

For the Christian Messenger. Notes on the College Fund.

By request of the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors of Acadia College I paid a very brief visit to Moncton, Harvey, Hopewell, and Hillsboro, N. B. to assist the Pastors in soliciting funds in view of the loss sustained by the burning of Acadia College building.

Moncton and vicinity had been thoroughly canvassed for the Endowment Fund, by the indefatigable agent for New Brunswick now employed by the Board of Governors, Rev. R. D. Porter. It could not therefore be expected that those who had pledged themselves for large sums, could so soon respond in large amounts again.

I found a very general interest in the College and in Horton Academy, in Moncton, as also through Albert County so far as I visited.

The first Educational Meeting I held was in the Baptist Meeting House in Moncton. The number present was not large, but there was much interest evinced. A good subscription list was started, reaching about \$400.00 that evening. A few hundreds more were added to it during the two or three days that I staid after the meeting.

I found Bro. Todd the pastor of the Church there, very kind and ready to aid as much as he could, in the matter. He assisted in the public meetings and went with me from house to house. He also gave a good subscription, one of the first on the list.

I secured the services of a valuable Committee to continue the canvass began there.—Bro. Wm. Wootman. He is still diligently at work, and with Bro. Todd's aid, he hopes that Moncton will assist the New Building Fund by a gift of about \$1000. This, with the \$1800, subscribed by them this autumn for the Endowment Fund is not unhandsome. From Moncton I went down to Harvey. Here I found a deep interest in the College, carefully fostered by Rev. T. A. Blackadar, a graduate of the College in 1864.

The church of which Bro. B. has charge is not large, nor does it number many rich men in its membership, but they have done well toward the Endowment Fund. We had a fine large meeting in Harvey. I called on a number of the people in company with the pastor, and received the sum from them of \$38.00. This will be considerably augmented, as Bro. B. consented to continue the solicitation.

At Hopewell, the meeting was nearly a failure on account of a storm. As I had not time to canvass this place, a Committee was appointed, and some good account will reach us from them yet, we hope. Bro. Beattie the pastor, has the matter in hand.

At Hillsboro, there was a fine large meeting, mostly young people. Much interest was shown in the addresses made. A list was opened, and \$50.00 subscribed at once, \$35.00 of which was paid down on the spot.

Very kind words were spoken by the pastor there, Rev. W. T. Corey.

Rev. J. M. Perry also addressed the meeting warmly in behalf of Acadia College, and its claims upon the churches in New Brunswick. He gave effect to his words by heading the subscription list with a gift.

There is much to encourage the friends of Acadia, in the warm sympathy so widely manifested, and so heartily given in this time of trial and loss.

S. B. KEMPTON. January 3rd, 1878.

For the Christian Messenger. From Colorado.

DENVER, Dec. 29th, 1877.

Mr. Editor,—

DEAR SIR,—As we approach to the end of the year, I am reminded that it is time my subscription to your excellent paper (the Messenger) was renewed.

I was very sorry to notice the destruction by fire of the College at Wolfville. This is not only a heavy loss to the Baptist Society, but to the whole country generally.

I am glad to see so favorable a movement towards rebuilding, and I should hope the friends of the institution would put their shoulders to the work and raise the means to rebuild larger and finer buildings, that would accommodate the wants at the present time. The Baptist Society and people are abundantly able to do it, and all that is necessary is to undertake it with a will and it is done. That is the way the people do in this country.

I wish to be considered a friend of the institution (though far away), and

will, in the spring, send a small amount to that fund.

The month of December has been a pleasant one here, mild, clear and beautiful, until just now a fall of eight or nine inches of snow has come which is looked upon by the "ranchmen" as being favorable for the crops next year.

The wheat raised in this State is entirely spring, but equal to the finest winter wheat. The farmers or ranchmen depend almost entirely on irrigation for the crops, and is much more reliable as a general thing than rain in other States. The cultivation of land is now looked upon in this State with much favor, and profitable to ranchmen, and which will, I think, be largely increased by irrigation next spring.

For the last two years there has not been very many additions to the Baptist Church, in Denver. Dr. Ellis, pastor of the First Baptist Church, is about to institute a series of revival meetings. I believe there are strong indications to hope that such a movement would be blessed with success.

This church has now about two hundred members. The Dr. is a great favorite, and a most earnest preacher. His church is not a very large one, but they are about to extend it in the rear, instead of building a new one, as they at first designed, and keep out of debt these hard times.

Mr. Ellis has been very much in earnest in the temperance movement in Denver last autumn, and which has been so successful here, having now over three thousand members. The Society are very much in earnest, and intend to build a Temperance Hall in the spring to hold their meetings in. This temperance movement has had a marked favorable effect on the community, and will no doubt force some (if not many) of the saloons to close up. Some two or three have already done so.

The people of Denver have had a lively time during the holidays. I think I never saw a city of the size of Denver show so much enterprise and spirit of purchase. The children especially, with their bright, happy little faces, enjoyed the fun greatly. The merchants being well prepared with shelves and counters filled with rich and tempting things of all kinds. To me, a comparative stranger, it was amusing to look on, the stores, filled with purchasers of all shades and kinds, while the streets were made lively with fathers, mothers and children, having their arms well filled with presents, and faces turned towards home.

Yours, &c., J. E. B.

For the Christian Messenger. Acadia College Building Fund.

In a few weeks it will be necessary to call the Governors together to decide on plans for rebuilding. What can be undertaken there will depend on the amount subscribed to the Building Fund. All who are interested in the speedy erection of suitable structures for the various departments of educational work carried on at Wolfville, are invited to give all possible attention and care to the collection of the necessary means for rebuilding. Thus far the prospect is greatly encouraging. If as much advance shall be made in the next six weeks, as has been made in the last month, the Governors will be ready to contemplate immediate adoption of plans to rebuild with good promise of a successful termination. Very much depends on what shall be accomplished in the next month or two. If all the friends of our College and Academy will enlist for a short time in earnest efforts to increase the subscriptions, more will be accomplished than by years of desultory labor.

The Committee desire that all who have charge of subscription-lists for the Building Fund should report them in full by the first of February. All money contributed for the object may be forwarded at once to the Treasurer.

A. W. SAWYER, For the Executive Committee. Wolfville, Jan. 12, 1878.

LAWRENCETOWN, ANNAPOLIS Co., Jan. 12, 1878.

Dear Editor,—

We had an unusually pleasant meeting here last evening in the interests of the Building Fund for Acadia College. Dr. James B. Hall, a graduate of Acadia rendered me valuable aid. Nictaux and Pine Grove are doing well, they have reached \$700. We are hoping to make \$4000 in this County. A list of subscriptions for each locality will be furnished you when

the canvass shall have been completed. Meanwhile let all do to the utmost of their ability. It will require a vigorous, self-denying and united effort to carry forward the great work that has been in God's mysterious providence laid upon us. Let none excuse themselves. Our Methodist friends did themselves much credit last evening by their co-operation, but the work is laid especially on Baptists.

Yours truly, ISA. WALLACE.

CASH RECEIVED ON ACCOUNT OF FUND FOR RE-BUILDING ACADIA COLLEGE.

Collected by Rev. S. B. Kempton, Cornwallis.

Allen West, Esq, Harvey, N.B. \$ 5 00
George Dunham Esq, " " 3 00
In memory of And. P. Jones, M.D.,
Moncton, (deceased)..... 50 00
W H Sumner Esq, Moncton, N.B. 4 00
Rev I M Curry, Hillsboro, N.B. 10 00
David Wallace, Esq, " " 20 00
Peter Duffy, Esq, " " 5 00

Collected by Rev. B. P. Shafner.

Milton Anderson, Esq, Digby, N.S. \$ 8 00
W H Aymer, Esq, " " 6 00
W Wassel, Esq, " " 2 00
J F Saunders, Esq, " " 10 00
Mrs M Anderson, " " 2 00
Miss Josie Gates, " " 1 00
E Burnham, Esq, " " 5 00
George Henderson, Esq, " " 5 00
Collected at Digby..... 1 60
Roland Morehouse, Esq, Centreville 0 75
Mrs J C Morse, " " 1 00
Charles G Morse, " " 0 10
Mrs Hannah Morehouse, " " 1 00
W C Denton, Esq, " " 6 00
Charley Gates, West Port..... 0 15
Miss Mary L Gates, " " 0 20
Arthur Collins, Esq, " " 2 00
Jessie Harris, West Port, N.S. 1 00
Bernard Harvey, Esq, do 10 00
Henry Glaven, Esq, do 4 00
Edward Glaven, Esq, do 1 00
Charles Glaven, Esq, do 0 25
Joseph Southern, Esq, do 5 00
J M Smith, Esq, Barton, N.S. 10 00
Joseph S McNeil, do 2 00
George Saxon, Esq, do 5 00
Mrs George Saxon, do 5 00
Miss D Blackford, do 1 00
Matt. Potter, Esq, Hillsburg, N.S. 0 50
W W Clark, Esq, do 5 00
W G Clarke, Esq, do 5 00
A Friend, do 0 50
Maynard Marshall, Esq, do 4 00
W T Nichol, Esq, do 5 00
Wm R Rice, Esq, do 5 00
Edward Clark, Esq, do 4 00
Mrs D G Cox, do 5 00
Bill Wyman, Esq, Weymouth..... 0 50
Edward John, Esq, do 3 00
Enoch Caldwell, Esq, Wolfville, per Rev S W DeBlois..... 5 00
Ministers Meeting at Summerville per Rev J A Maclean, Falmouth..... 11 50

This was the first subscription made towards this fund. Also the first cash paid.

A. D. W. BARRS, Treas. Wolfville, Jan. 12, 1878.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., January 16th, 1878.

SPURGEON'S SON THOMAS.

Thomas Spurgeon, one of the twin sons of the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, bids fair to be a remarkable man as his father. He has just completed his 21st year and is now on a visit to Australia and New Zealand, and writes home letters of great interest, shewing the very warm welcome he received, and the cordial greetings given him by the thousands who had heard of his father and read his works. The father and mother give an account of all this with marks of much parental affection in the *Sword & Trowel*. Thomas is a son of whom his parents may well feel proud. The parents write over their united initials "C. H. & S. S." with much emotion. Mr. S. gives a picture of reading the letters from their son, and says:

All listeners are eager to hear the pleasant news, and every now and then you would see, if you were present, the handkerchief slyly steal to the eyes, and you would notice that the voice of the reader occasionally grows hoarse with emotion, and her eyes are dimmed by glad tears, as she unfolds page after page of the "manifest" mercy which his "father's God" has shown to the young sojourner in a strange land.

By printing any parts of the letters of our own boy we run the risk of being thought egotistical, and so on; but we had rather suffer under this charge than be deemed ungrateful, as we fear we shall be if we pass over all in silence. The brethren in Australia have placed us under everlasting obligations by their great kindness to the father through the son.

The son writes:—"I am sure you are very anxious to know all about Sundays, and I am glad to report pretty favourably of our Sabbaths on the ocean. The second Sunday on board was anything but a pleasant day, as far as the weather was concerned, the sea was very rough, and the rain fell constantly. The bell for church com-

menced to ring about half-past ten, and not having far to travel, the audience soon arrived. It was not an easy task to stand, but after a while I succeeded in wedging myself between a table and the back of a seat, and presently forgot circumstances and inconveniences in the glory of my subject. The next week we were near the tropics, and enjoyed fine weather. I determined to have two services. In the evening it was dreadfully hot, but we had a good time. Sunday, July 15th, is recorded as the happiest Sabbath spent on board. Both meetings were better attended than ever, and in the evening there were nearly sixty persons present. When you remember that there were so many Roman Catholics on board, a band of men "on the watch," and many who preferred sleep to service, besides several absentees through sickness, you will see that this was a most encouraging audience. I bless the Lord for inclining them to come, for making them so wonderfully attentive, and for so graciously aiding me in speaking. I spend much time in making sure of my sermons, for I preach without notes, one reason being that at night the lights are turned down on account of the heat. . . . The sailors came in great force to the meeting, and plainly showed they felt the word, by hoping for opportunities to hear it in Melbourne. I ought, indeed, to be thankful for help and blessing on those days. Many a time, despite outward circumstances, I enjoyed preaching, and have been encouraged often. I feel sure the seed, though thus 'cast on the waters,' must be found again 'after many days.'

The father then writes:

His reception at Melbourne was most gratifying and enthusiastic. On the pier a crowd of friends awaited him, almost vying with each other as to who should claim the young stranger as their guest. "I seemed to keep on shaking hands," he says, "and which of the many offered will be my home I cannot tell, but God seems to be arranging everything most graciously." At Geelong Tom took up his quarters with our dear friend and former student, Mr. Bunning. Here he has met with kindness which stirs our hearts to their depths. His first sermon in Australia was delivered on Sunday evening in the chapel of his good friend, Mr. Bunning. He writes, "I did not intend preaching on my first Sunday ashore, but as I expect to be at Ballarat next Sabbath, I seized perhaps my only opportunity of helping our dear brother. We had a grand time, the beautiful chapel was thronged, and God was in the place. I do not know the number of persons whom I have seen who knew dear father, or have received benefit from his sermons. I am overwhelmed with their stories, and it gladdens them to tell them to me. By this means I believe I have the way open to many hearts in this colony. I have seen them weep when I spoke, I suppose because of the recollections that are raised. If God will guide me where I shall go, and tell me what I shall say, I hope to be able to do great good. God give the youthful mind prudence and discretion. Yesterday I received a telegram from Adelaide. 'Please preach in Town Hall, or Wesleyan Chapel, Adelaide, October or November. Letter coming.'

Giving an account of some services in Melbourne, the son writes: You will rejoice with me in the fact that I had another glorious opportunity of preaching the gospel. Albert-street Baptist church (Mr. Bailhache's) is comparatively new, and built in the amphitheatre style. The seats rise tier above tier, and form a semicircle round the pulpit. I have told you how other places have been crowded, but nothing equalled this. It was with great difficulty that I gained the vestry, and the pulpit was harder still to reach. Unfortunately that evening I had a cold, and had not been speaking five minutes before my voice failed me, and it was great exertion to continue. Those who had listened before could plainly tell I was not talking in my ordinary voice. This was a great drawback, and consequently I did not get on as well as usual. However, the people seemed pleased, and I trust were profited." A week after this painful experience he writes again: "We have had another very happy Sunday. I preached at Collins-street Baptist church. I felt at home, and, with the message of freedom through the Son, it was glorious indeed to speak to so large and attentive an audience. . . . Yesterday I received an invitation to Dunedin, New Zealand.

The parents close by saying: Will our friends when they read this be so good as to pray for both our sons: Charles who is working hard in the College, and is preaching with all his might, and Thomas, who, though preaching and travelling, is not strong in health.

A late number of the London Baptist refers to the interesting event, and the meeting held on the occasion of Mr. Thomas Spurgeon coming of age whilst he was staying at Geelong.

"The Rev. W. C. Bunning occupied the chair, and in his opening address gave a brief sketch of Mr. C. H. Spurgeon's life, and then called upon the Rev. W. Clark, of Ballarat, to speak. Mr. Clark said he had known Mr. Thomas Spurgeon since he was a baby in long clothes, but he did not intend speaking about Mr. Spurgeon, he wished to speak on two

texts, the first was: "Because He hath set His love upon me, therefore will I deliver Him;" and the other the soul's reply, "Because Thou hast been my helper, therefore in the shadow of Thy wings will I make my refuge." Mr. Bunning then asked Mr. Charles Andrews, on behalf of the church, to present Mr. Spurgeon with a gold watch. Mr. Andrews, in doing so, said that he took a peculiar interest in anything attaching to the name of Spurgeon, as he and Mr. C. H. Spurgeon were old school-fellows, and he bore testimony to the piety of Spurgeon, even when a boy, and the influence he exercised over his schoolmates. Spurgeon has also been a Sabbath scholar in his (Mr. Andrews') father's class. As a church they were, Mr. Andrews stated, under great obligation to Mr. Spurgeon, as to him had been entrusted the selection of a pastor, and they had in Mr. Bunning a constant proof of his wise choice. For these reasons, as well as for the respect in which Mr. Thomas Spurgeon was held personally, he had much pleasure in presenting him with this mark of esteem. The watch was then handed to Mr. Spurgeon, bearing the inscription—"Presented to Mr. Thomas Spurgeon, from the Church at Aberdeen-street, with prayer and love." After singing the now well-known hymn, "Waiting and watching," Mr. Spurgeon returned thanks. The address was so peculiarly suggestive of the father's characteristic touch and go, fear-no-one style that it may be well to give it.

"He commenced by saying that they had evidently been watching for him; that if it was true that "it was more blessed to give than to receive," they must be a blessed people, for although he felt somewhat uncomfortable, yet he was very happy. He had never felt like he now did before. He found it very difficult to speak about himself; he could talk about any mortal thing in some way or other except that. Twenty-one years ago he was a very small affair, and began in a very small way. He did not remember much about the time he was born, or, strange to say, about the time he was "born again"; he seemed to have been nursed in the lap of religion. He remembered when very young climbing up upon a chair and kissing his mother, and saying he thought he loved Jesus, and she thought so too; he sometimes thought he should like to know the date and the place where the great change took place, and to have had more of the same experiences as others, but he was quite satisfied to know that the change had taken place, and he thanked God for having spared him so much pain. His father was somewhat reluctant for him to come to the colonies; he would joke him about it, and say, "Would you like to go to prison, Tommy? Well, going on board ship is just the same, only with a chance of getting drowned." One thing that had troubled his father about it, was a doubt as to how he would be received. He made up his mind on his arrival there, to stay in the ship for a week or so, to get time to look around, but as he got there he had been met by a rare lot of celebrities, Baptist bodies, and everyone had been so extremely kind to him. He had come down to Geelong literally with Despatch. He had visited Stawell and other places, and thought it was a very good arrangement that he should visit the mining districts while he was still a minor, and that he should take this turning point in his life at the *Pinot*. One unfortunate thing was that everyone knew his age; he had a great deal of amusement from this source. People said, "Why, how young he looks; quite a boy," etc. He did not know how long he would remain in the colony, but he wanted to do all he could for the Master whilst he did. He wished for their prayers on his behalf; they had given him a watch, and now if they prayed for him, that would be *Watch and Pray*. He expected that his young brother (a few minutes older than himself) would be celebrating the attaining his majority by a large meeting in the Tabernacle for the benefit of the Mission School. He was sure if his father knew what was taking place at that moment, his face would be beaming with pleasure. He would again thank them for their great kindness, and beg to remain their humble servant, Thomas Spurgeon.

Mr. Bunning said they would keep the speaker to his word, and use his services in the way of his preaching for the benefit of the building fund. On Sunday, 2nd September, Mr. Spurgeon preached at Aberdeen street in the evening to an overflowing congregation; and he seems to have been preaching since with but slight intermission.

Rev. T. Berton Smith writes to the *Wesleyan* some of his thoughts on "Close Communion." After using several arguments in the endeavour to weaken or destroy the relation between the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper he brings himself up suddenly by the remark, "I am not arguing against our usual order, conversion, baptism, communion. I advocate it and use it." Good Baptist doctrine that. But how can Mr. S. say, "I advocate it and use it"? Does he not administer the rite of baptism, so-called, to infants? What then becomes of "our usual order"? Be consistent, Mr. Smith, and either do as you say, or, Say as you do.