

control. If anything praiseworthy shall be done by ourselves in moulding the mind and heart of the people to noble ends, it must largely be, under God, by keeping both the Arts and Theological Departments of our Institutions of Learning in an efficient condition. And, as I have said, the scheme before us imposes no burden upon any. A dollar a year is only two cents a week, and there are few among us so poor that they cannot do this.

3. But this leads me to name as a third argument in favor of the Convention Scheme, the feature already alluded to, that a dollar a year is not asked from each member of our churches, but rather from each church a sum amounting to this. This supposes of course that some members of each church will give more and some less than others. If any are really unable to pay one dollar a year or two cents a week, they must be allowed to attempt less. The plan of raising moneys in each church should be sufficiently comprehensive and perfect to appeal to all its members and utilize the smallest contributions. But on the other hand this scheme supposes that those to whom God has given the means to exceed the dollar, will do so. The New Testament rule is that Christians shall give according to their means, that some be not eased and others burthened. Let this principle of giving be once adopted, and marvellous results would follow. Let the nearly 40,000 members of our churches in these provinces but contribute of their substance according to the measure of prosperity which God has given them, and the denomination would be able to give to its undertakings a five-fold greater magnitude and efficiency.

But I hasten finally to suggest a plan for carrying out the Convention Scheme in our churches. Various plans might be suggested, some of which would be better suited in some communities, and others in others.

A very good plan is the taking up of monthly or quarterly collections through the medium of envelopes, it being left with each person to enclose in the envelope which he lays upon the plate such amount as his christian conscience dictates. Many of the churches that have adopted this plan have found it to work well, though it is not perhaps best suited to the circumstances of every church. With the majority of our churches the adoption of the following plan would probably lead to better results. It is this: Let a committee of two—or if the church cover a good deal of ground, a committee of two for each of its principal sections—be appointed. Let these Committees, each in its own section, visit every family and every individual connected with the church and congregation, and ascertain from each person what he or she will give quarterly towards the benevolent funds of the church, and enter the same in a little book prepared for the purpose. Then let a committee of two young ladies in each section, taking the list of contributors' names with them, pass round once a quarter to gather up the sums which have been subscribed, after which they can be forwarded to the person appointed by the Convention to receive them. (In Nova Scotia, to Dr. Day, Yarmouth; in New Brunswick, to John March, Esq., St. John; or in Prince Edward Island, to Rev. D. G. McDonald, Charlottetown.)

This plan is very simple and may be very easily worked. The more important and perhaps more laborious part of the work is getting the money subscribed in the first place. This part should be done thoroughly, and by the persons best fitted for the work. Every man, woman and child in the church and congregation should have the opportunity of contributing, whether the amount be one cent or one hundred dollars. When this preparatory work has been done, the way is clear for the young lady collectors to follow. There is not, I believe, a church belonging to the Convention that would not be able in this way to raise an equivalent of a dollar per head of its entire membership. An effort of this kind should not collide—need not collide—at all with the usual efforts for obtaining the pastor's salary. It will be found that those pastors are best supported and occupy the warmest place in the affections of their people who do most in leading their churches forward in the work of christian benevolence. Some

of our churches are indeed without pastors, but this constitutes no just ground for their not contributing something to the funds of the Convention. By assisting these funds they will sooner obtain pastors than by not assisting them.

May not the hope be indulged that in this (Kings) County, and all along this beautiful valley our churches will at once give this important matter the consideration it deserves?

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

FROM MARGARET'S BAY.—Dear Editor,—It appears to be my duty to record the mercies of God in his kindness to us, and his reviving grace and converting power manifested to the church in Indian Harbor. Last October I left Canse, feeling that my time and efforts there were being spent for naught, and went out not knowing whither I went. My steps were directed to Margaret's Bay, where I have labored for the last four months. Three weeks ago special services, were commenced at Indian Harbor, and the Holy Spirit has worked with his people. The church has been revived and greatly strengthened by the reclaiming of those who had been negligent in their duty, and souls have been converted. One was baptized on the 20th ult., and five more last Sabbath, and more are expected next Sabbath to follow Jesus. Some eighty persons attended Conference last Saturday, and fifty-one took part in the meeting. Last Sabbath our house of worship was literally packed with earnest listeners, coming from seven and eight miles each way. God grant that the word may have found a lodgment in many hearts.

The prospect is brightening for the extension of the work around the Bay. Next week, according to arrangement, we expect to commence special meetings in Hubble Settlement, where we expect further displays of the Divine power. Will all who read this pray that the work may widen and deepen, until the people all around these shores are overwhelmed with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, so that hundreds who are now without God or hope may be made to cry out, "Men and brethren, What shall we do to be saved?"

If any of the brethren from the city could come out for a few days next week or the week after, they might scatter seed for their reaping by and by, or gather some sheaves for the Master now. Yours in Christ, A. W. BASS.

MARCH 1st, 1881. HALIFAX.—The Tabernacle—3rd Baptist Church, was filled with a large congregation on Sunday evening last, when the pastor Rev. J. F. Avery administered Christian Baptism to five persons who had been received by the church on the Friday evening previous, after making a good confession before many witnesses.

SOUTH RAWDON.—Seven persons were baptized last Lord's day at South Rawdon, by Rev. I. Wallace, and these and another admitted by restoration received the hand of fellowship at the close of the morning service. The church there, we learn, is considerably revived. Several are seeking the Lord and it is hoped that further enlargement may soon be enjoyed.

PENNSYLVANIA'S GROWTH.—According to the recent census, the population of Pennsylvania has increased 760,995, being the greatest increase, during the decade, of any of the states of the Union.

The National Baptist says: A natural question presents itself. Have we as a denomination kept pace with this rapid growth of population? It is very sad to think that we have not. In 1870, we had in this state 493 Baptist Churches, and an aggregate membership of 57,082, or an average of one Baptist member to every sixty two of the population, and of one Baptist Church to every 7,144 of the inhabitants. To-day we have 568 Baptist Churches and an aggregate membership of 64,592, or an average of one Baptist member to every sixty six of the population, and of one Baptist Church to every 7,541 of the inhabitants. This is not a very encouraging showing, and certainly indicates that the Baptists of Pennsylvania ought to bestir themselves to do more for the evangelizing of their state than they have been doing. During these ten years, they have given to our three National Societies, for Foreign and Home Mission Work, over \$420,000, while for the evangelizing of their own state they have given less than \$120,000.

St. STEPHEN, N. B.—The Visitor says:—"We are informed that Rev. T. Todd intends resigning and removing to Woodstock, where he owns a fine property. Doubtless he will still continue pastoral work with some of the Churches of Carleton Co."

CARLETON, ST. JOHN.—The Baptist Church, Carleton, St. John is enjoying a revival of religion. The Pastor, Rev. Edward Hickson, baptized eleven converts on the 27th ult. Several others are converted and are expected to unite with the Church immediately. The young people's meeting, though in operation but a few weeks, has proved a great benefit to the Church.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Opening of Session.

On Thursday last the Provincial Parliament was opened with the usual ceremonies.

At 3 o'clock His Honor Lieutenant Governor Archibald arrived in the Council Chamber, and read the following

OPENING SPEECH. Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Honorable Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I am pleased to welcome you again to the scene of your Legislative labors. The year which has passed has been marked by substantial progress in the development of some of the most important industries of the Province, and by generally increased prosperity of its people. Discoveries in the Gold Fields have quickened the energies which were devoted to the pursuit of Gold Mining, while the encouragement given to our Coal Mines has largely increased the sales of Coal, and has produced a corresponding benefit in the financial results in which the Province has an interest.

The harvest was, generally speaking, a gratifying one, and our farmers, in addition to the bountiful gifts which have been bestowed upon that class of our population by Providence, have been able to avail themselves to a large extent of new markets for their produce.

The unfortunate circumstances which attended the colliery explosion at Stellarton marred to some extent the success of our coal industry during the year, and will doubtless retard for some time the enterprise which was being so vigorously carried on in that locality; but it is gratifying to know that the generous responses of our people, and of the people of the neighboring Provinces, to the appeal for aid on behalf of those who were rendered destitute by the accident, have removed a very large part of the suffering which would otherwise have resulted from the disaster.

The management of the financial affairs of the Province has been a matter of no small solicitude to my Government, hampered as they have been by the existence of a considerable floating debt, and by the curtailment of the subsidy receivable from the General Government.

The strictest economy has been observed in the public expenditure, and I am glad to be able to inform you as the result, that the outlay of the past year has been less than the receipts, and that the balance against the Province has been reduced, instead of being increased, as was apprehended. This is undoubtedly a most desirable result, although it has only been reached by serious and inconvenient curtailments of some very important services.

During last autumn the Railway to the Strait of Canseau was opened, and traffic thereon has been conducted with more, or less efficiency and convenience to the public, although a considerable portion of the work required for the completion of the contract remains to be done.

The Railway between Digby and Yarmouth has been re-opened and continuously worked, although the hope expressed to you last session of the completion of the whole line of the Western Counties Railway has not been realized.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

The Public Accounts for the past year, together with the Estimates for the current year, will be submitted for your consideration at an early day. Every effort has been made to continue in the present year the economy practiced in the year last past.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

Your attention will be called to the claims of the institutions in which higher education is imparted, in view of the expiration of the statute under which they received special grants from the Government.

Your attention will also be called to the road and bridge service, in order to have some measure adopted for its more efficient management.

The several agreements and enactments made with respect to the Provincial subsidized railways, have enabled the administration to utilize the interests thus secured, with the view of effecting a consolidation of all the Provincial railways, and I have strong reason to hope that negotiations now in progress will result in placing these works on a more satisfactory basis than hitherto, and will

secure their more efficient and economical management, and benefit the Province financially.

I commend to your careful and deliberate consideration, not only the particular subjects I have brought to your notice, but also such others as in the course of the session may be submitted to you.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

On the return of the members from the Council Chamber, the Speaker announced that he had received a copy of the opening Speech, which was read.

Mr. Bill introduced a bill pro forma to amend the law relating to highways.

Mr. Patterson then moved the Address in response to His Honor's Speech—which was read. In doing this Mr. P. remarked on the several subjects touched upon in the Speech and Address. He was glad that the usual regrets as to expenditure exceeding the income were not necessary. He mentioned that there had been an increase of revenue arising from the enlarged production of coal in the past year, compared with previous years so that the income had exceeded the expenditure. The total production of coal in 1880 amounted to 1,032,710 tons, as compared with 788,273 tons in 1879, being an increase of 244,437 tons. The total increase of sales of coal in 1880, as compared with the previous year, thus amounted to 266,035 tons, the royalty on which at ten cents a ton added \$26,600 to the revenue of the country, which was certainly a gratifying and pleasant result. He hoped that not only the coal industry, but all the other industries of the country, would show in the future even greater improvements than the past had witnessed.

After noticing the Stellarton disaster and the road and bridge service, Mr. P. said in the matter of higher education he scarcely felt like saying very much. It was generally considered as rather dangerous ground, and for his own part he felt as if the subject of higher education should be dealt with by highly educated men, and that if he should attempt to trespass upon this ground he might commit the error of showing his own ignorance of collegiate institutions. However, there was one point to which he would like to refer. The Province was now granting \$15,200 for collegiate education, and it becomes the duty of the Legislature to consider whether the country was receiving the benefit it should derive from that expenditure. He felt for his own part that the first care of this country should be to common schools. If a youth got through the common schools successfully and acquired a taste for higher learning he would generally obtain the advantage of collegiate education in some way or other. And the question would perhaps occur whether the grant for colleges was not out of proportion to the amount granted for common schools.

Mr. Shaffner seconded the Address, in doing so he alluded to the excellent harvest of the past year; the increased demand for coals; and grants to colleges. This matter he thought should have the deepest and most careful consideration of the House. The grants hitherto allowed to college institutions were about to lapse by the expiration of the time limited in the statute, and while it must be felt on all hands that the common schools were very necessary, and should be supported with the public funds, yet he believed that the higher branches of education needed to be protected and fostered with public aid.

After a few words from Mr. Kinney the debate was adjourned to Friday at 3 o'clock.

On Friday the Address was under discussion, and speeches were made by Messrs. Smith, (Hants), Gayton, LeBlanc, Ford, McGray, Smith, (Lunenburgh), and Kinney.

The Address was unanimously adopted and the House adjourned to Monday. On Monday the House of Assembly met, and proceeded in a body to Government House with the Address.

The Hon. Attorney General, on behalf of the committee appointed, reported as follows, which was adopted:

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Privileges and Rules of the House.—Hon. Atty. General, Messrs. Gayton, McKay, Robicheau, and A. Campbell.

Education.—Hon. Prov. Secretary, Messrs. Ford and D. J. Campbell, Hon. Mr. McDougall, Messrs. T. B. Smith and Harrington, and Hon. Mr. Macdonald.

Public Accounts.—Hon. Mr. Macdonald, Messrs. McKay, LeBlanc, Blair, T. B. Smith, McGray and Pugh.

Crown Lands.—Mr. Ford, Hon. Atty. General, Messrs. Shaffner, Patterson, McCuish, A. Campbell, Robicheau, A. N. McDonald, McCurdy and Morrison.

Humane Institutions.—Messrs. Gayton and D. J. Campbell, Hon. Mr. White, Messrs. McCurdy, Pugh, Bill and Bartling.

Trade and Manufactures.—Messrs. Kinney, McCurdy, D. J. Campbell, Hon. Mr. Macdonald, Messrs. Pugh, C. A. Smith, and Spence.

Navigation Securities.—Messrs. Hadley, Vickery, Kinney, Bartling and Van Blarcom.

Temperance.—Mr. Gayton, Hon. Mr. White, Messrs. Bell, McGillivray, C. A. Smith, A. N. McDonald and T. B. Smith.

Railways.—Hon. Mr. Macdonald, Messrs. McGillivray, Shaffner, VanBlarcom, A. Campbell, C. A. Smith, T. B. Smith, McKay, and LeBlanc.

Agriculture.—Messrs. Blair, Shaffner, McGillivray, Spence, Ford, Bell, Bill, Morrison, and LeBlanc.

Land Damages.—Messrs. Bartling, VanBlarcom, LeBlanc, James, Robicheau, Shaffner, and Hadley.

Law Amendments.—Hon. Atty. General, Hon. Mr. Townshend, Messrs. McGillivray and Ford, Hon. Mr. White, Messrs. D. J. Campbell and Kinney.

Reports and Printing.—Hon. Mr. White, Messrs. Robicheau, Bell, Vickery, McGray, Patterson, and Harrington.

Private and Local Bills.—Hon. Mr. White, Mr. Ford, Hon. Mr. Townshend, Mr. T. B. Smith, Hon. Mr. Stairs, Messrs. McGillivray and Kinney.

Contingencies.—Hon. Prov. Secretary Messrs. Pugh, Bartling, James, Hon. Mr. Macdonald, Messrs. Dr. J. Campbell and Gayton.

The House then adjourned until 3 p. m., Tuesday.

DOMINION & FOREIGN NEWS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.—Sir C. Tupper's medical attendants advise him to go to England. His recovery is tedious and frequent relapses prevent his gaining much strength. He was to leave Ottawa yesterday for Halifax to take the steamer on Saturday next. Lady Tupper accompanies him.

The Governor General and suite left on Saturday evening by the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway for Quebec, where they will remain for several days, and then return to Ottawa.

On Tuesday of last week a deputation waited upon Mr. Langevin, pressing the claims of the Halifax Graving Dock enterprise to a subsidy of \$15,000 for a period of twenty years. Mr. Langevin promised to lay it before his colleagues. The bar in the House of Commons has been closed.

The following is a comparative statement of revenue for the months of February, 1880 and 1881:—

Table with 2 columns: 1880, 1881. Rows: Customs, Excise, Other sources, Total.

Total.....\$2,765,720 vs \$3,139,937 Increase for Feb., 1881.....\$374,217

Total from 1st July, 1880, to 28th Feb., 1881, \$18,584,890.

Increase in eight months of the year 1880-81, over corresponding period in 1879-80, \$4,503,856.

It is in contemplation to have in the course of the current year, a Militia drill of 20,000 men and 1,500 horses for 12 days. In Ontario there would be four Camps; in Quebec, 3; New Brunswick 1; Nova Scotia 1, and 1 Battalion Camp in P. E. Island. Three thousand men would be drilled at their local headquarters at the time most convenient to them. It was found that many of the city corps were composed of young men who could not drill in brigade camps, owing to their being unable to leave their business when the brigade camps met. These men would be drilled in the winter. The officers would receive \$1 and the men 50 cents per day. Those drilling in camp would receive rank pay. A vote of \$75,000 is to provide for this drill.

The House of Commons was occupied last week in Committee of Supply. Some of the items were harbors and rivers, Nova Scotia—Cow Bay, \$6,000; Parrsboro, \$2,500; Benacadie Pond, \$5,000, passed.

Total for Nova Scotia.....\$38,400 Total for New Brunswick.....70,000 Total for Prince Edward Island, \$8,500

The Canada Gazette contains the following:

"Polling under the Canada Temperance Act will take place in Kings Co., N. S., on the 14th of April."

An Order-in-Council has been passed that a drawback will be allowed of duty paid on all imported cheese cloths, cottons, and like materials used in the manufacture of packages, bands or coverings for cheese, or other similar products of Canada exported therefrom.

A petition is before the House of Commons at Ottawa containing a number of serious charges against the Hon. Edmund Burke Wood, Chief Justice of Manitoba. The petition states that the conduct of the Chief Justice is, and has been for several years past, characterized by injustice and by acts of a nature to completely destroy all confidence in him as Judge of the Supreme Court.

A man named Duval, 103 years old, who served with Napoleon First, sat on a coroner's jury a day or two ago at Montreal, and told stories of his campaign to his fellow jurors in a very clear headed manner.

New Brunswick.—The following are the items of Expenditure in New Brunswick for Education:

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Rows: University, Grammar Schools, Parish Schools, Normal School, School Inspectors, Chief Sup't Office, Board Education, School Houses, School Libraries.