

For the Christian Messenger.

Mr. Editor,—

Barring flippancy of style and an offensive metaphor, I could fully endorse the article of your correspondent "X" on "University Titles," published two weeks ago.

Since reading the article referred to, it has occurred to me that, as an expression of commendation to the Governors of Acadia College, it may have been given in good time. For it would be a very easy matter, should the vain ambition break loose—an ambition for honors not deserved—for the authorities of our Institutions to follow in the way of cheap colleges in some parts of the United States, and distribute University honours with a carelessness that would be very damaging to the great educational work now in hand. One or two mistakes in this direction would so change the policy of the past, that instead of the degrees named by the writer of the article now under consideration representing ability and scholarship, they would pass as simple ministrations to the vanity of lucky and ambitious schemers; but let justice rule in the future as in the past, and the University of Acadia College, instead of falling in public estimation, will continue to rise higher and higher. And at no point in the past history of the College was it so important that the Institution should do herself justice in every possible respect as it is at the present time. For never before was the eye of the public turned toward it with such a criticising gaze. Independence of the Halifax University being proclaimed with so much assurance and emphasis at Sackville, the public mind was thereby awakened to enquire for the actual merits of an Institution that ignored the action of other Colleges, and scorned the offer to be turned out of her course. If, immediately after such a bold declaration of independence, the unfortunate step of bestowing titles that would not do justice to the Institution of worth and prominence should be taken, then public criticism would be evoked and injustice would be done.

Although the note of warning from the writer referred to may be needless, yet it will do no harm to let the "Powers that be" know that all they do, is done under the sharp eye of public criticism.

Truly yours,
A BAPTIST.

For the Christian Messenger.
1847 and 1877.

Dear Sir,—

In your last you quote a passage from the Wesleyan in which it is stated that there are places in this Province where, twenty or thirty years ago, the Baptists held undisputed sway, but now possess scarcely "the fragment of a cause". The names of those places, however, are not given.

Changes are doubtless taking place in all Denominations, and sometimes they are of a discouraging nature. I preached many years in a pulpit which was first used by the great John Wesley when he opened the meeting-house in which it stood, and which was built for the Methodists, but afterwards sold to the Baptists, the congregation having dwindled away. (See Wesley's Journal, November 28, 1788.) I should add, that the Methodists returned about forty years after, built another meeting-house, and have held their ground ever since.

We can look back thirty years and take courage. In 1847 there were 94 Baptist Churches in Nova Scotia, containing 9368 members. In 1877 there are 184 churches, containing 21,731 members.

The comparison may be further extended. Take the first ten in the alphabetical list of the Central Association, and compare the records of 1847 and 1877: Thus,—

	1847	1877
Aylesford	295 members	261
Chester	278	297
1st Cornwallis	231	407
2nd "	238	587
3rd "	211	385
Dartmouth	41	77
1st Falmouth	170	347
2nd "	17	122
Halifax	199	691 (3 ch's.)
1st Horton	399	359
	2079	3533

In addition to the last mentioned there is now a "Second Horton" Church with 470 members, and a "Third Horton" with 179. So that we are quite as well off as Gideon's army—"faint, yet pursuing."

Yours,
J. M. C.

May 23, 1877.

For the Christian Messenger.
The Archbishop's Oath.

Dear Sir,—

In the printed account of the consecration of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Halifax, the Oath taken by him does not appear. It is stated that it had been "already administered in the Vestry."

The following is a copy of one of the clauses of the oath:—"Heretics, Schismatics, and rebels of our said Lord (the Pope) or his successors, I will persecute and oppose to my power."

It is to be regretted that so genial a gentleman as the present Archbishop, who appears to be on friendly terms with all his fellow-citizens, should be compelled to take an oath with such a clause in it.

Yours,
HONESTUS.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., May 30th, 1877.

BUSINESS AT ASSOCIATIONS.

The need of arrangements for the more expeditions and orderly transaction of business at our Associational gatherings has long been felt, and many plans have been suggested from time to time to meet the case. In general a large amount of time is taken up in committee work, and instead of delegates meeting and advising in Association they have found their time largely occupied outside of the Association and in the Committee Room—at the last meeting of the N. S. Central Association a committee was appointed to prepare a plan for facilitating the transaction of business, and it may not be inappropriate now to call attention to their report which was adopted. Their first suggestion was that the clerk of the Church with which the Association is held, furnish the Secretary of the Association with a list of delegates. So that the roll may be called as soon as the Association opens. The appointment of committees a year beforehand was the other recommendation of the committee; the object being that these committees might be prepared to report as soon as the Association would be ready to receive their reports. Committees were accordingly appointed for the coming meeting of the Association. The list is as follows:—

- To Examine Circular Letter,—Revs. Dr. Sawyer, S. W. DeBlois, and S. B. Kempton.
- On Denominational Literature,—Bro. J. W. Bars, Revs. A. J. Stevens, and E. M. Saunders.
- On Benevolent Funds.—Revs. Isaiah Wallace, J. L. Read, and J. H. Robbins.
- On Education.—Prof. D. F. Higgins, Dr. Cramp, and J. F. Tufts.
- On Missions.—Revs. J. W. Manning, J. F. Avery, and Bro. S. Selden.
- On Obituaries.—Revs. J. C. Bleakney, Dr. Margeson, and D. W. C. Dimock.
- On Sabbath Schools.—Deacons Mark Curry, E. D. King, S. R. Dimock, W. A. Porter, and Revd. S. J. Neiley.
- On Sabbath Observance.—Revs. I. J. Skinner, J. Williams, and Joseph Ham.
- On Temperance.—Revs. A. E. Ingram, J. Meadows, and George Weathers.
- On Arrangements.—Pastor of the Upper Aylesford Church and neighboring Pastors as he may select.

With two or three exceptions all the above committees may and ought to be ready to present their reports at the first sitting of the Association, thus giving the Association ample time for the faithful discussion of the subjects involved in these reports and such other matters as arise. We think a good plan has been adopted. What is now wanted is the carrying of this plan into operation, which we trust will be done.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I. has had quite a time on the subject of Baptism. The spirit of enquiry has been awakened and a prolonged discussion resulted, extending over six evenings conducted in the Market Hall of that city. The discussion was between Rev. Isaac Murray, D.D., Presbyterian minister, and Rev. Donald McDonald, pastor of the Baptist Church in Charlottetown, and was listened to by an audience of about two thousand persons. Rev. Mr. McKay, Presbyterian, and Rev. J. Murray, Baptist, were joint Moderators on the occasion. The discussion was, we learn, conducted in an excellent spirit, and with remarkably good order, reflecting much credit on the speakers, the chairmen and the audience. The first three evenings were given to the Act of Christian

Baptism, and the latter to Who are proper subjects of Christian Baptism. Further we are informed that the result was a noble and triumphant vindication of the Scripture ordinance of Believers' Baptism as held and practised by Baptists.

It has been supposed by many that the recent change in the attitude of the Roman Catholics of St. John N. B., towards the School law in that city, has been brought about by some alteration in the administration and government of the schools, and that powers have been allowed to Roman Catholics differing greatly from what is provided by law, or is enjoyed by other denominations, and which made them separate and distinct, such as that body has claimed, and for years past enjoyed in Halifax. This, we are assured, by the Religious Intelligencer of that city is a great mistake as there has been no compromise made. The following is the Intelligencer's explanation:—

"The priest in making the announcement on Sabbath last, stated that Catholic lay teachers would have charge, and he expressed himself as highly pleased with the arrangement. The statement that Catholic teachers are to have charge, like a similar statement made by the Bishop a few weeks ago may give the impression that the appointment of the Catholic teachers is by special arrangement with the Clergy, and that the Bishop has the nomination of the teachers. The Bishop's statement caused much uneasiness among those who wished the law carried out in its integrity. It appears, however, that there has been no compromise whatever. The Trustees have simply rented, as the law authorizes them, existent schools, and put them under the same rules and regulations that govern all the other schools. Neither bishop nor priest has anything more to say about the choice of teachers or the management of the schools than any other citizen."

"Our readers will, we know, be pleased to have the assurance that there has been no compromise; and also that their Catholic fellow-citizens have wisely concluded to share in the advantages of the admirable schools now established." In other places in New Brunswick where there have been separate Roman Catholic Schools, we hear they are being given up to the Town Trustees.

CHRONOLOGY OF THE WEEK.

- May 21. Death of Miss Edgeworth. 1849
- " 22. Battle of the Granicus, B.C. 334
- " " Death of Constantine the Great. 337
- " 23. Battle of Ramillies. 1706
- " 24. Publication of the Book of Sports. 1618
- " 25. Death of Dr. Paley. 1805
- " 26. Dismemberment of Poland. 1773
- " 27. Birth of Dante. 1265
- " " Death of Venerable Bede. 735
- " " Death of John Calvin. 1564

AMHERST AGENCY FOR CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.—W. F. Cullen, Esq., having removed from Amherst; Chas. H. Bent, Esq., of "the Amherst Warehouse Company" has consented to assume the Agency of the Christian Messenger for Amherst and vicinity from the first of the present year. Mr. Cullen will collect the balances due up to Dec. 31st, 1876, as he is familiar with the accounts.

We will therefore be obliged to all parties in arrears to make immediate payment to Mr. Cullen, and our subscribers for the present year will find it convenient to make payment to Mr. Bent.

An item of religious intelligence from Sydney, C. B., on another page, will be received with special interest by many of our readers. The association of the past with the present to which our brother Boggs refers is peculiarly happy. We trust the prayer offered on the occasion may be abundantly answered.

We have been compelled to defer our article on Ministers' Life Assurance till our next.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Women's Missionary Aid Society at Cow Bay.

SYDNEY, C. B., May 18, 1877.

My Dear Mrs. Selden,—

On Monday evening, the 14th inst., I enjoyed a delightful hour with the good sisters of the Cow Bay Baptist Church, and had the privilege of assisting them in the formation of a Woman's Missionary Aid Society.

During the past winter Mr. Boggs has spent every alternate Sunday with the Church in that place, and last Sunday morning his sermon was from the words, "Go ye into all the world

and preach the Gospel to every creature," which revived in christian hearts a strong desire to go to the heathen with the "glad tidings," or give much sympathy and help to those who do; and so personally to obey this the greatest of Christ's commands. Thus early was the interest of the sisters fully aroused, and they met on the following evening, prepared to give their warmest sympathies to the cause which I tried to present to them. I endeavored to give them some idea of the condition of women in heathen lands—especially in Hindostan—and dwelt on the terrible wrongs to which they are compelled to submit, the injustice and tyranny which make their lives so miserable, and the ignorance and superstition which render their deaths so sad and hopeless. After I spoke of our three devoted sisters now laboring for Telegoo women and children, and the blessed work which the W. M. A. Societies with God's blessing were destined to accomplish, the resolution to form a society among them to assist by their prayers, sympathies and contributions the noble work, was passed unanimously and heartily. The majority of those present became members—a good proportion of whom are young ladies, several are not professors of religion, and some are more closely connected with other denominations than the Baptist. These all, when assured that any woman who wished to aid the work would be welcomed as a member, gave their names gladly, and at the close of the meeting many expressions of interest were uttered, and many wished that they were qualified and could go themselves to their perishing sisters, or had large means to spend in the cause. The membership is twenty-one, but as there are a few sisters in the church who were prevented from attending the meeting, it is confidently expected that the number will soon be increased by the addition of their names.

The hearty christian enthusiasm and brotherly love so abundantly characteristic of the Cow Bay people, and the generous amount of zeal, which is also according to knowledge, carried by the sisters into this movement, justify the prediction that a good share of prosperity and usefulness lies before the infant society.

Yours very sincerely,
F. E. BOGGS.

Financial Report.

The following is a comparative exhibit of receipts from the Churches for Foreign Missions for the period of nine months of the last two years, ending 10th May in the respective years:

	1876.	1877.
Central Association	\$ 688.15	\$ 636.05
Eastern " "	1477.29	489.51
Western " "	532.42	407.26
Totals	\$1697.86	\$1532.82
NEW BRUNSWICK.		
Eastern Association	\$ 586.88	\$ 409.51
Western " "	423.70	265.74
Totals	\$1010.58	\$ 675.25
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.		
	\$ 206.28	\$ 360.52
SUMMARY.		
Nova Scotia	\$1697.86	\$1532.82
New Brunswick	1010.58	675.25
P. E. Island	206.28	360.52
Totals	\$2914.72	\$2568.59

†Including legacy of \$114.200.

W. P. EVERETT,
Home Sec'y of F. M. Board.
St. John, N. B., 19th May, 1877.

ST. JOHN, N. B., 25th May, 1877.

APPEAL

TO THE BAPTIST CHURCHES OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

Dear Brethren,—

It becomes my duty to direct your serious attention to the Comparative Statement of the receipts of our Foreign Mission as presented above.

It will be perceived by reference to that Statement, that there has been a decrease in the receipt of the nine months of nearly \$350, as compared with the corresponding period of last year. If we deduct the legacies paid in last year, the difference will be upwards of \$660.

The voice of an alarmist is usually neither welcome nor popular, yet when danger is real, and peril imminent, the voice of warning is the voice of kindness and of true faithfulness, and should not be unheeded.

It seems perfectly proper that the fact of a comparatively large falling off in our Treasury receipts should be

pondered by the pastors and members of our churches, and that, at this season of the year, when most of the churches are in the habit of taking their annual collections for missions, such measures may be adopted and such liberality exercised as to avert the calamity which threatens, namely, a largely depleted Treasury.

During the former part of the year, our Board, knowing that the other department of Convention work, namely, that of Acadia College, was claiming the attention of many of our leading brethren to secure the proposed New Endowment of \$100,000, felt a degree of reluctance and delicacy in presenting the claims of the Foreign Mission department of Convention work to the sympathy of the churches; but now as we have entered the last quarter of our fiscal year, we appeal to the churches to make liberal collections for our Mission.

We will await with solicitude the reports of your annual contributions forwarded to your respective Associations. If the more than 160 churches which failed to contribute a cent to our Mission last year would each send us a trifle, and the remaining 180 churches would, this year, slightly augment their usual annual contribution, we shall, at the next session of our Convention, have cause for thankfulness and mutual congratulations.

Will not each pastor present to his congregation the claims of the Mission, and where there is a church without a pastor, let some deacon, or other brother, or some sister, who loves missions, urge that a collection be taken next month for our cause?

I am, brethren,
Your servant in the Gospel,
W. P. EVERETT,
Home Sec'y of the F. M. Board.

Notices.

RECEIVED FROM WOMEN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES.

Barrington,—Mrs. M. D. Forbes	\$ 2 40
Canso,—Miss L. S. Whitman	10 00
Deerfield,—Mrs. M. C. Stubbart	3 00
Miss L. Churchill, Hebron, for Missionaries' Box	1 00
Mrs. Jost, Guysboro, do	1 00
" Nelson, Brookfield, Sale of piece of Gold, do	1 02
" Joseph Wheelock, Bridge-town, do	2 00
" Blackadar, Halifax, do	1 00
" Whitman, do do	1 00
" Harris, do do	0 50
" Irwin, do do	0 50
" Farquharson, do do	0 45
" Fulton, do do	0 50
Mrs. Thos. Uhlman, Deerfield, do	4 00
Deacon Enoch Crosby, do	4 00
A friend, Halifax, do	5 00
Mrs. M. C. Daily, Brookfield, do	1 00
Mrs. R. I. Hart, Halifax, do	5 00
Mrs. F. Doull, do	5 00
Mrs. S. C. DeWolf, do	1 00
Irene Kendrick, Barrington, do	1 00
Annie Forbes, do	0 25
Hattie Forbes, do	0 25

Parcels have been received from the following places for the Missionaries' Box. If any omissions are observed the Secretary would be glad to be notified by Postal Card or otherwise:

- Windsor,
- Hantsport,
- Brookfield,
- Rawdon,
- St. Stephen, N. B.,
- Annapolis,
- Liverpool,
- Wolfville,
- Amherst,
- Canning,
- Bridgetown,
- Charlottetown, P. E. I.
- Hebron,
- Boston,
- Sydney,
- North Sydney,
- Halifax, Granville St.
- Halifax, North.

M. R. SELDEN, Sec'y.
Halifax, May 29th, 1877.

GOING TO THE WESTERN ASSOCIATION.

Persons wishing to go to Liverpool at the time of the Western Association, June 16th, will be provided with conveyance from Annapolis to Liverpool for \$3, and back for the same.

Please give notice a few days beforehand by Post Card to David McLelland of Greywood, who will arrange to leave Annapolis, either Thursday or Friday on arrival of Halifax train according to the wish of delegates, as expressed in notice given.

REDUCTION OF FARE.

Kilcup's line of Coaches, leaving Annapolis, Bridgewater and Shelburne, daily for Liverpool, will convey delegates to the Western Baptist Association and return them for one and one-half fares.

G. S. PARKER.
Liverpool, May 25th, 1877.