

tional in Chinese Christianity. How often have I heard the lament among old missionaries: "If they could only feel! If there were only some way to arouse them from their stolidity!"

We have received an excellent paper "Historical Sketch of Home Missions in Nova Scotia," by Rev. Asa Cohoon, it will appear in our next.

A letter from A. A. C. came too late for this issue.

Dear Editor, - My church having granted me three months leave of absence, and the firms of Churchill & Sons, and North & Porter, both having had the kindness to offer me a free passage in one of their fine ships, and the barque "Chebucto," Capt. Charles Lawrence, of the firm of Churchill & Sons, being now ready to sail for Great Britain, I expect D. V. to leave next week to spend my vacation in Europe.

Hoping that all the yearly gatherings will be pleasant and successful, I remain, Yours in line of battle, J. C. BLEAKNEY.

Hantsport, May 3rd, 1877. We heartily congratulate Brother Bleakney on his good fortune, and wish for him a pleasant voyage and safe return.

THE BAPTISTS; WHO ARE THEY, AND WHAT DO THEY BELIEVE? - A lecture, delivered at Sydney, C. B., January 29, 1877, by Rev. W. B. Boggs, A. M. (Published by request.)

This is an excellent and comprehensive view of the Baptist question, published in St. John, N. B., put in a terse, striking form, and calculated to do good to large numbers of persons who may not be familiar with the subject of which it treats. Mr. Boggs has brought together the arguments from the Sacred Scriptures, from History, Philology and Archaeology, and from the best English writers and Classical scholars for several centuries past. The standard Cyclopedias are called in to add their testimony; Roman Catholic ecclesiastics, Episcopalian primates and other writers, Presbyterian and Wesleyan Divines are brought forth to confirm the views held and practiced by Baptists. Mr. Boggs carefully and judiciously treats the subject under the following heads: Our name - The infallible standard - Church government - Soul liberty - Personal faith indispensable - Baptism, the subjects - Baptism, the mode - Close Communion - Antiquity of Baptist Principles - Baptist martyrdom - Our position - Statistics. We commend the work to Baptists everywhere. We have a number of copies of this pamphlet sent for sale, and shall be glad to forward a copy by mail on receipt of 15 cents.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Missionary Conference.

The Missionaries of the two Boards held a Conference at Bimlipatam in January last. The Brethren Sanford, Churchill, Armstrong, McLaurin and Currie were present.

A Society was formed, designated "The Canadian Baptist Telugu Missionary Conference," the object being "to deliberate upon matters relating especially to the interests of the mission, and also with reference to all questions affecting the extension of Christ's kingdom in India."

Among the resolutions passed at this meeting were the following: -

"That recognizing the important services rendered by young ladies to the missionary cause, we shall be prepared to give them a hearty welcome, and render them all needful assistance and encouragement in their work."

"That while recognizing the importance of education in all efforts among the heathen, and especially in elevating and improving the character of those who have been brought to Christ, we yet feel that the chief place should be given to direct work in preaching the gospel, as the principal means of extending the cause of Christ."

"Whereas we are persuaded that the union of Church and State is contrary to scriptural teaching, and detrimental to the interests of evangelical Christianity,

Therefore resolved, That we express our emphatic approval of the principle of disestablishment, and our hearty sympathy with the aims and objects of the Indian Disestablishment Society."

"Whereas we cannot but regard the spread of intemperance in India as exceedingly detrimental to the highest welfare of her people,

Therefore resolved, That we strongly recommend the practice of total abstinence, and express our warm sympathy with any and all societies whose object it is to promote this cause in the land."

"Resolved, That we record our gratitude to our Heavenly Father, the God

of missions, for the restoration of Brother Churchill to the work, with renewed health, after many months of anxious absence."

The desirableness of the establishment of a Seminary for the training of Native Teachers was discussed, and it was resolved to recommend that the subject be kept before the public, with a view to action when we are sufficiently prepared for it.

The opening of a new station at Bobbili or elsewhere, recommended by the Conference, is postponed for the present.

A SIAMSEK ROYAL LETTER.

Dr. Dean has lately visited the United States. On his return to Bangkok he received a letter from the king, welcoming him back. The following is a copy, as we find it in the Baptist Missionary Magazine for May: -

"To William Dean, D. D.

I, your friend, have thought of you continually during your absence to visit your native land. Now that I hear the news that you have returned to my country in health and comfort, having had no mishap on the journey, I am very happy. For you were my royal father's friend before me, and now are my friend. I beg that you may long enjoy happiness. Not having opportunity to see you now, I write this note of welcome to reach you.

CHU LA LONG KORN.

Royal Palace, Bangkok, Dec. 23, 1876.

EDUCATIONAL RECORD.

Here is an account of another of those "sectarian colleges."

"CARLETON COLLEGE (Northfield, Minn.) was founded by the State Conference of Congregational churches, which elected the first board of trustees just ten years ago. To that conference, although it has no control over us in any way, the president makes an annual report. The past has been a year of marked blessing and progress. An endowment of over \$20,000, for a chair of Physical Science, has been received within the State, notwithstanding hard times, grasshoppers, etc. The students have numbered 256, from seven States, and those from Minnesota came from thirty-one counties. Nine nationalities and eleven religious denominations have been represented."

The Congregationalists of New England have founded several efficient colleges in the Western States, within the past twenty-five years. Education will be carried forward in these colleges in a liberal spirit; but learning science and culture will be promoted in connection with the constant recognition of the transcendent varieties of the spiritual life; while the state college, or university, must always be hampered by the necessary abstinence from every thing that is immediately concerned with man's spiritual nature.

Dr. Lyon Playfair of England expresses his opinion on examinations in clear and forcible words: -

"Unless their (examinations) are directed to test real school work, and to discourage 'cram,' I am no friend to them. For many years I have been an examiner in my University, and I think it is easy to discern between knowledge slowly and steadily acquired, and knowledge crammed into a man like food crammed down the throat of a Strasburg goose. I know nothing more unsatisfactory, or even dismal and repulsive, than to see a youth crammed with forced knowledge, anxious to get rid of it by ejecting it over his Examiner. I think such kinds of examinations do infinite harm to the young, and mischief to the nation that encourages it. It dwarfs the intellect of the young, and strangles originality in the adult. The memory may be cultivated by cram, though I doubt it. It was a wonderful feat of Xerxes to recollect the names of his hundred thousand soldiers, but it was a singularly useless feat. Macaulay's memory was of a different order, for he had it always available when he wanted it. But, generally speaking, Montaigne made a true remark when he said, 'Savoir par coeur n'est pas savoir.' The English of this remark is, 'To know by heart is not to know.'"

We quote from a letter of a correspondent who, last September, visited West Point, the Military Academy of the United States.

"At an examination of 45 candidates a few days ago at West Point, no less than 20 were rejected as unsatisfactory, and this result, 44 per cent. of failures, was not exceptionally disastrous. At the corresponding examination last year no less than 60 per cent. were rejected. The June examination usually affords a little better result, but taking the two examinations of candidates, the percentage of failures

is very heavy. An examination in history and geography could be made to cover so much ground as to defeat almost any candidate, no matter how thoroughly prepared. In fact, however, the examination in these subjects is not, comparatively, more severe than in arithmetic, which is limited to the four ground rules, fractions (decimal and vulgar), and proportion. It will be observed that no Latin, no Greek, no modern languages, no higher mathematics, are required - nothing but the common English branches - from boys above the ordinary age for leaving school, who have had several months' notice of their appointment, and who, in many instances, have been specially coached for their examination."

"In short, the average young man of the present day, who takes prizes in our expensive seminaries and high schools, fails in the very studies which were thoroughly taught in the district schools of the country 50 years ago.

There is no room for opinion on this point. The facts developed at the West Point examinations, for several years past are unanswerable. If the "improved educational systems" which include no drilling in arithmetic, reading, writing, spelling, geography, and history are adapted to the probable wants of young men of the present generation, there is nothing to be said. One thing is certain, however, if the common branches are to be acquired at all they must be learned and thoroughly mastered in early life.

Whatever the girls may be doing, the boys, on leaving school, are not up to the mark. Where the difficulty lies, and how much of it is due to the substitution of a principal, with young ladies for assistant teachers, in place of masters, for whose physical as well as mental force boys naturally have some respect, is too large a question to be entered upon at this writing.

We presume that "the deficiency here complained of, is not to be traced to the exemplarity of female teachers. It probably arises from the too general desire to be studying the higher branches," as they are called, and from the necessity laid on teachers, to force their pupils through some acquaintance with a large number of studies. The quality of education will not be improved simply by increasing the number of "ologies" in the school.

The world, from the times of Socrates, St. Paul, and far earlier, has always had its teachers, and always treated them in a peculiar way. A shrewd town clerk (not of Ephesus), once, in founding a burgh-seminary, when the question came, How the schoolmasters should be maintained, delivered this brief counsel: "Curse them, keep them poor! Considerable wisdom may lie in this aphorism. At all events we see, the world has acted on it long, and indeed improved on it, - putting many a schoolmaster of its great burgh-seminary to a death, which even cost it something. The world, it is true, had for some time been busy to go out of its way, and put any author to death; however, the old sentence pronounced against them was found to be pretty sufficient. The first writers, (being monks) were sworn to a vow of poverty; the modern authors had no need to swear to it. - Carlyle.

Notices.

RECEIVED FROM WOMEN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES.

Parrsboro', - Mrs. Jos. F. Kemp-ton.....\$5 00 Lower Aylesford and Upper Wil-mot, - Mrs. Reuben Baker.....\$5 00

A new society has lately been formed at Parrsboro' beginning with ten members, and sending their first contribution promptly.

Friends will please remember that all parcels for the Missionary Box should be sent if possible not later than next week.

M. R. SELDEN, Sec'y. Halifax, May 1st, 1877.

The New Baptist Meeting House at New Albany will (D. V.) be dedicated to the service and worship of God on Tuesday, May 22nd. Rev. W. G. Parker is expected to preach at 10.30, A. M., also expected that Rev. G. N. Baintline will preach in the afternoon. All ministers and friends who can make it convenient to attend will receive a cordial welcome.

DANIEL WHITMAN.

NEW MEETING HOUSE OPENED.

The New Meeting House at Masstown, Londonderry, will be opened for divine service the 13th of May.

There will be services during the day. Ministering brethren who can favor us with their assistance will be cordially welcomed. M. P. FREEMAN.

Letters Received. J. F. Tufts, \$2. W. Faulkner, 1 sub., \$1. L. O. Neily, \$5. J. Dunlap, \$2. Rev. W. E. Hall, J. Martell, \$2.25. D. Whitman, \$2. J. D. Cohoon, \$1. I. Thurber, Esq., \$4. L. J. Walker, Esq., \$20.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

POST OFFICE, HALIFAX, N. S., MAY 7TH, 1877. NOTICE.

FROM this date Mails will close at the office, Daily, at the following hours:

For the Counties of Kings, Annapolis, Digby and Western Hants - 6.30 a. m.

For New Brunswick and P. E. Island; the Northern and Eastern Counties of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton - 7 a. m.

For the Upper Provinces and the United States - 5.30 p. m.

For the UNITED KINGDOM, by Canadian Packet, via Rimouski, every FRIDAY at 5 p. m.

Collections from Street Letter Boxes will be made daily, at 9.30 a. m., 3 p. m. and 9.30 p. m. On Sunday evenings the collection will be made at 9 p. m.

H. W. BLACKADAR, Postmaster.

A VALUABLE PREMIUM GIFT TO EVERY PATRON OF THIS PAPER! CUT out this Coupon and send to the Stuart Importing Co. for redemption. On receipt of this Coupon, together with 10¢ in stamps or cash, we will send you a copy of the RUSSIA LEATHER POCKET-BOOK, FALCON BOOK, and with ANY INITIAL LETTER DESIRED, neatly stamped in Gold. (Retail price, \$1.50.) This Coupon is good only ninety days from the date of this paper. (Signed) STUART IMPORTING CO., 589 Broadway, New York.

HASTINGS HOUSE, 73 GRANVILLE STREET, NEXT "CHRISTIAN MESSENGER" OFFICE.

THIS well-known House, conveniently situated near the great centres of business, and which is being completely renovated and refitted, will be open for the reception of Permanent and Transient Boarders, on or about the 25th inst. Terms moderate.

R. & E. PRINCE. Halifax, April 17, 1877. April 25.

AGENTS

and everybody who wants to make money should send for the Agent's Receipt Book, just published. It contains full directions for making and selling 100 articles that are in universal demand. Sent to any one by mail, securely packed, for 50 cents. Address

F. W. KIMBALL, Auburn, Maine, U. S. A. 3 mths. April 25.

1877---SPRING STOCK---1877 SCHOOL BOOKS, STATIONERY, ROOM PAPER, SLATES, &c., &c.

A. & W. Mackinlay Have received per recent arrivals: 130 CASES School Books, Blank Books and Stationery. 49 Bales Room Paper, assorted. 43 cases Slates. 22 cases and casks Writing Inks, which they offer on low terms.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. April 18.

MOLASSES, Clenfuogos, Trinidad, and Demerara. SUGARS, Porto Rico and English Refined. TEAS, Chests, Half Chests, and Caddies. BEANS, Choice White Beans. SMOKED MEATS, Sugar Cured Hams, Shoulders and Spiced Roll Bacon. FLOUR, Choice Extra. OATMEAL, "Dominion Mills." All for sale (WHOLESALE ONLY) at lowest market rates by April 11. W. J. FRASER.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Canada Life Assurance Company's Offices, HAMILTON, ONT., APRIL 30TH, 1877. CIRCULAR TO AGENTS.

DEAR SIR, - To enable Agencies at a distance to get forward and fully complete their business, which it is desired should share in the past year's profits, we have to keep open our lists till MONDAY, THE FOURTEENTH OF MAY, so that if you can send us any further applications by that time, THEY CAN ALSO ENJOY THAT IMPORTANT PRIVILEGE.

Our new assurances in Canada this year, already exceed any previous year in the history of this or any other Company. They amount to more than those of all the other six Canadian companies combined, and are nearly half as much as done by all the thirteen American companies combined.

Such facts will, I have no doubt, encourage and materially aid you in further active prosecution of our business.

Yours truly, A. G. RAMSAY Managing Director.

J. W. MARLING, General Agent for Lower Provinces. 145 Hollis St. Halifax. May 9. 1 ins.

A VALUABLE FRIENDSHIP TOKEN! To every reader of this advertisement. CUT out this Coupon and send to the Stuart Importing Co., Cincinnati, O., for redemption. On receipt of this Coupon, together with 10¢ in stamps or cash, we will send you a copy of the RUSSIA LEATHER POCKET-BOOK, FALCON BOOK, and with ANY INITIAL LETTER DESIRED, neatly stamped in Gold. (Retail price, \$1.50.) This Coupon is good only ninety days from the date of this paper. (Signed) STUART IMPORTING CO., Cincinnati, Ohio.

"Judge these books by what standard you may, they occupy first rank." - SCHOOLMASTER.

THE ROYAL READERS The Best and Cheapest Series of School Readers EVER PUBLISHED.

Prescribed for use in the Public Schools by the Council of Public Instruction, and recommended by leading Educationists in Great Britain and the Colonies.

JUST RECEIVED 40 CASES

OF THE ABOVE NAMED BOOKS, COMPRISING: ROYAL WALL CARDS, Illustrated. ROYAL SCHOOL PRIMER, 16 Illust. ROYAL READER, No. 1, 26 " ROYAL READER, No. 2, 32 " ROYAL READER, No. 3, 42 " ROYAL READER, No. 4, 40 " ROYAL READER, No. 5, 44 " ROYAL READER, No. 6, 52 " and 5 Maps.

For sale wholesale and retail by A. & W. MACKINLAY, HALIFAX, N. S. April 18. 3in.

WOODILL'S GERMAN Baking Powder. Manufactured by FRED. B. WOODILL, FOR W. M. D. PEARMAN, Factory, 122 Upper Water Street.

For making Bread, Biscuit, Buns, Tea-Cakes, Pastry, &c. Par Lighter, Sweeter, and more wholesome than by any other process, and at a great saving of Time, Trouble, and Expense. Nov. 13. 11.

D. LANGELL'S ASTHMA & CATARRH REMEDY. Having struggled twenty years between life and death with ASTHMA, I experimented by compounding roots and herbs and inhaling the medicine. I fortunately discovered a cure for ASTHMA and CATARRH, warranted to relieve any case of Asthma instantly, so the patient can lie down to sleep. By mail, \$1.00 per box. Address D. LANGELL, Apple Creek, Ohio For sale by Druggists. Feb. 7. 13 ins. cow.