

to rise in wealth and importance, and support a large population in comfort and luxury, but the capacity of the people themselves to turn them to marketable account.

The important task of increasing the skillfulness of those who have to labour in any way with their hands is precisely that of a technological school which does not interfere with either the college or the workshop, but seeks to qualify youth for acquiring dexterity and skill in the various mechanical, agricultural, and other avocations in which they may engage.

For the Christian Messenger. Thoughts on a recent Journey.

We are taught salutary lessons from the ever varying scenes of nature,—if we reflect sufficiently on the unvarying history she writes upon the face of creation. When she by some incomprehensible, invisible power energises the dead material that has been sealed beneath the chilling winds of the north,—that lies apparently helpless and lifeless, stripped of their beauty and glory, wearing the apparel of mourning and death,—how wonderful and marvelous the power that infuses new life, a resurrection from the dead.

The arrangements now made if properly adapted to the present condition of things in Acadia College will doubtless soon make a great change in the aspect of the Institution, and the prospects for the students, and will render it more than ever a school of the prophets and a blessing to the churches and the world.

The whole science of Homiletics and Oratory should, if possible, be thoroughly mastered by every ministerial student before he leaves Acadia's Halls for his life work in the ministry of the gospel of Christ.

oak. More glorious and delightful is the sun-light of Christ shining deep into the spirit and revealing the warm glow of his heavenly love, giving life and energy to the drooping spirit, leading our thoughts to a more glorious clime than ever breathes its soft melodies on the fair landscape of earth.

Hebron, July 15th, 1878.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., September 18, 1878.

THE THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT IN ACADIA COLLEGE.

The ministerial students in Acadia College we doubt not will soon perceive the great advantages to be derived by them from the Theological Department now projected. With Rev. Drs. Crawley and Welton, they have first class advantages at hand, of which they will doubtless avail themselves.

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THE GREAT REVIVAL IN INDIA.

In the account of the large number of converts recently baptized by Bro. J. E. Clough and his native assistants, it appears that on July 3rd, 2,222, were baptized. Mr. Clough has six ordained preachers and these, we presume, were assisting him in administering the rite.

Perhaps the most satisfactory part of this marvellous work is the fact that "but very few of these ever received any famine funds; perhaps not one hundred of the whole number ever received a 'pice' (a quarter of a cent) even, from me, directly, or indirectly, and never expect to receive any money or financial aid in any way."

SABBATH SCHOOL CONVENTION.

The Eighth Annual Convention of Sunday School Workers in the Maritime Provinces will be held in Truro, N. S., on Wednesday, October 9th, and following days.

The committee recommend the following programme:

- FIRST SESSION.—Organization Meeting.—Nominating Committee; Election of Officers and Committees; retiring President's address; Singing, prayer; Reports from Schools.

SECOND SESSION.—Welcome Meeting.—Address of welcome; address of President elect; address, "Bible Methods of Teaching"; address, "The Church and the Sunday School."

THIRD SESSION.—The Teacher: His qualifications, aims and reward; The Teacher; No Substitute for study; The Teacher; Teachers' meetings, Normal classes, &c.

FOURTH SESSION.—The Superintendent; His qualifications and duties, and how he should be chosen; S. S. Library.

FIFTH SESSION.—Our difficulties and discouragements; What? How remedied; The International Lessons.

SIXTH SESSION.—Reviews and how to conduct them (illustrated by a review of last quarter's lessons, by a member of Convention); Bible reading.

SEVENTH SESSION.—Who should be scholars? Primary classes, practically illustrated.

EIGHTH SESSION.—Farewell Meeting.—Encouragement in our work; Farewell addresses.

The above programme to be subject to modification by Convention.

After opening of each subject briefly, an opportunity will be given for short addresses by delegates. The discussions of subjects will be opened by gentlemen appointed for the purpose, and sustained by members of the Convention. In addition to Pastors and Superintendents (who are ex-officio members), the Convention consists of one delegate from each Sunday School throughout the Maritime Provinces.

Arrangements will be made for reduction of fares on main routes of travel to delegates attending the Convention.—Correspondence to be addressed to Mr. S. Waddell, Halifax.

Our Methodist brethren are discussing the question, What is the missing link between the Font and the Lord's Table? Dr. Osborn in his address before the recent Conference at Bradford, in Yorkshire said, "We want a link between the Font and the Lord's Table—we want to lay hold of our baptized children. We baptize hundreds and thousands of children about whom we hear very little in after life."

At the font itself there is much which may awaken the fullest and most serious apprehension, when we find so many regard baptism as the mere ceremony of giving a name to children, and so many more who say it does no good, but it is not right to neglect the ordinance; and for some reason or other we don't feel it right to neglect it, but we don't see that much comes of it.

Yes "at the font itself" there is the source of the trouble. It is doubtless true what the great Dr. says "We don't see that much comes of it." There is unquestionably a deficiency in Infant Baptism and always will be. What position the baptized child occupies—whether in the church or out of it—has not yet been fully decided by any of the Pedobaptist churches.

Further consideration of the report or amendments was deferred till next year, so the name has not yet been changed, but it remains, the Baptist Convention of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

REV. J. McLAURIN writes in the Canadian Baptist, a strong denunciation of a proposal which he understands to mean retrenchment in the expenditure for Foreign Mission work under the Canadian Board.

The whole difficulty it will be seen, at least by Baptists, arises from the unscriptural application of baptism to unbelieving children, and as "we don't see that much comes of it" would it not be better to enquire what the New Testament teaches, and we shall find that leaves no missing link, but demands that only believers are to be

baptized. The building up of churches with unconverted children is very much like the use of wood, hay, and stubble, for building a temple, spoken of by the Apostle in 1 Cor. iii, 12, and it must "leak" or be "burned up."

POLITICAL.—We have a list of the Candidates nominated for the several Counties of the Province on Tuesday of last week, which we purposed to publish, but, as the polling took place all through the Province yesterday, by the time the MESSENGER reaches our readers the elections will have taken place and the said list would be of but little service.

Judge Marshall is out again in a pamphlet, of 85 pages, having the title, "Scriptural Refutation of the Errors of Rev. Canon Farrar in his recent writings on the Future Punishment of the Wicked."

It is a clear scriptural argumentative exposition of the errors and defects of Canon Farrar on this most important subject, in his book "Eternal Hope," and his "Reply to many critics." The pamphlet is well worth perusal.

It is not surprising that it is difficult to make the Baptist Quarterly pay. We find it stated that the Congregational Quarterly will be discontinued after the next number or sold to some other magazine. There will remain the Bibliotheca Sacra, and the New Englander, which are in the hands of the Congregationalists.

The Christian Visitor of Aug. 24th, in its report of the Baptist Convention at Fredericton, gave the following as the first item:

"Dr. Rand gave notice of a motion to amend the first article of the Constitution, making it read: 'Baptist Convention of the Maritime Provinces embracing New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.'"

The Convention has from its commencement in 1846—32 years ago—been "The Baptist Convention of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island," and unless there were some ambiguity in the title or there had been some change of territory, it would seem unnecessary and undesirable to make any change in its name.

We have seen a similar inadvertency, giving the Convention this designation before, and have supposed it possible therefore that it was intended that such change should really be made.

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We should be very sorry to see such a letter from either of our brethren now in the foreign field, and we trust therefore that the Board having charge of our funds will so manage them as to avoid the necessity for any such correspondence. Whilst it is required that there be funds in hand on which to draw for the necessities of the missionaries, it is also proper that all due economy should be observed by the missionaries in their expenditures and that the churches should see that the streams of supply are being continually fed, so that the income of the Board may be all the time increasing rather than suffering any diminution.

ENQUIRIES.—The following questions were sent to us some time since with a request for publication. They have been laid aside for an opportunity to give them a satisfactory reply. On further reflection it appears desirable that answers be sought from some in-

dependent source. We publish them with the hope that some ministering brother may be led to throw some light upon the matter.

"Will you or some other person answer the two following important questions:—

- 1. Is a Baptist Church justifiable in retaining members who deny the eternal punishment of the wicked?
2. Who maintain that when a person dies, either the righteous or wicked that the soul and body lie in an unconscious state until the final resurrection?
From a Baptist minister who is troubled with such persons in the church to which he preaches.

Some questions submitted for reply are so self-evident that the object would seem rather to obtain an addition to the number of those in favour of one side than the elucidation of the truth, seeing that there is no room for any different opinion. Such appears to be a question sent us some time ago:

"Is it in keeping with Baptist principles for an intelligent Baptist Church to retain the services of a man who is neither a professor nor a believer as a leader of their Choir, when there are those in the church who are well qualified for that position?"

Of course, other things being equal, a member of the church would be preferred to conduct the church's music, but where a person of good moral character is capable, and willing to assist, either as leader or member of the Choir, in the absence of a capable member of the church, such person should be encouraged to assist to the best of his or her ability.

APPRECIATIVE.—One of our young men now pursuing his studies at Newton, writes: "I want the Messenger, I have not seen it for two weeks, and would rather be denied my dinner once a week, than be deprived of the reading of the Messenger." This is a compliment we are trying very week to deserve.

Our late exchanges from London tell us that Mr. Spurgeon was suffering again from an attack of rheumatism and was prevented from filling his appointments at the tabernacle.

The Sabbath School Association of Canada will hold its fifteenth Convention at Peterborough, Ont., on Tuesday, Oct. 8th, and following days.

HOLIDAY-KEEPING.—The issue of the Canadian Baptist was omitted on the 22nd ult. The Christian Visitor also took a recess last week. Good for them. We may expect an early appearance of the Year Book.

VICK'S FLORAL GUIDE, AUTUMN, 1878.—If he is a benefactor who is instrumental in making two blades of grass grow where only one grew before, what must James Vick be who seeks to fill every garden and house with things of beauty all through the year. He sends out his "Guide," in time for amateurs to select and send on for their bulbs or seeds. If you want his priced Catalogue and Floral Guide send on a U. S. postage stamp addressed to Jas. Vick, Rochester, N. Y., and he will send you one.

A NEW MUSICAL INSTRUMENT.

The Scientific American tells of a new invention in the way of a musical instrument which mechanically applies the notation of any piece of music, and is played by a person simply blowing the bellows. It is called the Needham Musical Cabinet, and is described as "nothing less than a parlor organ on which any one can play the most difficult music, no matter whether he has a knowledge of music or not. All that is necessary is to put the music one desires to play inside the organ, and blow the bellows with the feet, when the music will be correctly executed.

The instrument always plays in correct time, and the most difficult passages are rendered as fluently as the more easy strains. The retardations and accelerations in time intended by the composer, and which are so beautifully observed by superior performers, are perfectly rendered on this instrument, entirely independent of the person working the pedals, who has only to keep in rotation a small fly wheel.

From the above it will be seen that to play this organ the use of the hands is dispensed with, and that the player may not have a musical ear; he may even be absolutely deaf and still execute the music perfectly.

In the Needham Musical Cabinet, having the special sheets of music, any piece may be performed. And the