

In the statistics to which you refer in your sermon, you could not enumerate the sainted departed, who have joined the 144,000. What a host have passed away from the family of the faithful since the commencement of your own ministry! The moss is already gathering thick on the tombstones of many of your early Christian contemporaries—and mine.

My own religious life has been far from what it should and might have been. I have been an idler in the Master's vineyard; and my grievous backslidings are mournful sources of deep (though unavailing) regrets. But how great is God's mercy! I have again and again realized what the Psalmist meant in addressing God: "There is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared."

I am an old man now, and must "soon go hence to be (on earth) no more." I am very lonely in my own desolated home. My excellent wife has gone to her rest. For forty-four years her deep, ardent piety and warm devotional spirit tended to shed a halo around my humble abode.

When I took up my pen to address you this morning, I merely purposed to offer a few, brief observations on your Associational sermon; but I have rambled far and wide, and have been betrayed into a strain of, perhaps, unwarrantable egotism. Please, forgive me for it. You and I are old men, and it is not improbable that we may never meet on earth again. I hope, however, to meet elsewhere.

With fraternal regard, venerable father, I am respectfully and truly yours,

ANGUS M. GIDNEY.

P. S. In looking over what I have above written, I perceive an omission of three names in the class of survivors in the Nictaux Church, viz: Obadiah Neily, Mrs. Hardwick, Mrs. Barteaux, all three children of the late Robert Neily.

[We have just looked up the Minutes of the N. S. and N. B. Baptist Association of 1816 and find that there were present on that occasion eleven ordained ministers. There were also three marked as licentiates, Silas Morse, Charles Tupper, and James Munro.

There were then but 47 members in St. John, 54 in Halifax, and 993 given as the total membership of the churches of the two provinces.

It is recorded too that "In agreement with the church at Halifax to the examination of brother James Munroe as a candidate for ordination—after due examination as to his experience of grace, his doctrinal sentiments and moral character we being fully satisfied he was set apart by the laying on of hands &c."

The Association appears to have been of so pleasant and satisfactory a character that the Minutes conclude as follows:—

"The highest degree of harmony prevailed amongst the brethren, and such was our parting that we think we are warranted to say the best wine was kept to the last." Ed. C. M.

For the Christian Messenger.

From Prof. Welton in Germany.

Dear Bro. Selden,—

The time for bidding adieu to Leipzig has now nearly come. I finished my work to-day. In three or four days we leave for Paris and London, hoping to reach Liverpool in time to take the "Caspian," which sails for Halifax on Tuesday, Aug. 20th. Quite a number of American students who have severally been appointed to Professorships in their own country will soon leave to enter upon their duties. Of these, I would mention Prof. Curtis, who goes to take the chair of Hebrew and Old Testament Interpretation in a Congregational Theological School in Chicago. He takes with him a splendid library,—one especially rich in works dealing with the Semitic languages and literature.

Mr Schurman is now in Heidelberg studying German, preparatory to his entering this (Leipzig) University in October. He has just crowned his three years of brilliant success as a student in London and Edinburgh by winning from the former place a scholarship of £200 stg. a year, for two years, with the privilege of studying where he pleases on the continent. He purposes spending the two years in Germany, dividing the time between two or more of its Universities.

I was not a little surprised to see from the last *Messenger* that the report that I had gone over to the Church of England was deemed sufficiently serious to call for a public contradiction. Thanks to my pastor and your correspondent "Mac" for coming to my rescue.

Many thanks for the *Messenger* you have so kindly sent me and which has regularly come to hand. After receiving this please send it to Wolfville.

Yours very truly,
D. M. WELTON.
Leipzig, July 29th, 1878.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., August 14, 1878.

THE THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT OF ACADIA COLLEGE

is proposed to be re-opened at the beginning of the ensuing Autumn term, with the following courses of instruction:—

FIRST YEAR.

Hebrew; and exegetical reading of the Hebrew Scriptures.

Rev. D. M. Welton, A. M.

New Testament Greek; and exegetical reading of the Greek Testament.

Rev. E. A. Crawley, D. D.

SECOND YEAR.

Gospel Theology systematised; Hermetics &c.

Rev. D. M. Welton, A. M.

Exegetical reading of the Greek Testament continued; Homiletics &c.

Rev. E. A. Crawley D. D.

THIRD YEAR.

Church History; Pastoral Duties.

Professor of Church History &c.

Biblical Criticism; and Kindred Topics.

Rev. D. M. Welton, A. M.

Written sermons examined; Church Polity &c.

Rev. E. A. Crawley, D. D.

It is supposed that before the third year of the Theological Department arrives, means will be found for the appointment of a Professor of high repute to take charge of the above unassigned studies.

In the mean time, if the circumstances of any of the students shall require them to enter on any part of the studies here proposed for a third Professor, temporary arrangements, will be made to supply the needed instruction; and in all cases every effort will be used to adapt the course to the wants of the classes.

In making this attempt to revive and complete the Theological Department, it is earnestly hoped that the Baptist Churches and people will regard the endeavour as possessing the utmost importance.

It is an attempt that requires a combined and hearty effort in order to command success.

To fail in the attempt through a deficiency in united action would be disastrous. But if all who are interested in it, ministers and people, including especially students, shall earnestly strive together to establish and perfect this most needful Department, it is impossible to believe, that, with the blessing of God, the undertaking can fail; or to doubt, that it must be attended with the happiest results.

The Baptists of the Maritime Provinces will rejoice to see the improvement of the rising ministry by means of their Institutions at Horton so largely increased, and will be encouraged to make further efforts. The young men, professionally instructed in a Theological School sustained in the Provinces, will feel an increased attachment to their own country; and the people will in this way, learn more effectually that an imperative duty lies on them to provide an adequate maintenance for those who, in the midst of the churches and all the associations of home, shall thus have been prepared for Gospel labor.

Attention is particularly requested to the necessity of enlarging the fund for the aid of ministerial students. The large amount of pecuniary assistance given in Theological seminaries abroad, will, it is feared, make it impossible, otherwise, to retain many of our students among us.

Providence now presents to us a great and noble enterprize. May students, professors, churches, all engage in it heart and hand, and not one anywhere refuse or neglect to help. The honor of the attempt is immediate, the recompense interminable.

In the name and by the authority of Acadia College.

E. A. CRAWLEY, Prof.

Wolfville, Aug. 9, 1878.

The Liberal Conservative nominations for Halifax County are—

For the House of Commons. M. H. Richey; M. B. Daly.

For the Local Legislature, Wm. D. Harrington; John Pugh, Charles J. MacDonald.

METHODIST PROGRESS.

We copy the following from the last number of the *Wesleyan*. It is from an article shewing what has been done during the past year as shewn by the Minutes of the several Conferences of British America:

MEMBERSHIP AND SABBATH-SCHOOLS. These will be best seen in schedule form:

Conferences.	Members.	Increase.	Scholars.	Increase.
London.	37820	569	44261	3337
Toronto.	32400	540	36494	1903
Montreal.	21526	744	17680	1826
Nova Scotia.	8920	53	9852	90
N. B. & P. E. I.	7446	30	8796	66
Newfoundland.	6191	201	5829	
Total.	116,373	2,337	122,412	6,722

Unfortunately there is not a single record in any Minutes, excepting the Nova Scotia, to account for the serious loss of members to the church. In Nova Scotia there were lost by removal 289, by death 146, ceased to be members (we suppose dropped out of class attendance) 313. These, with 976 on trial, make a total of 1724. So that the souls brought into our church in the Nova Scotia Conference during the year, instead of being 50, as returned in the increase of membership, was nearly 1800.

The membership of the three Eastern Conferences is but a fraction more than that of Montreal, while the total of these four together is but a little more than one-third the entire membership of the Dominion.

Our Sunday scholars are more numerous than our church-members. The increase in the Western Conferences is here again far beyond that of the East. There would seem to have been special gain in the London Conference, for which some reason may exist hidden from us at this distance.

One other schedule will include all the information in our possession:

CONGREGATIONAL ASPECTS.

Conferences.	Hearers.	Value Churches and Parsonages.	Raised for Missions.
London.	134,185	1,759,775	37,392
Toronto.	127,031	1,701,316	23,524
Montreal.	76,316	Not given	22,133
Nova Scotia.	40,162	550,230	11,463
N. B. & P. E. I.	35,000	Not given	6588
Newfoundland.	33,186	Not given	4754
Totals.	446,879		106,444

The returns for Missions are necessarily imperfect, as not till late in the summer can some of the Western territory complete its reports. The estimates given, therefore, from London and Toronto Conferences are defective by thousands of dollars, probably. It is a pity that the nominal value of property, so easily furnished from District schedules, could not be stated in all the Minutes. Without including Montreal, N. B. and P. E. Island, or Newfoundland, the property held is put down at \$4,000,000. The hearers in the same bounds number 300,000—showing about \$130 per hearer.

Comparing the receipts of the three Conferences East, whose Missionary returns are probably complete, we may anticipate a serious deficiency in Montreal, N. B. and P. E. Island, as also in Newfoundland. Nova Scotia has a handsome increase.

Rev. Principal Grant, D. D., of Queen's College, Kingston, Ont., is on a visit to Halifax, and preached to his former congregation in St. Matthews on Sunday evening.

Rev. Dr. Sawyer, President of Acadia College, preached two able discourses in Granville Street Church on Sunday last.

Those of our subscribers who have not paid for the *Messenger* this year will greatly oblige us by an early remittance of the amount due. It may to some appear but a small sum they owe, and that, therefore, they need not be greatly concerned about it just now. But when you remember, brethren, that our very life depends on receiving these small sums, and that promptly, even as your growing crops depend on the drops of rain and dew, you will not, we think, allow us to suffer for want of what should have been sent sooner.

The complaints that are being made against the management of the Windsor and Annapolis Railway are becoming very general and serious, and the opinion is commonly expressed that when a line of railway ceases to serve the purpose for which it was built and for which valuable right of way and public property was appropriated, it is time the legislature interfered and the public interests protected.

DOCTOR WELTON.—We have much pleasure in learning from a friend that Rev. D. M. Welton has received from the University of Leipzig the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. This degree, we understand, is given, after a critical examination and severe test of scholarship including a written dissertation. Dr. W.'s dissertation was in reference to the history of Hebrew learning in England.

Humming birds visit these parts only in warm seasons. On Sunday last one was seen in Dartmouth darting about rapidly from flower to flower, plunging its tiny beak into the flower-cups; having all the colors of the rainbow with a motion so rapid that it was difficult for the eye to follow it.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We have several communications on hand which we shall endeavour to insert in our next.

OUR HOME MISSIONS.

The Board of Home Missions met yesterday August 5th.

Reports from the field generally encouraging. Six Baptisms reported.

1. Rev. J. B. Woodland was appointed a mission to Cavendish and vicinity, for one year beginning June 1st.

2. A subsidy of one hundred dollars was granted to the church at Dundas and vicinity, to assist them in retaining the services of their pastor for the year ending May 31st 1879.

3. A subsidy of one hundred dollars to the church at Montague, to assist them in supporting their pastor for the year ending May 31st, 1879.

4. A subsidy of fifty dollars to the Churches at Alberton, Cape Wolfe and vicinity to assist them in supporting their pastor for four months beginning June 1st 1878.

The French Mission is now one hundred and twenty dollars in debt. If relief does not come before the next meeting of the Board we shall be obliged to take the missionary from his work and send him out to collect his salary.

Brethren, does not the God of providence to whom you look to "furnish the necessary funds" now call for your contributions to this work? Will not individuals send forward their donations and Churches their collections? It is vain to expect your missionary to succeed in his work on the field, if obliged to spend his time roaming over the Province in search of his salary. It is unpleasant to be obliged to write thus, but you must know the facts.

Please forward all moneys for Home and French Missions to J. C. Anderson, Esq., Yarmouth; all orders for Books for Rev. G. E. Day, Yarmouth, and all other communications to

A. COHOON,

Cor. Sec.

Hebron, August, 6th, 1878.

The Hants County Auxiliary Board.

Dear Bro,—

At the last meeting of our H. M. Union, it was resolved to appoint an Auxiliary Board in each County within our Home Mission field, in order to assist our Executive Board, (1) by communicating information relating to the needs of the Counties, (2) by endeavouring to enlarge the contributions of our churches, in behalf of Home Missions. The pastors of this County therefore, met at Summerville on the 5th inst, to appoint the officers for the Board in the County of Hants. The officers are, A. P. Shand, of Windsor, President; A. Shaw of Falmouth, Vice-President, M. W. Brown of Rawdon Treasurer, the undersigned, Secretary. The members of this Board are (According to the resolution passed at the Union, all the the resident Baptist pastors of the County are members in their own right, I will therefore simply give the names of the lay brethren who had been appointed by the pastors, that they may know their relation to this new organization). John W. Churchill, Hantsport, A. P. Shand, and J. O. Redden, Windsor; Wm. Pelote, Windsor Plains; Anthony Vaughn, Waterville; Dea. Shubail Dimock, Noah A. Dimock, and Wm. Knowles, Newport; Wm. Phalen, and John McLean Rawdon; T. G. Dunlap, Ellershouse; Stephen Langel and Joseph Masters, Summerville; H. Moxom, Walton; D. L. McCurdy Maitland.

It was resolved, by this Board that the Baptist Churches in Hants County be recommended to adopt the quarterly envelope system of raising funds for benevolent objects, and Bro. Shand kindly offered to supply at his own expense, all the churches in this County, with envelopes for one year. He will send them to the Pastors or Clerks of the churches. Each will have directions printed on its face and the person to whom they are sent will please address and forward one at the beginning of each quarter to each individual who is supposed to contribute for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom. He will also request such

to return it to him at the end of the quarter either with or without a contribution.

It is assumed by the members of our Board that every child of God is willing to give a portion of his means in order to advance His cause, and it seems to them that more will be accomplished by giving a little, three or four times a year, than by giving a little but once in twelve months. The times are hard, but our people have snap and wisdom enough to make money in spite of the hardness of the times. Brethren and sisters in Christ lay up treasure in heaven, and lay it up often.

Yours truly,

J. A. McLEAN.

Poplar Grove, Hants Co., Aug. 7th, '78.

Notices.

P. E. ISLAND MINISTERS' QUARTERLY MEETING.

The next Session of the P. E. Island Quarterly Meeting will be held with the Church at Belmont, Lot 16, commencing on August 20th, at 7 o'clock, P. M. A full attendance is requested, as a proposition to divide the Island into two districts for quarterly meeting purposes, will be brought before this Session.

D. G. McDONALD, Sec'y.

RECEIVED FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Aug. 3. Per Rev. W. P. Everett, Miss Mary McPhail... \$ 1 00

" 6. Per Jas. Desbrisay, Esq., P. E. Island, Daniel McKinlay... 3 25
 " Hector Stewart... 0 50
 " North River Church... 3 75
 " East Point Church... 6 00
 " Long Creek Church... 6 00
 " Coverdale Church... 10 00

\$29 50
 Paid in at Association at East Point.
 " Uigg Church... \$ 7 00
 " Alexandra Church... 14 00
 " Bedeque Church... 7 44
 " Cape Wolf Church... 1 00
 " Montague Church... 4 25
 " North River Church... 3 25
 " Summerside Church... 15 00
 " Tryon Church... 4 75
 " Collections... 4 84

\$61 93
 " Dundas & Grand River Churches... \$ 7 60
 " St. Peter's River Church... 12 00
 " Tryon Church... 10 00
 " Bedeque Church... 10 00
 " Montague Church... 5 00
 " Murray River Church... 0 50

Women's Missionary Aid Societies.

" Cavendish Church... \$18 00
 " North River Church... 35 00
 " East Point Church... 2 10
 " S. Per J. E. S. Kierstead, Treasurer, 1st Springfield Baptist Church, N. B. 11 25
 " Per Hans Mills, West Brook Baptist Church, N. S. 1 00
 " Per Rev. B. N. Hughes, Nashua Ch., N. B. 5 00
 " Rev. M. P. Freeman, Upper Londonderry Church, N. S. 0 50

\$72 85
 Thos. P. DAVIES,
 Treasurer P. M. Board.

RECEIVED FOR HOME MISSIONS.

From C. Eaton, Esq., per Dr. Cramp... \$ 4 00
 " Osborne Church, Shelburne Co., per Rev. E. N. Archibald... 11 00
 " Do. for French Mission... 2 00
 " Wallis Sanders, Wilmot Church, per Rev. A. Cohoon, French Mission... 1 00
 " Central Baptist Association per Rev. G. E. Day, balance per C. F. Eaton, Esq., Treasurer... 34 53
 " French Missions... 45 03
 " Eastern Baptist Association... 353 53
 " French Missions... 15 00
 " Wm. Weddleton, 1st Yarmouth Church... 5 00

J. C. ANDERSON,
 Treas. H. M. B.
 Yarmouth, July 31, 1878.

In answer to enquiries which have been made respecting routes and terms of travel to the Convention at Fredericton, I would state that the proprietors of the Clements Line of steamers will take ministers and delegates to and from the Convention at one fare.

The Messrs. Clements have a good ship and the trip is usually a very pleasant one. The steamer leaves Boston for St. John, via, Yarmouth on Tuesday at 12 o'clock, noon, Yarmouth for St. John, Thursday at 4 o'clock. From Boston to St. John and return \$6.00; Yarmouth to St. John at proportionable rates.

ARCADIA. A. H. LAVERS.
 [If we have failed to decipher the above correctly we may offer the apology that it was written on a postal card and crossed, and then doubly stamped over the writing.—Ed. C. M.]