

For the Christian Messenger.

Acadia College, the University of New Brunswick and the University of Halifax.

Mr. Editor,—

No less an authority than the Editor of the Visitor has pronounced the University of Halifax to be hostile to Acadia College, while the University of New Brunswick is not. What are the grounds of this assertion?

1. The University of New Brunswick "has no connection with the religious denominations, as such," while the University of Halifax has such connection. That is to say, that in theory the University of Halifax recognizes the existence of denominational Colleges and seeks their improvement, whether wisely or unwisely, we need not now stop to inquire; the University of New Brunswick in its theory declares that the state University is enough, that the denominational College is not needed, is rather in the way of the state University. Now the first of these is said to be hostile to Acadia, the second is not. How can this be explained?

2. The University of New Brunswick "has no legal connection with Acadia, present or prospective." The implied statement is that the University of Halifax has such connection. Whatever present connection there may be, its effect is nothing. The only way in which there may be future connection is by Acadia co-operating with the University. This never can be done in opposition to the Convention. The possibility that some students may go from Acadia to be examined in Halifax, need not create any hostility. Suppose that the University of New Brunswick should announce that it is ready to bestow its degrees on any who can pass their examinations, and suppose further that some student in Acadia, who has a residence in New Brunswick, should go up for such examination; would it be necessary to summon a meeting of the Convention in hot haste and rush through a resolution that everybody who has official connection with the University of New Brunswick must resign such connection at once, if he wished to be considered a friend of Acadia?

3. The University of New Brunswick "has nothing to do with the admission of students to Acadia, nor their examinations." Neither has the University of Halifax. It has been repeatedly said that the low grade of admission to the University of New Brunswick was a hindrance to the advancement of Acadia.

4. If students can get their degrees at Halifax after three years of study in College, it is said that "the four years' course of Acadia will receive a fatal blow." But would a three years' course in the University of Halifax make it more hostile to Acadia than the University of New Brunswick with its three years' course? A great many young men have been advised to go to Fredericton rather than Acadia, because the latter required four years for a degree, while the former only required three. It appears by the published lists of the last ten years, that in that time fifty-three young men from Nova Scotia have graduated at Acadia, and in the same time six from New Brunswick. Is it not probable that the shorter course at Fredericton has induced many of the young men of that Province to go there rather than to Acadia?

Does it not seem that some are trying to make a distinction between the University of Halifax and the University of New Brunswick that does not exist? Will any thing be gained by such attempts? When the friends of either of those Universities say that they are friends of Acadia, and show their sincerity by their acts, why not believe them?

INQUIRER.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., February 27th, 1878.

We could not suppress a smile at the idea of the editor of the Wesleyan setting himself up as judge of consistency, in reference to the opinion we expressed last week on the admission of non-members of churches to communion, and to a participation in the most sacred privileges of the church of Christ. He ventures to affirm that "One of the difficulties of close communion is inconsistency." We assure our brother that we find no difficulty at all on that score. Difficulty, we think, exists altogether with loose communions, in ascertaining who outside of their church membership may be admitted and who may not.

But perhaps we ought not to be surprised at our Methodist brother taking that view when we consider the standpoint from which he looks at the question. Let him please remember that we do not regard the Lord's Supper as a sacrament deriving its efficacy from the administrator, as in the Roman Catholic and other churches, who hold the service as an offering, deriving its efficiency from the officiating priest, and to be partaken of by the participant in a kneeling posture before the altar. But we hold that the Supper is an institution for the members of the church, by which they, in obedience to Christ's command, commemorate and shew forth His death. Only those who have covenanted together and are united in gospel fellowship for the purpose of sustaining the public worship of God, and observing the ordinances of the gospel, can, as we believe, rightly partake of it. As in apostolic days, they (those who had been baptized) continued in the apostle's doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread and in prayers. The admitting of professors and non-professors, members and non-members appears to us as altogether destroying the spirit and design of the Supper. If a professing Christian has no desire for fellowship, he surely can have no claim to the breaking of bread with the family.

Our Legislature has as yet hardly got to work. The large sums already expended, and to be expended on railways, east and west, leave but little to expend on other needed services. It will require all the skill of both parties to enable our Province to maintain its credit and make the revenue sufficient to meet the expenditure. A slight diminution is talked of in the way of amalgamating offices of government. This may give some slight relief, but a much more sweeping change is required to meet the real necessities of the case. If the railways subsidized were all such as might be expected to prove paying speculations there would be some hope that the money had not been entirely wasted, but it is doubted by many if some of these lines will be completed for a long time to come, and then it is questioned if the earnings will be sufficient to keep them running.

If the Fisheries' Award were already paid, instead of being held up before us for our comfort and hope, it would be a very great convenience to this province. Much of what will be said and done by either party this session will be with an eye to the elections which must shortly be held. Parties will be more carefully watched than usual, and much in the future will depend on what is done this Session.

There has of late been much distress in South Wales. A letter in one of our London exchanges asking for cast off clothing to distribute among that thrifty people says:

"My sister and daughter visited a family this morning. They brought away the Sunday shirt of the eldest boy. I have it now. It is perfectly clean, but was bought some years ago, and then consisted of the common Welsh flannel used for shirting by our workmen; but now this same shirt has been repaired, mended, patched, and darned in every possible way to keep it together. I have counted thirty-six separate pieces or patches on this shirt. We have exchanged it for a good substantial shirt."

* Baptists in Calcutta. A correspondent of the London Baptist writes:

"We have here a young man from Mr. Spurgeon's college—a Mr. Blake—who has lately arrived and taken charge of the church which was formed by Carey, Marshman and Ward. My father was pastor for thirteen years, and I subsequently held the pastorate for eight years. The work is now, I rejoice to say, being carried on with much prospect of success. It would gladden Mr. Spurgeon's heart if he saw the zeal and energy put forth by his young friend, and the happy manner in which he has won the hearts of the people here. I trust the Lord will pour out a richer blessing than ever, and make the dear old church a power in the city."

The London Metropolitan Tabernacle Church (Spurgeon's) held its annual meeting on the 9th of January. The following statistics will show the progress made in the way of increase, 296 by baptism, 121 by letters, and 20 by profession, while the decrease side is represented by 138 dismissions, 24 ditto to form new churches, 38 who joined other churches without letters, five who emigrated, and 71 names were removed for non-attendance, etc., and 61 died, leaving a net increase of 100, and the total number at present on the church books 5045. Mr. Spurgeon mentioned that he had virtually

completed twenty-four years of his ministry; and held office, not perhaps de jure, but certainly de facto, for that period, for his preaching had been continuous, and though not actually elected till April 10th, yet there had never been any doubt about the matter, and he had been from January, 1854, the actual shepherd of the flock; where upon it was decided that the deacons should consider how best to celebrate the pastor's silver wedding when the twenty-fifth year should close, should God spare him to that time.

Mr. Spurgeon was recently on a visit to the South of France. Writing from Mentone, a letter read on Sunday 3rd Inst, he said his health was progressing favorably, and promised a speedy complete restoration. The writer urged:—"Pray for me, I beseech of you, and having done so, prove the sincerity of your prayer by helping on the Lord's work. This will be as medicine to your sick pastor's soul and body. I rely upon you, each one, to see these services made a success, God the Holy Spirit helping you."

MR. EDWARD BINNEY died on Saturday evening. But few men in this community have been more unostentatiously generous than Mr. Binney. He was superannuated from the office of Collector of Customs about six years since, after filling the office for near forty years. St. Paul's Church, King's College, the Asylum for the Insane, and many other of our public institutions have partaken largely of his benefactions.

Our telegrams from Europe are just now devoted to diplomacy rather than war. England is in a very sensitive condition. Her government need much wisdom and firmness. There is evidently full preparation for war, but after all her experience, every other expedient must be tried before resorting to that terrible alternative to maintain her position of influence and power among the nations.

Notices.

ACADIA COLLEGE.

There will be a meeting of the Board of Governors in the Vestry of the Baptist Meeting House, Wolfville, on Thursday, March 7th, 1878.

STEPHEN W. DEBLOIS, Sec'y. Wolfville, Feb. 23, 1878.

RECEIVED FROM WOMEN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES.

Amherst—Miss A. Black.....\$15 00 Sabbath School at Lower Stewiacke, Miss E. T. Sibley..... 4 53

M. R. SELDEN, Sec'y. Halifax, Feb. 26th, 1878.

THE HANTS' CO. BAPTIST MINISTERS' MEETING will be held at Newport in the house of S. B. Dimock, Esq., on the first Monday in March, at 11 A. M.

J. A. McLEAN, Falmouth, Hants' Co., Feb. 26th, 1878.

THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OF COLCHESTER AND CUMBERLAND

will meet, (D. V.), with the church in Parsboro' on Monday 4th of March. Public meeting in the evening.

Bro. Kempton and his people will give the brethren a warm welcome. Let us go in the name of the Lord.

J. E. GOUCHER, Sec'y. Truro, Feb. 15th, 1878.

Treasurers of Baptist Funds.

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

Letters Received.

Rev. G. H. Goudy, \$2. Joseph Dimock, Esq., \$2. N. R. Morse, Esq., per A. M. Gidney, \$8. J. Grinton, \$4. M. A. Gourley, \$2. J. Wheelock, \$2. S. B. Whitman, \$2.50. Jas. Desbrisay Esq., \$24. I. Thurber, Esq., \$5.50. W. C. Bill, Esq., \$1. J. Lantz, \$6. J. M. Parker, \$2. E. M. Beckwith, \$4. Rev. H. Eagles, \$2. Charles Eaton, \$2. S. R. DeWolf, \$2.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Our Local Parliament was opened on Thursday last with the usual formalities firing of cannon, and military display. The two Houses being assembled, His Honor Governor Archibald read the following

OPENING SPEECH.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

1st. It affords me pleasure to meet you again in the discharge of your important duties.

2nd. We have reason to be thankful to Divine Providence for the abundant harvest with which during the past year the labors of our agricultural population have been rewarded. While the measure of success which has attended the labors of the fisherman has not been altogether commensurate with that which has followed the toil of the farmer, yet we have cause to rejoice that, to some extent, and in some portions of the Province, fair returns have been received in this important branch of our industries, while signs of returning prosperity abroad, lead me to hope that the long period of general depression which has existed in our Province, in common with the rest of the world, is now coming to a close.

3rd. I have much pleasure in informing you that the works on the Eastern Extension Railway have been prosecuted with vigor during the past year, and that the greater portion of the road bed is completed and ready for the laying of the rails as soon as the Spring opens. I have used the utmost care in making sure that the work should be performed according to contract, and I have every confidence that it is of a substantial and satisfactory character.

4th. I regret to state that the works of the Western Counties Railway have not yet been resumed, although the contractors have been using every effort for that purpose. I am assured, however, that this period of suspense will shortly be terminated, and that active preparations will be resumed and the road finished at no very distant day.

5th. During the recess my Government entered into a contract with the Nova Scotia, Nictaux and Atlantic Central Railway Company for the construction of the line from Middleton to Lunenburg. Works were prosecuted for some time, but dissatisfaction having arisen in consequence of the non-payment of the laborers on the road, I directed the payment of their claims out of the moneys due to the contractor under a clause in the contract providing for that emergency, and I also ordered a notice to be given to the company to annul the contract, as also provided by its terms; the contractors have made proposals for the resumption of the work, to which I have acceded in terms which I deemed just, both to the contractor and the public. The correspondence on this subject will be submitted to you shortly, and I hope the course taken by my Government will meet with your approval.

6th. The law regulating elections for the Local Parliament has been to a large extent assimilated by the legislation of the past few years to that affecting the Dominion elections.

It is most important and desirable that the law on the subject should be so far as possible uniform. A measure to further this object in several matters of detail will be submitted to you, and will, I trust meet your approval.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

7th. 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 Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

8th. Shortly after the close of the last session, I caused a correspondence to be opened with the Governments of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, inviting them to confer with a delegation from this Province on the subject of Legislative Union of the Maritime Provinces, and I subsequently appointed delegates who proceeded to Fredericton and held a conference with the Government of New Brunswick on the subject, the Government of Prince Edward Island having declined to take part. The report of the delegation will be submitted for your consideration at an early day.

9th. In view of the necessity for economy in the public service, a measure will be submitted to you for amalgamating the office of Provincial Treasurer with that of Provincial Secretary, which I trust will meet with your approval.

10th. In pursuance of the recommendation of the Committee of both Houses on Humane Institutions, I appointed a commission during the recess to investigate the affairs and management of the Asylum for the Insane at Dartmouth, whose report I shall direct to be laid before you at an early day, for your consideration. A measure to carry out some of the reforms indicated by that report will also be submitted.

11th. It cannot but be a subject for congratulation that during the past year a deep interest appears to have been awakened throughout the Province in the cause of Temperance; I trust the impulse may prove to be of a permanent character.

12th. During the past summer, the joint Commission of the Fisheries met at Halifax, and sat continuously for nearly six months; their labors terminated in the award of five and a half millions of dollars as compensation to the Dominion and Newfoundland.

When that amount is paid I entertain no doubt that a fair proportion of it will be assigned to this Province corresponding to the value of our fisheries relatively to those of the other Provinces interested.

13th. Your attention will be invited to several measures for the promotion of the public interest; all of which I commend to your consideration, with the confident assurance that you will devote your earnest efforts to any legislation you shall consider in the interests of the Province.

After the withdrawal of the members of the Assembly, and His Honor had retired, the new members of the Legislative Council, Mr. D. C. Fraser and Mr. James Butler, were sworn in and took their seats in the Council. The address was then moved by Hon. Mr. Cochran and seconded by Hon. Mr. Morrison.

After arrangements were made for reporting the debates, the Council adjourned till the following day.

In the House of Assembly, the new members, J. S. D. Thompson from Antigonish, and Hon. A. Gayton from Yarmouth, were introduced, and took the customary oaths.

The office of Assistant Clerk being vacant by the death of Mr. Walsh, the Hon. Provincial Secretary proposed Mr. J. W. Longley for that office. This was seconded and carried without opposition.

Mr. McCurdy then introduced a bill pro forma, and Mr. Archibald proceeded to move the Address in reply to His Honor's Speech.

The discussion of the Address occupied Friday, and it was adopted without division.

MONDAY was occupied by the appointment of the Standing Committees and presentation of petitions and Reports.

DOMINION & FOREIGN NEWS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.—The Estimates were submitted to the House of Commons on Tuesday last the following are some of the items:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Public debt, Civil Government, Justice, Police, Penitentiaries, Legislation, Pensions, Militia, Subsidies, Indians, Customs, Excise, Weights and Measures, Public Works and Buildings, etc.

Total estimates for consolidated Fund.....23,440,057.35
Extension of Intercolonial Railway into Halifax..... 20,000.00
Deep Water Terminus at St. John..... 100,000.00

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes St. Peters Canal, Customs House at St. John, Savings Bank, Post Office, St. John Harbor, Grand River, Black Anse, Shippegan Breakwater, Annapolis River, Morden, Ragged Pond, Cow Bay, Bayfield, Scott's Bay, Canada Creek, Pudding Pan, West Arichat, Somerville, Hampton, Dunlap's Cove, General repairs in Nova Scotia, Souris, P. E. I., Malpeque Breakwater, New London.

In the discussion of the P. E. Island mail service it was objected that a million of dollars should be expended on so doubtful an experiment. The North-west Light was pronounced a fraud. The minister of Marine said all that could be done had been and would still be to secure regularity of mails.

The government are seeking to give the Legislation on the Temperance question into the hands of the Local Legislatures. Temperance men are however seeking to have prohibitory enactments passed by the Dominion.

The Dominion Alliance met at Ottawa on the 21st, and passed the clauses of a proposed Dominion Permissive bill which they recommend to Parliament.

The New Civil Service Bill will necessitate the superannuation of about one hundred employees. Nearly all deputy