

ing body and the State. There were three policies before our people—Denominationalism, Central Teaching University, and the Central Examining University. The latter he fully endorsed, and proceeded to show its advantages—it would prevent the sequestration of the trust funds of the existing colleges; it would secure suitable moral safeguards for students; it would immediately and infallibly elevate the standard of collegiate education; in short, it furnished a tolerably satisfactory solution of the difficulty. He then entered on a review of the work done by London University, and showed how well the system answered. He referred to Princeton University, and to Dr. McCosh's successful efforts to raise large endowments for it from the Presbyterian denomination. There was not a single University successful during the past ten years that had not been raised on the denominational basis. If a pure non-sectarian State College were established here, in ten years there would be a Presbyterian denominational college. The example of New Brunswick showed us what would be the fate of a State teaching University here. The most that could be said of the New Brunswick University was that it came up to the level of our denominational colleges.

Mr. Peter Jack said he had not been present at the beginning of the discussion, and what he had heard had taken him by surprise. He would speak but briefly and would move the following resolution:—

Whereas, The partial support at the public expense of a number of small colleges is not productive of good in proportion to the expenditure,

Therefore be it Resolved, That this meeting is in favor of one unsectarian Central Teaching University in Nova Scotia.

In England the denominational colleges, Mr. Jack said, had not the degree conferring power. London University had been established as an examining board to give degrees to the students of the denominational colleges, and afterwards, he thought, the University became a teaching body. If the expense of Toronto University was wasted, how much was wasted here in keeping up six colleges, with professors teaching the same branches which could be much better taught in one central University. The denominational institutions did injustice to their students by confining them to a small sphere, instead of allowing them to go to a large and thorough University, where they could have advantages that no small college could give.

The Bishop of N. S. said he had not intended to speak, but had been pressed to speak on behalf of the denominational colleges. A central teaching University here must be unsectarian, without religious teaching. This was not the case in the old country. The Scotch Universities had chairs of theology. Toronto University has been alluded to. No religion was taught, and the result was that the people sent most of their sons to the denominational colleges. The Church of England had a college within a stone's throw of Toronto University; though a Church of England man was at the head of that. Our numbers are too small for a Provincial teaching University; we must have maritime union, and even then we might not manage it. But the great objection was that we did not want to give education without religion. There was a great tendency now-a-days to worship intellect, and the influences that could be brought to bear on young men only through religion were wanted. If any persons chose to send their sons to denominational colleges they could do so without their having to take the religious part of the education there. He might add that Kings was as free to all denominations as to churchmen. He endorsed the Government policy which suited the country best, as it was a combination of the denominational colleges and a good examining board. People talked of a paper university—they knew not what they talked about. There was London University, celebrated, sought after eagerly—what was it? Simply a paper University. Oxford and Cambridge are very much the same. The colleges were as distinct in themselves as our colleges here, and the students went to the examining board—paper university you might call it—to pass their examinations. This paper university was not such a poor affair after all. If we did as well as the old Universities and London we might be satisfied. He next referred to the suggestion that colleges should give up their degree-conferring power—there were difficulties in the way.—This was an experiment. We had to see whether we could get a good Board of examiners. He believed we could. He believed able men could be found, still the system must be tried, and tried practically. If the Board was made what it should be, it would be a success. It must not be forced—it must be allowed to have its own way, and then the young men would be found going up in large numbers. As far as the limitation of grants went, he did not think it formidable. After all it depended more on public opinion.

Mr. Robert Sedgewick said he had been a Dalhousie student. He did not know whether his morals had deteriorated, as His Lordship the Bishop had said students who come to Halifax must. He wished it to be understood that the advocates of a central University did not wish to lay a hand on the denomina-

tional colleges. Let them exist and flourish, as they do in Ontario, but treat them the same as they are treated in Ontario—give them no grants of public money. Let the public money be given to a public institution. He was a graduate of Dalhousie College and he loved his alma mater, but if Dalhousie College stood in the way of a central University let it go down. He was willing to lose his degree and become a common citizen of Halifax if he could thereby promote the University scheme. He wanted to have all the present grants withdrawn, Dalhousie sold if need be, and the amount now spent on higher education concentrated upon the support of one University in Halifax, but he would not be against having it at Windsor or Wolfville. In Ontario Sandfield McDonald had, after eighteen months notice, withdrawn denominational grants. There was a howl against the act, but it quickly ceased and no one found fault with the change. He (Mr. Sedgewick) had a great deal of hope in the present University legislation, and he wanted friends of a central University to support it. But he wanted the fact to be guaranteed that at the end of the five years the denominational grants should be withdrawn. He seconded Mr. Jack's resolution.

Dr. A. P. Reid believed that three-fourths of the people were in favor of the denominational system. He fully endorsed the Government measure as the most practical one ever introduced in this country for the improvement of collegiate education. He had always believed that an Examining Board would show which was the best college in Nova Scotia. He illustrated the advantage of such a Board by examples in England and Scotland. It was not yet settled whether a State University was the best. England never had one, yet she turned out many men of mark. As for Toronto University, he believed that it would yet become what it had originally been, an examining body. The Medical School here was willing to see the examining body raise the standard of attainments as high as they liked and they would keep right up to it. Mr. E. D. King moved the following amendment to Mr. Jack's resolution.

Whereas, Denominational Colleges have been for many years in successful operation in this country; and as is generally admitted, have been successful in the character and amount of work performed.

And Whereas, The said Colleges have also made steady progress in enlargement and efficiency, and are still sustained and advocated by a large majority of the people of this Province.

Therefore Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting, the best policy for the country in its present circumstances is to foster existing colleges as teaching bodies; and to establish, on such terms as will secure their full and efficient co-operation, a central degree-conferring University.

Rev. E. M. Saunders seconded the amendment and spoke briefly. He held in his hand, an expression written on the tenth of this month by the President of Colby University, who said that "the higher education must be remitted to the people to be sustained by the denominations." He also had a letter written by Dr. Anderson, President of Rochester University, on the 8th inst., stating that the State University did not give satisfaction to religious people. He (Dr. Anderson) had on this account declined to accept the Presidency of Michigan State University. He (Mr. S.) had also a letter from Dr. Fife, of the Baptist College in Ontario, who said that the Toronto University did not work well. He (Mr. S.) had great pleasure in seconding the amendment which he believed was in harmony with public opinion and with the views of the great majority of educationists. He had expected that Mr. Grant, after his late lecture in favor of separate schools, would have been the champion of denominational colleges.

The question was about to be put when Rev. John Forrest, who sat in the body of the hall, said he thought it was scarcely worth while to attempt to take a vote in the meeting. Having had the pleasure of hearing the discussion the people could do nothing better than adjourn the meeting and go home.

The Mayor put the question on Mr. King's amendment. There was a strong "yea" and a stronger "nay." The Mayor said he could not decide without a show of hands. The hands were raised amid much confusion and the Mayor decided that the majority were against the amendment.

Dr. Slayter said he desired to call attention to the fact that a large body of the students of Dalhousie who were in the gallery were voting, though they were not citizens of Halifax.

At this the students aforesaid hissed warmly.

Another question being asked as to who was entitled to vote, the Mayor said he thought that in a public meeting like this all present were entitled to a vote.

The resolution moved by Mr. Jack was put and declared passed, the denominationalists protesting, however, that the majority was not in favor of it. Meanwhile the meeting was breaking up, many persons having left.

Mr. Hugh McD. Henry moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting, the several colleges should be required to send their under-graduates to the proposed University of Halifax, for Examination for Degrees, as a condition of said colleges

receiving Government grants; or that some similar requirements should be in the bill, ensuring the co-operation of the colleges in carrying out the new scheme.

Mr. Henry, in supporting the motion, said he knew that there were colleges which would not send their students up for examination and had not the equipment to prepare them.

Rev. Alfred Brown (who was in the body of the hall) protested against resolutions being rushed through at this hour (it was 11.15) without discussion. Another meeting should be held, and fair discussion of every resolution allowed.

Mr. Henry's resolution was passed. Mr. Sedgewick moved the appointment of a large committee to bring the resolutions to the notice of the Government and Legislature.

Rev. Mr. Lathern strongly protested against the proceedings as unjust.

Dr. Slayter said the first resolution, which it was proposed to refer to the committee, had not passed by the votes of a majority of the citizens of Halifax present.

In the midst of the disorder, Rev. G. M. Grant arose and said that, to avoid any ill-feeling, the friends of a Central University would withdraw the last resolution and allow the proceedings to come to a close.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Mayor, and the meeting closed.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

BRIGHTON.—The work of grace begun at Osborne is deepening and widening all over this county. Last Sabbath I baptized five more rejoicing souls in the presence of a vast throng of spectators, who were deeply impressed with the heaven-joined cry. In the evening "the Macedonian cry" came from another section of the shore for "help," where none of our ministers ever visited stately. The prayer for mercy is ascending from every house, and I trust many hearts in this neglected land. Men whose presence was not seen in the house of God for 18 and 20 years are truly converted to God. Pray for us and our work on these shores.

Yours as ever,
AUGUSTUS SHIELDS.

March 15th, 1876.

BEAR RIVER.—Dear Editor.—Since my last communication the work of grace has still been progressing with us, and many have found peace in believing.

Last Sabbath was a blessed and happy day with this church, although we had not the privilege of listening to the gospel from our beloved Pastor, who was unexpectedly called away to attend to other duties. To-day he had the privilege again of burying eleven happy converts with Christ in baptism, principally heads of families. Oh may they walk with him in newness of life. Others are also received. This makes 64 added by baptism, and many more are looking to the church with their faces Zionwards.

March 12th, 1876. H. H. CHUTE.

HANTSPOUT.—We are still in the midst of a glorious work of grace, both as it concerns the restoration of wanderers and the conversion of sinners. Our Sabbath School has shared largely in this gracious work, and all our teachers are deeply interested in the good work. I have baptized persons from 11 to 81 years of age. It is most certainly a cheering sight to see the youth and aged putting on Christ in New Testament baptism. I baptized 10, and received in all 14 into the fellowship of the church last Sabbath. Our prayer is "thy kingdom come and thy will be done on earth," most blessed Saviour.

Ever, &c.,
J. C. BLEAKNEY.

March 16th, 1876.

NEW TUSKET, DIGBY CO.—The Lord has again visited the Baptist Church in this place. For some time past the religious aspect has been somewhat gloomy, but since the opening of the present year, a deep anxiety has pervaded the minds of many in the community. About a fortnight ago Bro. G. H. Goudey in company with myself came here and commenced special services in connection with the church. God was graciously pleased to pour out his Spirit upon us, in answer to the prayers of his people. Wanderers have returned to their "Father's house" and sinners have come to Christ. On Sabbath, March 5, a large company gathered by the little lake near the place of worship, where it was my privilege to baptize sixteen rejoicing believers. Yesterday we enjoyed a like precious season. Twenty-seven more followed their Saviour in the ordinance of baptism in obedience

to Christ's command, making forty-three in all. Still the work is progressing—seven are now received for baptism, and many more are anxiously inquiring the way to Jesus. To God be all the praise. Pray for us.

Yours truly,
J. D. SKINNER.

WEYMOUTH.—A P. S. from Rev. Chas. Randall, being on the back of the letter we did not perceive it, or should have inserted it in our last. He says:—

"We are having quite a reformation in this region, we have three ministers with us at the present, two at New Tusket Settlement, viz: Brethren Skinner and Goudey from Beaver River, Yarmouth, who are evidently doing a good work there, 16 were baptized there last Sabbath, and more are coming I have no doubt; the whole community seem stirred.

In Weymouth we have Bro. Bancroft, from Round Hill, and the people are much awakened. We expect that there will be baptism next Sabbath in this place. Quite a number profess conversion already. More soon."

A letter from Rev. J. W. Bancroft, since the above was in type, says:—A gracious revival of religion is in progress here. God's spirit has been poured out with power, and wrought wonders in our midst. Wanderers have returned to God, and consecrated themselves anew to his service. The work, for the most part, has been quiet, deep, solemn. In some cases sinners have been smitten down with power, and caused to cry for mercy.

Last Sabbath I baptized thirty-three believers in Christ, and welcomed them into the church. This is the largest number ever baptized here in one day. The prospects for the Baptist cause are brightening every day. We have been holding special services for nearly five weeks, and the interest continues to increase. Others will soon follow their Lord in baptism. Our prayer is that the good work may continue until the whole community is brought to Christ.

J. W. BANCROFT.

March 17th, 1876.

AMHERST.—On Lord's Day last the Rev. D. A. Steele baptized six persons on a profession of faith in Christ. Our informant adds: "We are having excellent meetings in the Amherst Church."

SHELburne.—The divine blessing rests upon our efforts at the Point. We have had one baptism and others are in waiting.

E. N. ARCHIBALD.

March 17th, 1876.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—The Lord is blessing us on this little Isle. I have been in one continuous revival since I was sent here in God's mysterious providence nearly two years ago. I am now laboring in Lot 16, part of Brother Murray's field. The whole community is moved by the power of the Gospel. We want five or six strong men for permanent settlement on Prince Edward Island. The pulpit in Charlottetown is now vacant among the rest. We should be glad to hear from any who want to come over to P. E. Island and help us. "Your bread shall be given you and your water shall be sure." There is abundant room for usefulness and great encouragement for faithful labor.

Please address
D. McDONALD,
Charlottetown, P. E. I.
Lot 16, March 13, 1876.

DOMINION & FOREIGN NEWS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.—On Friday last Mr. C. J. Brydges gave evidence before the committee on commercial depression. He did not think that Nova Scotia coal could be profitably shipped to points west of Montreal.

The debate on Sir John A. Macdonald's protectionist resolution continued until 2.30 o'clock on Thursday morning, when the question was taken with the following result.—Ayes 70. Nays 116.

Between two and three feet of snow fell on Thursday night last, at Montreal. Michael McConnell, the murderer of Nelson Mills, was hung on Monday, the 13th, in the jail yard at Hamilton.

The Premier threatens to cancel the contract of the Lachine Canal enlargement on account of the dilatory action of the contractors. On sections 9 and 10, where employment was promised to thousands of needy men, only 20 are employed.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—It is said that the amount of tax to be asked from the city

of St. John the present year for school purposes, will be \$50,000, about \$17,000 less than last year's amount.

Some excitement has been experienced during the past week at Fredericton, over the censure passed upon the Crown Land Department. During the debate on the report the Assembly was crowded to excess.

P. E. ISLAND.—The Island Legislature was opened on Thursday last by the Lieutenant-Governor. In his opening Speech he alludes to the operation of the Land Purchase Act of 1875, and the difficulties found to its general application as intended. He adds: "In May last the Provincial Railway was opened for regular traffic, and I am happy to inform you that the manifold advantages resulting from that great public work are very generally appreciated by the people of this Province."

Principal Dawson of Montreal, in a lecture at Ottawa, said "from geological observations there can be no doubt but that under the Island of Prince Edward vast coal formations exist."

Archibald Kelly, who was arrested for attempting to rob the Rustico Bank, has been committed for trial.

UNITED STATES.—A bill fixing the salary of the President at \$25,000 per annum, to take effect a year hence, passed the United States Senate on Tuesday last.

The elections in New Hampshire resulted in a victory for the re-publicans. Governor Cheney was re-elected by a majority estimated at 2000.

The Senate is surely Republican, but exactly how the House stands cannot be told by the returns at hand.

By the late hurricane in Missouri, seven persons were killed and seventeen injured; 30 houses were blown down and immense damage was done to orchards, timber and fences.

An almshouse in Norwich, Ct., was burned on Sunday night and 14 paupers are supposed to have perished.

The Mississippi Senate, by almost a unanimous vote, has convicted Lieutenant-Governor Davis on the impeachment charges.

The Presidents of Guatemala and Salvador have made a bond of peace.

The Nicaraguan Congress has authorized a \$70,000 loan and an army of 5,000 men.

Charges of fraud and embezzlement are made in connection with the Central Pacific Railroad.

The Opera House at Springfield, Ill., was totally destroyed by fire on Friday morning, occasioning a loss of \$160,000.

Ten inches of snow fell in Memphis, Tenn., on Sunday night, which is unprecedented.

A fire, on Monday morning, in Charleston, S. C., destroyed half a million dollars worth of property. Hundreds of persons are homeless and penniless. Bands of negro robbers sacked every house to which they could gain admittance.

ENGLAND.—The British Commons spent seven hours on Thursday night in a debate over the proposition to add to the Queen's titles "Empress of India."

Queen Victoria will travel in Germany incog, under the name of Countess of Rosenau. Kaiser William meets her at Baden-Baden in April.

After the present year the British Government will make no contracts for carrying mails to America, but will send them by vessels whose efficiency is proved, and pay according to weight.

A block of shipping warehouses in Portland street, Manchester, were burned on Friday morning. The loss is estimated at several hundred thousand pounds sterling.

The steamship Dorian has sailed for Philadelphia with 1440 packages of exhibits for the Philadelphia exposition from Genoa, Naples, Messina, Leghorn and Palermo.

All railways converging at Aberdeen were blocked by snow, for thirty-four hours, on Saturday and Sunday. Telegraphic communication in Scotland was almost totally interrupted. Sixteen trains were blockaded on the Caledonia Railway alone which was covered with snow 20 feet deep. The cold on Monday was intense.

The Prince of Wales and suite arrived at Aden, on their return from India.

FRANCE.—A railway train was precipitated into the River Isle in France on Friday, and it is thought all the passengers on board perished. Thirty corpses have already been recovered.

A despatch to the *Times*, dated Paris, March 16th, said the Seine and Marne were both higher. The plain, from Maisons Alfort to Villeneuve, St. George's, is one immense lake. Boats traverse the valley from Villeneuve to Choisy. Senators and deputies representing Paris have voluntarily devoted two month's salary to the relief of the sufferers.

Paris despatches to the *News* say five hundred houses were abandoned on Wednesday at Vogent Sur Marne.

The Seine is sixty centimetres higher than in 1872. The destruction of property by recent floods in Europe is very extensive. The damage in England, France and Germany is unparalleled and the suffering is wide-spread.

Several marine disasters with serious loss of life are also reported.

An effort for a general amnesty in France for all offences since 1870 is to be made in the Senate.

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