

The Methodists of the United States have expended much money and labor in promoting education. It is reported that they have organized and now hold under their control sixty-nine academies and seminaries, twenty-seven colleges and three theological schools; and that they have devoted to the support of their educational institutions some nine millions of money.

Again, I would protest against lecturing as a substitute for recitation. The teacher's talking is not the scholar's reciting. The school-room is not the place to test the loquacity of the teacher, but rather the fidelity of the scholar. It should be sacred to class-drill.

Lecturing, however, like reading and traveling, is a legitimate method of imparting instruction, and whenever it is practiced before the school, the opportunity should be improved to cultivate in the scholar the habit of listening. I apprehend that this important habit is too much neglected in our schools, as seen in the inattention and heedlessness of the public assembly. They hear, but do not understand, and often retire from the church or lecture-room with little or no knowledge of the subject discussed.

To obviate this difficulty, let the teacher, whenever he gives a public lecture before the school, require the class to listen, and afterwards to recite the subject-matter of the discourse. In this way they will soon gain power to follow a speaker with interest and profit; will no longer be listless hearers.

But if we would secure to our pupils all the benefits resulting from well-conducted recitations, we should employ questioning and lecturing only incidentally, and should adopt and practice the independent topical recitation. That must be the true method which throws the pupil upon his own resources, compels him to study, and enables him to acquire the power of accurate expression. Any method of instruction which weakens the motive, or removes the necessity of laborious thinking, and self-relying recitation, is false in theory and ruinous in practice.—Ed. Jour.

Formerly the annual term of study in the Scotch Universities was some two months longer than that required at present. Dr. McCosh, in his work on Scottish Philosophy does not hesitate to express the decided opinion that the shortening of the term of study has been followed by the adoption of a lower standard of attainment of scholarship.

There has been a practice at Harvard College of lending money to students whose circumstances required it and of taking notes in return. Many of these notes have never been paid. It is reported that over \$35,000 is now due from students who have never repaid what they have borrowed. The authorities of the College are studying the question, whether they have not been too ready to extend such aid.

"Perfect ignorance is quiet, perfect knowledge is quiet; not so the transition from the former to the latter. In a vague, all-exaggerating twilight of wonder, the new has to fight its battle with the old; Hope has to settle accounts with Fear; thus the scales strangely waver; public opinion, which is as yet baseless, fluctuates without limit; periods of foolish admiration and foolish execration must elapse, before that of true inquiry and zeal according to knowledge can begin.—Carlyle.

QUESTION DEPARTMENT.

Why is it that some teachers when requested by young converts to give the scriptural form of baptism, refer the enquirer to the fathers &c., and not to the Book of Books?

The writer of the above gives the following comment on his subject:

When I was an anxious enquirer about the doctrine, I was never pointed to the Word of God, and told to search the scriptures, but sent to certain books and opinions of great divines—and there I found that 'Doctors differed'—Once I was told, that I needed not to leave the denomination I was connected with, by being immersed—Well I thought we should all sail under our true colours—he was an Englishman too.

The answer may be something like the wish of the Presbyterian elder, who, although he would not deny that his minister had made a strong case, yet wished that the Scriptures had said a little more in favor of Infant Sprinkling.

- 1st. Is it right for ministers and deacons to smoke and chew tobacco?
2nd. Is it a desecration of the Sabbath Day for a minister to go home from the

pulpit on that day and smoke and chew tobacco?

As we have no experience in the use of tobacco, and wishing to give an unprejudiced answer we submitted the questions of our correspondent to two brethren who are accustomed to spend money in buying the weed and time in consuming it. They have given answers. One says:—

In answer to the enquiry of your correspondent as to the use of tobacco by ministers or deacons, I would suggest the following reply:

1st. Every man must decide the matter, between his conscience and his God. "To his own Master he must stand or fall."

2nd. Any indulgence of habit or appetite on the Lord's Day, which would tend to mar the sacredness of the day, or hinder usefulness in the Lord's service, should be discountenanced and abandoned.

While not defending the use of tobacco by any professing Christian I should be sorry to say that a man may not be a consistent Christian and yet indulge in this habit.

The other one says:—

Dear Brother, You will hardly expect that I will condemn myself out of my own mouth, as you know that I use the weed by smoking my pipe occasionally ever since I was twenty-three years old, and I am now in my sixty-first year; but this much I will venture to say that if tobacco had been used in the days of our dear Saviour and his Holy Apostles, they would no doubt have denounced it as a sin. I think Paul, in his letters to the churches, would have written something about tobacco. Much can be said on both sides of this question, but I believe more can be said against it. Like every other indulgence, it is injurious to some while it is innocuous to others. I do believe using tobacco to excess will lead to serious evils. You will see that if I condemn the Minister the poor Deacon will have to go also, but I do think, dear brother, the minister, above all men, should not use it. I would like them to take the advice of Paul to Timothy, 1 Tim. iv. 12, 'Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example of believers in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.' If it is a sin to use tobacco on week days it is also a sin to use it on Sundays, and more especially coming from the pulpit.

That, we think, is about as much as can be said in favor of this practice, so offensive to many.

We will just add that if all smokers had the good manners to keep their waste smoke to themselves it would be less offensive, but when they pollute the air which others have to breathe, or deposit the expectorations which it induces, in the path or the sight of those to whom it is objectionable it then becomes an offence whether in a minister, or deacon, a christian, or a heathen.

Notices.

ACADIA COLLEGE. The Board of Governors of Acadia College have appointed James S. McDonald, Esq., of Wolfville, as Agent to collect all sums contributed to the New Academy Building. Remittances may be made to him and his receipt will be a sufficient discharge. STEPHEN W. DEBLOIS, Sec'y. Wolfville, March 15th, 1877.

COLCHESTER AND CUMBERLAND COUNTIES BAPTIST SABBATH SCHOOL CONVENTION will meet on Thursday, April 5th in the Baptist Meeting House, Great Village, Londonderry, at 10 o'clock, A. M. A short sermon will be preached at this session at half-past 2 P. M. The subjects for discussion will be "Superintendents and Teachers." The evening session will be converted into a Sabbath School, Wm. Cummings, Esq., acting as Superintendent and Rev. M. P. Freeman as Teacher. The lesson of the previous Sabbath (not a review) will be the subject. A collection will be taken at the evening session. A. J. WALKER, Sec'y. Truro, March 16th, 1877.

Treasurers of Baptist Funds.

- 1. HOME MISSIONARY UNION—Pearl D. Kinney, Yarmouth.
2. FOREIGN MISSIONARY BOARD—Thos. P. Davies, St. John, N. B.
3. ACADIA COLLEGE AND HORTON COLLEGIATE ACADEMY—Andrew D. W. Barss, M. D., Wolfville.
4. ACADIA FRENCH MISSION—Pearl D. Kinney, Yarmouth.
5. MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND—Jno. W. Barss, Wolfville.
6. NOVA SCOTIA WOMEN'S MISSIONARY AID SOCIETY—Mrs. M. R. Selden, Halifax.
7. WESTERN ASSOCIATION INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND—Rev. Wm. H. Warren, Yarmouth.
8. CENTRAL ASSOCIATION INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND—Charles F. Eaton, Canard, Cornwallis.
9. EASTERN ASSOCIATION INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND—Benj. L. Douglas, Amherst.
10. PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ASSOCIATION INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND—James Des-Brissay, Charlottetown.

RECEIVED FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Mar. 13.—Per Miss A. L. Hooper, Sec'y Central Board, P. E. I., North River... \$10 00
Tryon Branch... 10 00
Bedeque... 3 00
Thos. P. DAVIES, Treas. F. M. Board. St. John, N. B., 1877.

Dear Editor.—Our Board would thankfully acknowledge the receipt of the following sums:—

For Home Missions. From the General Agent... \$50 00
West Bay Church, C. B., per P. Paint, Jr., Esq... 2 57
Miss Mary Harper, per Rev. J. Meadows... 1 00
For the French Mission. Wolfville Church Collection per Jas. S. McDonald, Esq... 16 25
Hawkesbury Church, per P. Paint, Jr., Esq... 2 43
Total... \$72 25
G. E. DAY. Yarmouth, March 15, 1877.

RECEIVED FROM WOMEN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES.

Sydney.—Mrs. W. B. Boggs... \$ 5 75
Pereaux.—Mrs. J. L. Sanford... 5 00
Milton, Queens Co.—Miss Annie G. Hendry... 10 00
Halifax, Granville Street Church, Miss Selden... 38 00
Mr. R. SELDEN, Sec'y. Halifax, March 19th, 1877.

TO MEMBERS OF W. M. AID SOCIETIES.

Any Society who have the loan of the Box of Teologoo Curiosities sent by Mrs. Armstrong, by the payment of fifty cents, and Express or Postage charges. Address Secretary Central Board. For the information of friends in the country we wish to say, that we hope to send the Box for our missionaries in May next.

HORTON COLLEGIATE ACADEMY.

The next Quarter of the above Institution will commence on March 22nd. Circulars containing all necessary information can be obtained on application. Wolfville, March 10th.

The Examinations at the end of the present quarter will take place on Tuesday 20th, commencing at 9 a. m. The public are invited to attend.

Letters Received.

W. A. Hutchison, \$1. G. Eaton, \$2. Jas. Lantz, \$5.50. J. Spicer, \$2. J. Dimock, \$2. N. A. Dimock, \$2. Rev. C. Randall, \$2. John Robinson, \$2. J. W. Eldridge, \$4. N. R. Morse, \$4.

Local News.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.—To be a Notary and Tabellion Public—Edwin Ruggles, Esq., Bridgetown. In Ontario.—To be a Commissioner under section 54 of chapter 96 of the Revised Statutes, 4th series, for taking affidavits, &c.—R. J. Wicksteed, Esq., of Ottawa.

Digby Co.—To be a Justice of the Peace.—Solomon S. Dakin, of Sandy Cove. Lunenburg Co.—To be Justices of the Peace.—Amos Hubble and William Cross, Tancook Island, and Augustus Rhyndar, Petite Riviere.

To be Commissioner for giving relief to Insolvent Debtors.—J. J. Lockhart and J. L. Dauphinee, Esqs.

St. PATRICK'S DAY was ushered in shortly after midnight on Saturday morning by a grand torch light procession, in fancy costume, with bands of music and several men on horse-back. The Catholic Irish Societies made a grand display by their procession in the middle of the day.

Some soldiers belonging to the 97th Regiment were making a great disturbance in Maynard Street on Thursday night and were arrested by the police.

HOMES WANTED.—Mr. A. Logan, City Missionary, is desirous of obtaining good homes in the country for three or four more boys, from eight to twelve years of age. Please address No. 250 Gortingen Street, Halifax.

GOLD.—The Recorder of Wednesday last says: "Some people labor under the impression that the gold fields of Nova Scotia have 'given out,' but such is not by any means the case. We were shown this morning by Peter Hogan, Esq., a brick of the precious metal, the result of two or three days crushing of quartz from Andrew Barton's leads, Tangier. It weighed about 60 ounces, and would be worth considerably more than \$1,000. Success to Andrew, and to enterprise! Finding there was no money being made by anybody in the city, our friend just took a cruise to the old diggings, and the result is as above narrated. The proprietors of the Cariboo gold mine at Musquodoboit have realized \$3,000 over expenses by their operations during the past month. They claim to have 'struck' the best 'paying lead' in this Province."

Monday last was a busy day at Cunard's wharf, there being seven first class ocean steamers there.

ASSOCIATION FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE POOR.—At the regular monthly meeting on Monday evening of last week, the President mentioned that, owing to the funds being nearly exhausted, visitors would have to exercise very great discrimination in giving relief. After some conversation it was decided to limit the relief given to bread, soup and fuel. He also reported that the civic authorities had not given any assurance relative to the purchase of the broken stone and that very reluctantly the Stone Shed on the Common was ordered to be closed and the work given there suspended. This was the more regretted as the Board of Works had reported that in no other way would the city obtain better value than by a purchase similar to that of last year. On account of the lack of sympathy and want of co-operation shown by the City Council, it was decided to discuss at the next meeting the propriety of discontinuing the operation of the Association.

OUR WEALTHY DEAD.—Few people are aware, perhaps, that within a trifle over a year, just half a score of our wealthiest men have passed away. The record has been made up by one curious in such matters, and is as follows:

Table with columns: Name, Age, Date. Includes James Cochran (75, March 6, 1877), J. Macara Walker (64, March 2, 1877), James Flinn (60, Feb'y 7, 1877), Nat. L. West (69, Feb'y 2, 1877), Judge McCully (68, Jan'y 2, 1877), James T. West (62, April 2, 1876), Jas. Donaldson (75, April 15, 1876), John W. Young (70, Mar. 26, 1876), Charles Murdoch (59, Jan'y 10, 1875), C. E. Wiswell (70, Jan'y 10, 1875).

These ten gentlemen represented between three and four millions of dollars. The wealth of each has been roughly estimated to be as follows: Mr. Cochran, \$480,000; Dr. Walker, \$600,000; Mr. Flinn, \$100,000; N. L. West, \$400,000; Judge McCully, \$120,000; J. T. West, \$250,000; Mr. Donaldson, \$400,000; Mr. Young, \$400,000; Charles Murdoch, \$500,000; Mr. Wiswell, \$300,000.—Herald.

It is sad to reflect how small a proportion of this money, whose former owners are now as poor as the poorest, in this world's goods, was bequeathed to christian and benevolent objects.

A BIG DIVIDEND.—The Avon Marine Insurance Company has declared its annual dividend to stockholders of \$65 per share on the paid up capital of \$25, or about 260 per cent.—Windsor Mail.

On Thursday last, the engine of a freight train going north ran into an engine standing at Wentworth Station. No one was hurt and the damage trifling.

The "Northern Light" continues to run between Georgetown, P. E. I. and Pictou. She arrived on Sunday last and got up to the Acadia coal wharf. She made the passage in four hours and reports but little ice in the Gulf.

Kentville has been much excited in the contest with Wolfville over the Provincial Exhibition question. It has been decided that it shall be held at the former place. A large bonfire was lighted there on Tuesday of last week around which the boys rejoiced.

The wife of Mr. Wm. Howe, son of the late Hon. Joseph Howe, died suddenly at Ottawa on Saturday, the 10th. She was a daughter of Rev. Principal Ross, who now lies very ill at Dartmouth.

At Preston, on Thursday night, a colored man named William Smith met with a serious loss, his house and barn having been destroyed by fire, Smith and his family narrowly escaping with their lives. Besides the loss of his house, barn and effects a number of pigs which he intended to bring to market next week were roasted alive.

A new Division of Sons of Temperance with 26 charter members has been organized at Middle Musquodoboit D. G. W. P., Daniel Reid. The Division has been named "Brookvale," No. 426. The officers for the current quarter are:—W. P., W. Archibald; W. A., S. McFratridge; R. S., S. Hanna; A. R. S., S. Lindsay; F. S., S. P. White; Treas., D. McKean; Chap., H. G. Reid; Con., A. Hadley; A. C., Eliza Lindsay; L. S., Adam Archibald; O. S., H. Higgins. The Division takes the place of a Lodge of British Templars.

TO THE PUBLIC.

READ WHAT THE PEOPLE SAY IN REGARD TO THE GREAT SHOSHONEES REMEDY & PILLS.—Levi Jones, Markham, says I had a very severe attack of Bronchitis. I was so bad that I could hardly get my breath. I sought for a quick remedy, and seeing the "Shoshonees Remedy" so highly recommended, I procured a bottle, and am happy to say, that by the time it was taken, I was entirely well and have remained so although, I was much exposed through the winter in travelling. Rev. F. B. Stratton, Demorestville, writes—"I have found your remedies particularly beneficial for liver complaint dyspepsia and bronchial affections, and would advise all similarly affected to give them a trial. John Finlayson, Athol, says—"When travelling one of my feet sore and broke out. I could not cure it and had to return home. It became better and afterwards much worse. I finally purchased a bottle of the "Remedy" and a box of "Pills," and before they were half gone

I commenced to improve, and before they were finished my foot was completely cured. It is now 17 months since, but I have had no further attack. Price of the remedy in pint bottles \$1; Pills 25 cents a box. Feb. 28. 1m.

WHAT NEXT.

A CONSUMPTIVE CURED.—When death was hourly expected, all remedies having failed, and Dr. H. JAMES was experimenting, he accidentally made a preparation of INDIAN HEMP, which cured his only child of consumption. He now gives this receipt free on receipt of two stamps, to pay expenses. HEMP also cures night sweat, nausea at the stomach, and will break a fresh cold in twenty-four hours. Address Craddock & Co., 1,032 Race Street, Philadelphia, naming this paper. Feb. 7. 13 ins.

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.

Miscellaneous.

Sow love, and taste its fruitage sweet; Sow smiles, and see the desert spring; Sow wisdom for its harvest meet; Sow sunlight for the joy 't will bring.

We do not know either unalloyed happiness or unmitigated misfortune. Everything in this world is a tangled yarn; we taste nothing in its purity; and we do not remain two moments in the same state. Our affections, as well as our bodies, are in a perpetual flux.

Ours is a religion little in its demands, but how infinitely prodigal in its gifts! It troubles you for an hour, and repays you by immortality.

\$12 a day at home. Agents wanted. Outfit and terms free. TRUE & CO., Augusta, Maine. March 8. 1yr.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla



For Scrofula, and all scrofulous diseases, Erysipelas, Rose, or St. Anthony's Fire, Eruptions and Eruptive diseases of the skin, Ulcerations of the Liver, Stomach, Kidneys, Lungs, Pimples, Pustules, Boils, Blotches, Tumors, Tetter, Salt Rheum, Scald Head, Ringworm, Ulcers, Sores, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Pain in the Bones, Side and Head, Female Weakness, Sterility, Leucorrhoea, arising from internal ulceration, and Uterine disease, Syphilitic and Mercurial diseases, Dropsy, Dyspepsia, Emaciation, General Debility, and for Purifying the Blood.

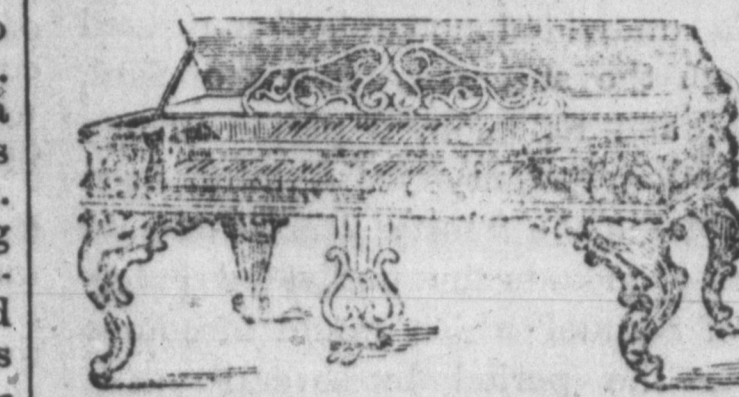
This Sarsaparilla is a combination of vegetable alteratives—Stillingia, Mandrake, Yellow Dock—with the Iodides of Potassium and Iron, and is the most efficacious medicine yet known for the diseases it is intended to cure.

Its ingredients are so skillfully combined, that the full alterative effect of each is assured, and while it is so mild as to be harmless even to children, it is still so effectual as to purge out from the system those impurities and corruptions which develop into loathsome disease.

The reputation it enjoys is derived from its cures, and the confidence which prominent physicians all over the country repose in it, prove their experience of its usefulness.

Certificates attesting its virtues have accumulated, and are constantly being received, and as many of these cases are publicly known, they furnish convincing evidence of the superiority of this Sarsaparilla over every other alterative medicine. So generally is its superiority to any other medicine known, that we need do no more than to assure the public that the best qualities it has ever possessed are strictly maintained.

PREPARED BY DR. J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass., Practical and Analytical Chemists. SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE. AYER, BROWN & CO., Halifax, Nov. 22. Wholesale Agent.



W. FRASER & SONS, 82 & 84 Barrington Street, Halifax, N. S., have just finished some very fine trichord

COTTAGE PIANOS, overstrung and oblique, with full metallic frames and supports, in handsome rosewood and walnut cases, which, for material, workmanship and tone, cannot be surpassed by any in the market, and which they are willing to dispose of

AT LOWER PRICES than are obtained elsewhere for instruments of an inferior class. Sept. 27.