

The Conference met, but would not accept mere declarations. Then followed concessions on the part of the Porte and the Conference; but finally all proposals were rejected by the Porte, and the Conference broke up and left for their homes.

Since 1833 so dark a famine has not cast its first shadow upon India. It is estimated that in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay 15,000,000 people will have a struggle for existence. A. M. Williams says, a sad feature of the country is the lean, half-famished cattle.

"I saw," says this traveller, "many thousands of poor famine-driven people from the villages around Madras collected on the shore and on the pier. They were crowding around the sacks of rice-grain with which the sands were for a mile at least thickly covered and almost concealed from view, the grain-bags being often piled up in mounds to the height of 15 ft. or 20 ft. Yet no onslaught was made on the grain. A few men, scattered about, armed with canes, were guarding the sacks for the merchants who owned them, and were sufficient to prevent the attempts at depredation. . . . Men and women, old and young, even cripples and naked children—all more or less pitiable in their leanness and in their hard-set aspect of misery—were earnestly engaged in gleaning up every grain that escaped from the sacks on the pier and on the shore."

"The governments of Bombay and Madras are fully alive to their duty. They organized relief as speedily as possible. I saw 30 ships at Madras laden with grain for the famished districts. At Madras 35,000 were fed daily by the city and benevolent natives."

Mr. Tooth in contempt of the Court of Arches continued to elevate the bread and wine above his head and sing praises to it as to the Lamb of God, and to do other foolish things like it, so the State, to be consistent in its Church and State capacity, has been obliged to put the Rev. Arthur Tooth into gaol.—Mr. Tooth does a foolish act, and the State does a wicked act to correct him. Down with Church-and-Stateism and turn Bible-truth out to do battle with ritualistic follies and all other wickedness.

The "big hive of b's" under our Youth's Department will be appreciated by the boys and girls who read the Messenger. It is a beautiful bit of biography—that of "Barnaby Bond and the Beggar Boy."

Brother Brown transcribed it from a book, 'which was a joy to him in childhood's years,' and brought it from Britain.

The "Rev. A. Malachi" is writing a series of articles in the Presbyterian Witness on the need of education for ministers—Presbyterian ministers. Last week he undertook to deal with the question "Now, what means have we?" and in reply thereto gave a somewhat detailed view of the advantages they have in possessing Dalhousie College. After briefly reciting parts of the early history of Dalhousie, he represents the Nova Scotia Legislature in 1863 as coming to the Presbyterians and inviting them to leave Truro and come to Halifax, by saying to them, "Give at once a knock upon the head to your College at Truro, and send your professors to our College and support them there. With your help Dalhousie can look at every denominational College in the land and gleefully say, "Twinkle, twinkle, little star, Oft I wonder what you are."

"Malachi" cannot understand why Episcopalians, Methodists, and Baptists want separate Colleges. He makes the enquiry why the Methodist young men prefer Sackville to Halifax, and says, "Can it be because there is a Ladies' Seminary in Sackville—that all the Methodist students are unwilling to be educated in Halifax? In two years' time Dartmouth shall have as many attractions as Sackville, Brantford, or any other place! It is a capital place for a young Ladies' Seminary. Perhaps we shall get the young Methodists to Dalhousie then!" Perhaps!

The reverend gentleman, whoever he may be—probably a Presbyterian minister in Hants County—is not well posted in the amounts of the Provincial grants, either to Dalhousie or to the other Colleges; but says, "If our local members were all what they ought to be, men of intelligence, patriotism, and backbone, they would at once say to their supporters:—'We have nothing

to do with you as Church-members. The Roman Catholics, Baptists, Methodists, and Episcopalians shall never get another cent from us for their Sectarian institutions. We will support Dalhousie, and Dalhousie only; and our yearly grant to it shall be \$10,000."

That, then, is the little game! Let our readers take a note of this.

His very high estimate of Dalhousie seems to have blinded him to any fair estimate of the other colleges. He asks, "If the Presbyterians do not stand by Dalhousie, who will?" and comes to the conclusion that "Should it cease to exist, our Province would be in the disgraceful position of having no College." Would there not be Kings, Acadia, &c., &c., and such other one as the Presbyterian body chose to establish for themselves?

From this straw we may tell somewhat which way the wind blows.

The Halifax and Dartmouth Sabbath School Association held its Quarterly Meeting on Monday evening, in the Sabbath School-room, Spring Garden Road, belonging to Granville Street Church. The meeting was full of interest, and the address of Rev. Mr. Duncan, of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, and paper read by Rev. Mr. Hertz, of the Methodist Church were most appropriate and instructive. E. D. King, Esq. presided, and brief speeches were made by S. L. Shannon Esq. and Rev. E. M. Saunders.

Notices.

Table with columns for RECEIVED FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS, listing names like Late W. S. Jacobs, Esq., and amounts.

Dear Editor,—Our Board wish to acknowledge the receipt for Home Missions the following sums: Temple Church Mission Band, Yarmouth.....\$20 00 From the General Agent..... 25 00 Wm. Weddleton, Esq., Yarmouth. 4 00 Total.....\$49 00 G. E. DAY. Yarmouth, Feb. 16, 1877.

Table with columns for RECEIVED FROM WOMEN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES, listing Torbrook—Proceeds of sale of socks, Miss Joseph. Wheelock, \$7 50 and Canning—Mrs. D. Freeman, 8 00.

Table with columns for Letters Received, listing names like Joseph Dimock, Esq., \$2. T. H. Patton, \$4. A. J. Leadbetter, \$2. I. Thurber, Esq., 1 sub., \$2. Jas. Lantz, \$7. Jas. Barnes, 1 sub., \$2. D. R. Eaton, Esq., \$4.50. James Grinton, \$4. R. G. Tupper, 2. Rev. J. C. Morse, 2.18. S. R. Dewolf, \$2. C. W. Bent, \$2. W. C. Hankinson, \$2. C. Jost, 1 sub. Rev. J. L. Read, \$4. Rev. C. Randall, \$4. A. C. Ellis, \$2. J. M. Smith, \$2. Wm. McCully, 4th, \$2.

Parliamentary.

The third session of our Local Legislature was opened on Thursday last with the usual ceremonies. The day being fine a brilliant assemblage of ladies and gentlemen filled the Legislative Council Chamber to witness the proceedings. His Honor the Lieutenant Governor was received at the Province Building by the guard of honor from the H. M. 97th Regiment, regulars, and the 63rd Halifax Volunteer Battalion, with their respective bands of music. The Halifax Field Battery fired the usual salute on the Grand Parade.

The members of the Assembly in response to the command of His Honor presented themselves, but being without a speaker were directed to return to the House and elect one. They shortly returned with Isaac Newton Mack, Esq., member for Queens County as Speaker, which choice was approved. Lieutenant Governor Archibald then read the following:

OPENING SPEECH.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

1st. I have called you together at this early period of the year, in the belief that it is the most convenient season to most of you to be absent from your homes in the discharge of your public duties.

2nd. While the anticipations in which I indulged on the last occasion of your assembling, of the improvement of the general trade and commerce of the Province, have not been realized as fully as I had hoped, yet we have reason to be thankful that the blessing of Providence has rewarded the labors of the farmer with abundant crops, and those of the fisherman with a fair return for his toil, although I regret to have to inform you that the depression in the Coal trade, as also in a more modified degree in the Lumbering and Shipping interests, has continued to a large extent to prevail.

3rd. I have much pleasure in being able to announce to you that my Government have succeeded in making contracts for the construction of the Eastern Extension Railway from New Glasgow to the Strait of Cansau, on favorable terms, with reliable contractors, and that the work has been entered on and is now being prosecuted with vigor.

4th. The works of the Western Counties Railway have also been carried on during the past summer and autumn, and although operations have been temporarily suspended for a few weeks of inclement weather, I am assured they will shortly be resumed and carried forward to completion.

5th. During the past year I called into operation, under a provision of the Act, the measure passed at a previous session of the Legislature, for establishing County Courts. A large proportion of the legal business of the country has, in the short time already elapsed, flowed into these tribunals which promise to be of great service in rendering the administration of justice more easy and expeditious. A measure introducing several amendments for improving the practical operation of this Act in several particulars will be submitted for your consideration.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

6th. The Public Accounts for the past year, together with the Estimates for the current year, which have been framed with a due regard to economy, will be submitted for your consideration at an early day.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

7th. The term fixed by the Act of the Dominion Legislature for continuance of the additional subsidy of \$82,698.00 expires in July next; my Government have not failed to urge upon the Dominion Cabinet, both by personal appeal and by correspondence, the importance of an extension of this term to the Public Service of this Province, but without success, hitherto. I shall direct this correspondence to be laid before you at an early day for your consideration.

8th. Under the provision of the Act for establishing the University of Halifax, I have called the measure into active operation by the appointment of the gentlemen constituting the Senate of the Institution. I am happy to be able to inform you that from the earnest spirit of devotion to the work entrusted to them, manifested by that body, I have every assurance that the education of the country in its higher branches will be materially promoted by the passage of that important measure.

9th. The measure passed at last session of the Legislature for appointing the Queen's Printer, has been carried into effect by the appointment of that officer, and the public printing, since that period, been subject to the checks contemplated by the Act; and although the system thereby established has been in operation for only half of the past year, I have no doubt from the experience of even that limited period, that it will tend largely in the future to reduce the expense of this branch of the public service.

10th. The subject of a Legislative Union of the Maritime Provinces has of late attracted considerable attention, and in view of its importance, I would suggest to you the propriety of authorizing my government to confer by delegation, or otherwise during the recess, with the Governments of the other Provinces, if they shall see fit to join in such a conference, on this subject, and to report to the next meeting of the Legislature, in order that if then deemed advisable, the question may be submitted, at the proper time, to the consideration of the people at large of the several Provinces.

11th. In view of the increased necessity for economy in the public service, a measure will be submitted, to you for reducing the expenses of the Crown Land Department, which I trust will meet your approval.

12th. You will also be invited to consider the subject of reducing the expenditure in connection with Immigration, and thereby effecting a saving in that branch of the Public Service.

13th. Your attention will be invited to several measures calculated to promote the public welfare; all of which I commend to your consideration, with the confident assurance that your best

exertions will be used to promote the prosperity of the Province.

The House of Assembly then withdrew and the Legislative Council proceeded with the business of the session. After the usual preliminaries, Hon. Mr. Morrison moved the Address in reply to the Opening speech and the Council adjourned to Friday.

In the House of Assembly, the opening Speech having been read, his Honor the Speaker tendered his thanks for his election, and promised that he would endeavour to the best of his ability to maintain the honor and independence of the House. The new member for Lunenburg, E. H. Davison, Esq. was introduced and took the usual oath.

The office of Assistant Clerk being vacant by the recent appointment of Mr. L. G. Power, to the Dominion Senate, Mr. Wm. Walsh was nominated to that office, by the Hon. Provincial Secretary. There being no other name presented, Mr. Walsh was appointed.

Dr. Farrel then moved the Address in reply to His Honor's Speech, to which it was but an echo. In doing this Mr. F. observed that when he had the honor of moving the address, in answer to his honor's speech two years ago, he had taken the opportunity of congratulating the people of this Province upon the era of prosperity that they had been enjoying for years before. Now, however, a remarkable change, and an unfortunate one, had prevailed all over the Province in business circles. Trade was everywhere depressed, and there was a dullness in every city. Government was not responsible for the depression in trade that had existed during the past two or three years. In all probability these causes were rapidly passing away, and the former prosperity would return in a very short time. The suffering here had not been as great as it had in some of the larger cities of Canada and of the United States; especially in the large manufacturing centres, where the working classes had experienced extreme difficulties to which the people of this Province had happily never been subjected. In the matter of Railway construction he felt that the government had reason to be congratulated upon the success that had attended their efforts. In the west, railway construction had proceeded with vigor. The people in the west, with the energy and vigor that they had always manifested, he was assured would push it to a speedy completion. In the East, also the railway from New Glasgow to the Strait of Cansau was, he believed, in a good position. One more piece of railway construction should be effected, and that was the road from the Strait of Cansau to the Bras d'Or Lake, and he felt that when that had been accomplished in all probability the Government would have gone to the limit of its resources, for some years to come.

There was less cause for congratulation in the anticipated loss of \$82,698, which had been received by the province for ten years under the better terms arrangement of 1869. Although it had been intimated in various directions that the Dominion Government would not renew that subsidy, he felt that this province occupied an exceptional position, and that the Government should make a strong determined effort to obtain, if possible, a renewal of that subsidy, or at least to secure a larger local revenue.

He referred to the establishment of a Provincial University, and said he had noted the fact that the representatives of the various colleges, from all parts of the Province, had come together with a degree of harmony that was to some extent, surprising, considering the feeling that had been said to exist between the various colleges. The deliberations of the Senate had been conducted in a most harmonious manner, and every effort was made in framing curricula of study, and otherwise to suit the various requirements of education generally, and to meet the demands of the several colleges affected by the act.

The change in the Crown Land Department had been found necessary and he had no doubt that the step advised would meet with consideration on all hands. Economy in working the Government machine might be carried too far, but he thought the Government had done wisely in trying to prune as largely as possible. He referred to the subject of Maritime Union. And said if a fair scheme of union were submitted to the people, it might meet with their approval. The question should in some way be definitely settled.

Mr. Fraser seconded the address.

FRIDAY was occupied in discussing the Address, and was participated in by Messrs. Helmes, Hon. Provincial Secretary, Hon. Attorney General (White), Mosely, Farrel and Woodworth, at the close of which it passed and the House adjourned to Monday afternoon.

MONDAY was occupied (1) by the presentation of the Address to His Honor the Lieutenant Governor; (2) the appointment of the Standing Committees of the House; (3) by presenting reports on Western Counties Railway. After which the house adjourned.

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JOYFUL NEWS FOR THE AFFLICTED.

DR. GATES,

DEAR SIR:—This is to certify that in the autumn of 1872 I had a severe attack of spinal disease, I applied to several physicians, for medical assistance but could obtain no permanent relief from any of them. For six months I suffered day and night every thing but death. I was then advised by friends to resort to your valuable medicine; I did so and after taking seventeen bottles of your

LIFE OF MAN BITTERS, &c.

I was as well as ever. I have had no symptoms of the disease since, and can now perform my work better than before I was sick. I am thankful to God that he made your medicines an instrument in his hands of restoring my health.

Yours very respectfully,

MRS. ISRAEL CHAMBERS.

St. Croix, N. S., Dec. 4th, 1876.

Jan. 21.

GRANVILLE STREET CHAPEL

FOR SALE.

THE Granville Street Baptist Church, having it in contemplation to erect a place of Worship on their property on Spring Garden Road, and desirous of disposing of the Stone Chapel at present occupied by them—the Chapel connected with which measures one hundred feet or more on Granville Street, by sixty feet in depth,—Tenders for this purpose (addressed to the office of the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER,) will be received until 1st of March.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the highest offer or any tender. Feb. 14.

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