

blood vessels. Alcohol paralyses the extreme parts of this nervous system; the blood vessels lose their tonicity and an unusual amount of blood is thrown into them. This is the cause of the flushed faces and swollen fingers which may be observed as the bottle goes round. Some tone remains in the vessels till intoxication ensues, when all tone is lost. Of course as the vessels lose tone the resistance to the heart is removed, and that organ pours away its blood in unnecessary streams. It has been estimated that when four fluid ounces of alcohol are introduced into the body, the heart gives 12,900 extra strokes a day—an amount of extra labour equal to fifteen foot-tons. The effect of alcohol on the lungs is the same as on the brain; so that when you see the face flushed through drinking, you may conclude that every organ in the body is flushed too. It is often believed that alcohol is a food, but it is nothing of the kind. It does not contain any sufficient chemical constituent to fit it for food, and, as we have already seen, it passes into the circulation practically unchanged. As a physiologist, I am bound to conclude that alcohol not only is not a necessity, but is a positive injury, yet there is a difficulty in the way of giving it up. A person may inherit or acquire an alcoholic organization, so to speak, and such a person, for a time, would feel a strong craving for alcohol if he abstained from using it. Yet he would not suffer the slightest injury from not satisfying the craving. A large majority of our prisoners are confirmed drunkards, yet they feel no inconvenience on being suddenly deprived of alcohol.

Canon Farrar, after dwelling on the grandeur of the position of teachers holding as they do the charter of the future in their hands, said he would not point out the dangers accruing to the nation from drunkenness, for they were as apparent to his audience as to him, but he would point out in what ways teachers could help to diminish what is the most crying, multiform, and ineradicable of our national evils. The first was by impressing upon their pupils the moral disgrace of drunkenness. Another way in which teachers can help the cause of temperance is by pointing out that not only drunkenness but drink is very costly.

The following question was put by a teacher: Are there any cases where the constitution is weak, the circulation slow, and the nervous power enfeebled, where a temperate use of intoxicating drinks is beneficial?

Dr. Richardson rose to reply and said the question that has been asked, is purely a medical question. If I were going to speak to you as a layman standing outside my own profession, I should tell you that I knew of no condition with which you can be conversant simply as standing outside the pale of professional experience under which you can with advantage take alcoholic drink. I am not so fanatical as to say that my hands are to be tied so that I may not prescribe alcohol as I would chloroform or quinine or any other medicine: I constantly do prescribe it, but never as wine, beer, or spirit, simply as alcohol, written in the true form of a prescription, and under these circumstances there are certain necessities of disease where I think this as a remedy is useful. Into that question I could not enter here. It is a question that demands the experience and thought of members of my own profession with whom only I can discuss it. I believe that throughout my profession the change that is taking place is very striking, and that by-and-by when the public desire to know whether they ought or ought not to take this as a medicinal substance, they will have no occasion to doubt the opinion of all competent men on that particular point.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., June 6th, 1877.

MINISTERS' MUTUAL AID SOCIETY.

We have long felt that the Baptist Churches of these provinces need a more permanent Fund for the aid of our Aged and Infirm Ministers. Justice and Mercy alike claim this at the hands of those who have received supplies of spiritual blessings from them. The matter has had some consideration at our Associations. We have several times endeavoured to induce the brethren to take up the matter earnestly and effectually, and perhaps they have been impressed to some extent with the desirability of doing something, but that is about as much as we can now say. Contribu-

tions have been made by some of the churches towards the Funds for this object. The amounts have however, mostly been small, and sufficient only to give temporary aid, and, to a very limited extent, to provide for emergencies as they have arisen. We should be glad if we could see some plan taken hold of by the brethren that would more effectually meet the necessities of the case.

Ministers are not ordinarily able to save much from their income to leave to their families when called away from them, and they would naturally desire to make some effort to provide some prospect of support after they are gone. The plan projected by our brethren the Baptist ministers of St. John, and laid before our readers two weeks since, showed this anxiety, and indicated the very praiseworthy readiness they felt to do for themselves and their brother ministers what would supply this great desideratum in our church arrangements.

In laying the plan before our readers we ventured to suggest some considerations which occurred to us respecting said plan that might interfere with its complete success, and the permanence of the Institution it was proposed to establish for the benefit of bereaved families. We have had this matter under serious consideration since then as one demanding the attention of ministers and churches. We should be exceedingly sorry to say a word that could by any possibility be construed into any other desire than that of being helpful to our brethren, in bringing about what is evidently resting on their hearts—a permanent institution that might afford aid to their widows whenever in the Providence of God they should be called away from them. We intimated in our former reference to this matter that a plan had come to our knowledge which had the benefit of prolonged trial and experience. The proposal of our St. John brethren contemplates a sort of Life Assurance, resting on the pledges of a large number of persons, each to pay to the bereaved widow a certain sum of money on the death of her husband—he being one of the number of pledged brethren. The suggestion we would make differs in some respects, from this, the payment to the bereaved would not be one lump sum, but an annuity—an annual payment, resting on money already paid by themselves and others, and invested for this special purpose, in undoubted securities. The claim of all participants to be absolute, during widowhood, not a gratuity, and not dependant on the will of any person or persons, Trustees or Committee, but the proceeds of the invested money equally divided between participants, or perhaps regulated to some extent according to the length of time the deceased husband had been a contributor. With these preliminary remarks we will quote from a paper received from a friend, (not prepared for publication however) in reference to the trial this plan has already had in England. This may be of some service in the consideration of this matter:

"About the beginning of this century a Society was formed in Kent, England, which has proved very useful. It embraced the Congregational and Baptist Denominations, and was established for the relief of Ministers' widows. A fund was raised by liberal donations, the interest of which, and that only, was expended for the objects of the Society. Every Minister of the two denominations was required to become a member of the Union within two years after his ordination, and prepaid an annual subscription of one guinea. His church made an annual collection, or paid two guineas in lieu thereof. These subscriptions and collections, as well as donations and legacies, were added to the fund. When a minister died his widow became entitled to her share in the income of the Fund, which was divided every year between all the widows then entitled to its benefits, in equal shares. The amount receivable varied every year, as the additions to the Fund varied, as well as the number of beneficiaries. Many years ago, the widows received an annuity of twenty pounds and upwards, sterling. That annuity, varied, as explained above, continued for life, or during widowhood. The money constituting the Fund was deposited in the Bank of England, in the name of Trustees. At the yearly meeting the state of the Fund was reported and the dividend payable to the widows was declared. The security was unquestionable, and the benefit was great."

Our venerable friend Rev. W. C. Rideout sends us the following note from Oak Bay, St. David, N. B.: Dear Editor.—I wish to say to my friends in Cape Breton through the Messenger that I arrived home on Tuesday the 22nd inst., found all well, and, if nothing prevents, I shall leave for Cape Breton on Tuesday, June 5th, 1877. W. C. RIDEOUT.

We are pleased to learn from our Bridgewater correspondent that the Nictaux and Atlantic Railway is commenced. This will, we doubt not, put money in circulation in the counties through which it is to pass. We see that there have been exported from the United States twelve thousand dozen of cotton cod lines to the British Provinces this year. Surely that article might form one of our own manufactures, and thus save so much money being taken away.

The Halifax press of all parties continues to call on the Local Government for information respecting the charges against the Education Office. The Chronicle says, "We quite agree with the Witness that the case should have been disposed of ere this." The Herald says, "The evidence must long ago have been completed; and it is likely, too, that the Government's decision has been arrived at. The public are far too deeply interested in the result of the investigation and the decision of the government, to permit that result and that decision to be kept secret any longer. Delays are dangerous; they are sometimes dishonest."

the liberty we have taken in proffering our views in this matter. As they named it a "Canadian Baptist Minister's Mutual Aid Association" we thought we might venture to treat upon it without injury. If we can do it and them any good we shall be satisfied.

CHRONOLOGY OF THE WEEK.

May 28. Assassination of Cardinal Beaton.....	1546
" 29. Constantinople taken by the Turks.....	1453
" " Death of Christopher Columbus.....	1506
" " Death of Sir Humphrey Davy.....	1829
" " Jerome of Prague burned.....	1416
" " Joan of Arc burned.....	1431
" 30. Death of Alexander Pope (Poet).....	1744
" 31. Death of Dr. Chalmers.....	1847
June 1. Lord Howe's naval victory.....	1794
" " Death of J. J. Oberlin.....	1826
" 2. Peace of Paris.....	1814
" 3. Death of Harvey, discoverer of the circulation of the blood.....	1657

A member of the Bridgewater Baptist Church thinks that the notice in our columns respecting the Rev. Mr. Roberts, might convey an imperfect impression, and wishes, respecting him and the church, to say that the reason they are unable to retain his services as their Pastor arises from the outstations changing their relations with Bridgewater, which church has done fully equal to what it has done in any previous year. They hold Mr. Roberts in high esteem as a very able preacher of the gospel, probably not inferior to any in the province, and calculated to be very useful in many places.

The Presbyterian General Assembly will commence its session here on Wednesday next. It is expected that there will be a very large gathering of Presbyterians from all parts of the Dominion. The Witness gives a list of near 300 ministers and delegates, and the places assigned them in Halifax during their stay. It is pleasing to see that they will be located with persons belonging to the various denominations in the city. True christian hospitality has not diminished in Halifax. Such gatherings tend to keep it in good cultivation.

WILLIAM CAXTON.—Printing was introduced into England by this illustrious man, in the year 1477. What blessings has it showered on England! Last Saturday afternoon there was "a special thanksgiving service," commemorative of Caxton, in Westminster Abbey. Dean Stanley preached. There was a splendid musical performance, and doubtless a large, select, and appreciative congregation. It was fitting. Caxton was a native of the Weald of Kent. He died in 1491.

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The Los Angeles Evening Express contains the following brief, but striking notice of a death: In this city, May 18th, at 5.30, A. M., Yo Hing, a native of China (and for ten years a resident of Los Angeles,) caused by blows of an axe in the hands of Chinamen.

THE ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES AT WOLFVILLE

have already begun, but not in time for us to report anything concerning them this week. We doubt not they will be fully equal in interest to those of any former years. The amateur choir from St. John will supply some very superior music. If the personnel comprises those we expect, the Concert on Thursday evening will be a great treat.

The President of the Associated Alumni of Acadia College, we are sorry to say, will be prevented by a lame foot from being present and performing the duties of his office.

The editors of the Acadia Athenaeum have a happy knack of giving lessons in deportment and propriety to their fellow students and at the same time of commending sociability to the good people of the village. The easy, jocular manner in which this is done in the last issue of our college paper takes off the edge of unpalatableness which such lessons often have when given in didactic fashion. When the writer comes to "seriously" he opens up large subjects before the eyes of his aspiring readers, and delightfully mixes up the destruction of "chairs and carpets" with "the fates of empires," "denominational watchery," &c. His picture of the "backwoodsman" is far ahead of that of the "knights of the parlor." Gentlemen are as frequently found in the garb of the former as the latter. Exterior qualities are not the true index of genuine refinement. Like the real current coin there must be the precious metal beneath, or all the finish and polish you may add to the surface, but makes the counterfeit more deceptive.

ANOTHER NOVA SCOTIAN FOR THE FOREIGN MISSION FIELD.—Miss Norwood, formerly of Berwick, N. S., who has for several years been engaged in teaching, first in her native land, but more recently in the Seminary at Burlington, Iowa, has engaged to go out as a missionary to China this Autumn. She will accompany a Missionary and his wife who are returning, after a short visit to their home.

ZELL'S POPULAR ENCYCLOPEDIA: a universal dictionary of the English Language, Science, Literature and Art, and Gazetteer of the world, by L. Collage, LL. D. Complete in two volumes of about 2600 pages, and containing 150,000 Articles, nearly 3000 Illustrations, and 18 Superb Maps. Horace King, General Agent, Thompsonville, Conn.

One number per week, costing 50 cents, will give you the Encyclopedia complete in 1 year and 12 weeks. A specimen number with a beautiful Map will be sent to any address on the receipt of 20 cents.

We have received No 1 of "The Christian Helper," a monthly journal for Canadian Baptists, the aim of which is to stimulate to nobler aspirations, deeper piety, and intenser zeal for the cause of Christ in the Church, the Family, the Sunday School, and in the various denominational institutions and societies.

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In this city, May 18th, at 5.30, A. M., Yo Hing, a native of China (and for ten years a resident of Los Angeles,) caused by blows of an axe in the hands of Chinamen.

Notices.

RECEIVED FROM WOMEN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES.

A Friend, Upper Falmouth.....\$0 60
 Pine Grove,—Mrs. J. P. Dodge..... 6 00
 Onslow,—Miss M. McNutt..... 5 10
 Parcels and money for the Missionaries box were received from the following places, in addition to those named last week.

Canard, Guysboro, Canso, Great Village.

M. R. SELDEN, Sec'y.
 Halifax, June 6, 1877.

Rev. Joseph Murray is at present at North Brookfield, and wishes all communications for him addressed there.

ANNIVERSARY DAY.

A CONCERT under the auspices of the Graduating Class of 1877 will be given in the Baptist Church Wolfville, on Thursday evening June 7th by an amateur company from St. John, N. B.

BAPTIST ANNIVERSARIES, 1877.

N. S. Western Association at Liverpool, commences on Saturday, June 16th, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

N. S. Central Association at Upper Aylesford, commences on Saturday, June 23rd, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

N. S. Eastern Association at Portau-pique, commences on Saturday, July 14th, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Prince Edward Island Association at Cavendish, commences on Saturday, July 21st, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Nova Scotia Home Missionary Union at Portau-pique, on Friday, July 13th, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

New Brunswick Western Association at Blissfield, commences on Tuesday, June 26th, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

New Brunswick Eastern Association at Moncton, commences on Tuesday, July 10th, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

New Brunswick Home Missionary Society Annual Meeting will be held with the New Brunswick Eastern Association at Moncton.

THE BAPTIST CONVENTION of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and P. E. Island to commence at Wolfville, on Saturday, the 25th of August, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

N. S. WESTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Delegates and friends expecting to attend the W. B. Association, which convenes with the Liverpool Baptist Church on the 16th of June, will please forward their names and address to the undersigned as soon as possible, in order that arrangements may be completed for their entertainment, of which they will be duly notified.

GEORGE S. PARKER,
 Church Clerk.
 Liverpool, May 9th, 1877.

N. S. CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

Dear Sir,—We wish to be notified as early as may be convenient, with respect to delegates attending the Central Association, so as to have opportunity to locate them.

N. B.—Persons driving their own teams will please give notice to that effect to

D. W. MORTON,
 Church Clerk.
 Aylesford, May 15, 1877.

ACADIA COLLEGE.

The Anniversary Exercises of Acadia College will occur on Thursday, June 7, at 11, A. M.

Return Tickets, at reduced rates, good for one week, can be obtained at any station on the W. and A. Railway.

A. W. SAWYER,
 May 17th, 1877.

ASSOCIATED ALUMNI OF ACADIA COLLEGE.

The annual business meeting of this Association will be held on Wednesday, June 6th, at 8 o'clock in the Vestry of the Baptist Church at Wolfville, when among other important matters the Association will nominate two persons for appointment by the Convention as Governors of Acadia College. The Alumni dinner will take place immediately after the public Anniversary exercises on Thursday, June 7th.

B. H. EATON,
 Sec'y A. A. C.
 Halifax, May 7th, 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.

Letters Received.

C. W. Sanders, \$20. W. T. Waterman, \$2.15. L. Tremain, Esq., M. D., \$6. J. W. Churchill, \$5. W. J. Gates, \$3.25. W. E. Blenkhorn, 2 subs., \$2.

THE FISHERY LAWS.—We are informed that W. H. Rogers, Esq., Superintendent of Fisheries, seized sixty-five offending salmon and alewife nets in the Tuskent River, Yarmouth County, besides finding several poachers and mill owners. Sundry boats, dip nets, and other articles found illegally in use were destroyed, and poachers generally were made to feel that some person was after them with a sharp stick. More of the same sort of vigilance is needed all over the Province. Let the local officers in each county copy Mr. Rogers, and clean out the poachers.—Herald.

SEND 25c. to G. P. ROWELL & CO. New York, for Pamphlet of 100 pages, containing lists of 3000 newspapers, and estimates showing cost of advertising. March 8. 1yr.