reaching such persons than through the Provincial press, I take the liberty of contradicting in every case such statements, for I have never in any one instance uttered a word that could be construed into such a meaning.

I have every where held up the authority of the Colonel as the legal guardian of those children, urging the necessity of sending the reports promptly, as the only means of securing both the child and the party holding it from trouble in the future. And when persons have pressed upon me the fact that their minister did not attend, excepting once in four or six weeks, and therefore were not in a position to sign the return, I have always replied, "get a magistrate to sign it, you can find them everywhere and at any time you require their aid."

I would here state that wherever I have found any trouble in connection with the young people brought out by Miss Rye, either in Nova Scotia or New Brunswick, it has in nine cases out of ten, resulted in there not having been some such system as that planned and carried out by Colonel Laurie, by which the conduct, position, character and well-being of the young people can be constantly brought under the notice of a responsible person, having authority to deal with the whole matter. I would therefore urge every person holding children to send their returns promptly; and in behalf of this noble work I would solicit the kind care and attention of the ministers of the Gospel toward the children thus located, and there will be no trouble in getting the

quarterly reports signed and forwarded promptly.

Thanking you for giving this a place in your valuable paper,

I am, Yours faithfully, EDWIN CLAY.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., October 4th, 1876.

The Presbyterians are far from being satisfied with the New University of Halifax. Whilst the Baptists object to it because they suppose it may lead to the establishment of a Provincial Teaching University, the Presbyterians, pretty generally we believe, dislike it because they think it will not. The greater want in their estimation is some additional teaching power applied to make a really Provincial College.

A long letter appears in the Presbyterian Witness from the pen of Professor Pollock. He speaks of Dalhousie College as "what is called and ought to be called and ought to be the National University." He says, "There was an opportunity, last winter to inaugurate a new and enlightened policy but it ended in large grants to the denominations and instead of what was needed, a new arrangement called a University. This great ghost is to cost the country \$2,000 which will become probably an annual grant." He further complains that "If Dalhousie has raised up a larger number of friends to unsectarian education they have not shown their zeal in any even appreciable degree." The scheme of raising \$100,000, for its endowment he says has failed. Mr. Pollock thinks the Presbyterians have been very unjustly dealt with, by going into the arrangement with Dalhousie. He affirms that "they have lost fourteen years of great commercial prosperity, during which they might have raised (if they had remained at Truro) a large endowment from the free-will offerings of the people for a college which belonged to themselves." He does not think the body is at liberty to employ the funds now paid to their three professors in Dalhousie longer in this service, but thinks that they should leave without delay.

We have great respect for these opinions as well as for the writer. We do not see that Presbyterians more than other bodies should employ their denominational funds in the support of a provincial institution.

SUBSCRIBERS IN ARREARS will much oblige by making an early remittance.

The energetic action of our brethren in Yarmouth County in doing something for the College Endowment, as reported in another column, is an auspicious commencement of carrying out practically the resolution adopted at the Convention. We like the last sentence of our brother's letter, "The President and Professors are beloved by the people." Let that spirit but take hold of the friends and the work will be comparatively easy. "The President and Professors" are men we might well delight to honor for they are doing a work for the denomination and the future of the churches second to none.

Let our New Brunswick brethren also take hold of this matter. The strong men of St. John may combine and lift a large part of the burden. Fredericton, St. Martin's, Sackville, and other places would then be animated to a generous emulation in this work, worthy of their highest aspirations. We will not do as Brother Saunders suggests, "think of some other good name" for them, as we believe they could better supply that themselves and give to any such Professorship they might desire to raise.

The active thought and feeling awakened about the time of the Convention must be cherished and rendered fruitful in behalf of Acadia.

MONEY WANTED.

The Presbyterian Synod of the Maritime Provinces assembled last evening in St. Matthew's Church. There being now a Dominion General Assembly a large part of the business of the body is now in their hands as the superior court. It is consequently likely that this session of the Synod will occupy only two or three days.

PLEASE SEND ON THE AMOUNT.

It is expected that the railway from Spring Hill to Parrsboro will have the rails laid before the end of the year.