CHEISTIAN MESSENGER.

ACADIA COLLEGE EXHIBITION. The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., December 26, 1883.

AT this season of the year it seem very appropriate for people to paus and take a careful survey of affairs. The merchant balances his ledger, takes account of stock, sums up his profits and losses, and starts anew with a fresh balance sheet. The farmer sums up the products of his toil, and the careful housewife counts up the year's expenses. Wi h most persons there is careful balancing of receipts and expenditures A general review in retrospect of the past year, of its blessiogs and successes, its disappointments and failures, the experiences of happiness or sorrow in sunshine or shado v. It is also a suitable time to forecast the tu ture, to make new resol es and promises, to turn down the blotted page and begin atresb the record of a new year. To all our patrons we say, may it be a bright and

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

SUBSTITUTES FOR BAPTISM

A minister with whom we were acquainted in England, who held Baptist principles, but who wished to be lenient to the prejudices of certain of his peo ple, was once pressed to administer sort of rite that might be r-garded as good as Infant Baptism. In complying with this request he held what he called a Dedication Service. Having the child placed in his arms at the proper time he let a few drops of water fall on the face of the infant, saying, " sprinkle thee in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." This would hardly satisfy our Pedobaptist brethren now-a-days. We hope he did not repeat the operation. Another minister of whom we recently heard in Dublin why, like Pére Hyacinthe, cannot find Intant Bap ism in the New Testament, but unlike him was led to reject Infant Baptism, yet having a weakness that led him to go as far as he could to meet the prejudices of his Pedobaptist friends, conducted a somewhat similar service. He took the child, named it, and having repeated Mark x. 13-16. said, "I receive thee in the name of the Lord Jesus and on behalf of His church as one redeemed by His most precious blood, and now publicly dedicated by thy parents to Him." These are but poor substitutes for the initiatory ordinance These who search the Scriptures must see that it does not resemble the genuine New Testament Baptism. Having convictions as to the truth is v ry important. but it is of far more importance to have the courage to carry them into practice.

The closing exercises before the Christmas Holidays took place in the Assembly Hall at Acadia College on Thursday evening last, in the presence of a large and deeply interested audience.

The Rhetorical Exhibition by the students of the Junior Class were given according to the following programme : Dr. Higgins occupied the chair. After prayer, a brilliant pianoforte duet was performed by Misses Hill and Rand.

"Arctic Exploration," by Mr. Selden W. Cummings, of Truro.

"Agricultural Education," by Mr Lewis J. Donaldson, of Wolfville.

"The Iufluence of Poetry," by Mr. Howard S Freeman, of Milton, N. S. was omitted.

"Elements of Decay in Institutions," was given by Mr. J. W. Tingley, of Margaree, C B.

Mr. Ford then gave a violin solo accompanied on the pianoforte by Miss Dodge.

Miss Alice M. D. Fitch, of Wolfville, then gave an essay on "Language-Fossil Poetry."

The essay on "Modern Oratory," by Mr. Edgar A. Magee, of Mel. ern Square, N. S., and on "Canadian Literature," by Mr. Henry T. Ross, of Margaree, C. B., were excused.

"The Athenian Bema," was the title of the Essay, by Mr. Smith L. Walker, of Truro.

Miss Harding then gave a splendid solo on the pianoforte which was highly appreciated and enjoyed.

"The Revelations of Palæontology."

ACADIA COLLEGE MATTERS.

The meeting of the Board of Governors of Acadia College last week brought together a larger nomber of brethren at Wolfville than usual at this time of year. There were brethren from Yarmouth and Annapolis Counties, from New Brunswick, from Amherst, from Halifax, from Autigouish, besides those from a number of less distant places, showing the deep interest that is felt in the operations of the Institutions at Wolfville, It is gratifying to know that the earnest discussion which continued through Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday-in all ten meetings of from three to five hours each,-every thing was carried on in a spirit in harmony with the position occupied by the brethren. Our readers will not care for any further space to be occupied with what was said by the friends respectively as it has been so fully discussed in the columns of the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER during the few weeks now passed. The following afficial communication will shew the results of the consideration given to the matter concerning the new professorship. The College will doubtless receive a fresh sumulus from having been brought so prominently before the public, and fresh coufidence will be felt by its friends from the severe ordeal through which it has passed. It will be seen that while great freedom is used by Baptists in discussing all such matters whether it be by writing or speaking, yet it has the effect of clearing the atmosphere

An effort has recently been made to chronicler and preacher whose utterfix a standard of time upon this contireference to any other meridian than the 60th, 75th, 90th, and so on, making ex actly an hour of difference between them, so as to have, for instance, one time of day from the 60th, say at Sydney. and let that hour be the same all through to the 75th, say at Philadelphia, where it would be one hour later. By that means a person travelling from Sydney on to Puiladelphia would find his watch agree with all the clocks and watches till he got there Then he would find all the time one hour slower, and then on to the next-all the places under the 90th meridian-when it would be ano ther hour still later.

There is some doubt whether Nova Scotia will adopt the STANDARD TIMEthat of the 60th meridian, about 15 minutes faster than Halifax-or take the 75th, an hour later, as the Intercolonial Railway has done, making it about 45 minutes slower than our correct time. The matter has been before the Halifax City Council, but they have not come to any decision. There would be objections to either of these alternatives, but with the present state of things it will be quite inconvenient for the traveller to determine the time of day by the time. There should be careful conside ration given to the matter ; any precip itate change would cause great inconve-

ances are inscribed in about thirty colnent, and so to give some degree of umns of good, fresh reading, (in the case certainty to the time adopted without of the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER), exclusive of advertisements. And all this preacher asks for his sermons, which are many but short, and which appeal direct to the minds and hearts of all readers of all ages, and also for pastoral work in your family, is a trifle over half a cent a day.

> 2nd. Consider the influences this regular weekly MESSENGER has upon your church life and your home life, especially upon the young. Every intelligent Chris tian minister and faithful pastor will af. firm that his most intelligent and efficient workers in the church-those who best ex-mplify their profession by consistent Christian lives, are the constant readers of the religious newspapers. It is his

best auxilliary in carrying on the great work committed to his hands, and he is ever anxious to increase its circulation and usefulness. Then we say,

3rd. Have you a right to deprive your family of such a MESSENGER, and at the same time spend more than it would cost on some needless indulgence in perhaps some more expensive habit ? In these Maritime Provinces there are about 130,000 Baptists and nearly 39, 000 church members. The circulation of our religious weeklies ought to increase railway Time table, seeing that 45 so as to supply every family. It would minutes must be added to the solar increase if every church member did his plain duty in striving to extend the circulation.

4th. If you think with us that the nience. Questions of law might possi- CHRISTIAN MESSENGER covers the ground

would aid them in realizing their wishes. And we are now sure that the great majority of the Welsh people are not only ready, but eager, for the struggle. The case is admitted to be a strong one. There is no ques ion as to the shamefulness of the past history of the English E-tablishment in Wales-none as to its failure to accomplish its professed object-none as to the over whelming strength of Welsh Nonconformity, and

DECEMBER 26 1883.

its effectiveness as a means of promoting religion, intelligence, and good citizen-hip among the Welsh people Our Welsh friends must resolve that the question shall, as Lord Richard Grosvenor says, be ' thoroughly looked into.' and the great preparation' be commenced with an ardour which will abridge to the utmost the period of delay which must elapse before the fulfilment of their hopes.

The first series of Welsh meetings in support of Mr. Dillwyn's motiou for Disestabli-hment in Wales have now been held and have been largely attended ; and, spite of some nasty opposition on the part of the Cierical party. resolutions in support of M. Dillwyn's motion have been enthusiastically adopted.

WE invested five cents in a copy of the "Observations upon the mission held in the city of Halifax, Nov. 11th to 22nd, 1883, addressed to the Clergy and Laity of his diocese, by Hibbert, Bishop of Nova Scotia."

Bishop Binney in this pamphlet expresses thanks for the good done by the missioners, and says : "I am bold to say that, if nothing else had been done, it Deat prey, to sp MB of M Auck jority 60 ye trust Savio ber o of ac mon rapid plain reali the l the s away pect Ou year Hob

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UNDER our " Family R-ading " Department we give the last two chapters of the very interesting story of an English family, so as to close with the year 1883. It is a charming story and we learn has been greatly enjoyed by many of our readers, making them acquainted with a number of excellent people-the father being a curious mixture of goodness and weakness.

We shall begin a New Serial the

were then presented by Mr. Irving S. Balcom, of Paradise, N.S.

"The Nature of Geological Evidence," was the title of the Essay, by Mr. Willard F Kempton, of Wolfville, but was also excused.

"The Thought of an Age," was given by Mr. J. A. Ford, of Bothwell, P. E. I. Mr. Margeson here gave a violin solo to which also Miss Dodge played the accompaniment.

The proceedings were closed by all joining in the National Anthem.

The Junior Class Exhibition at the close of the year is a pleasing variation from that of the under graduates in June.

The most undivided attention was given to the excellent orations of the young men. These were of the usual high order, well thought out, and delive red with ease and rhetorical vigor.

CLOSE OF THE FALL TERM OF THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

AT WOLFVILLE.

The term just closed at Wolfville has been on the whole a very satistactory one. The work at Acadia Seminary and Horton Academy has been thoroughly done. The students have been industrious and well behaved. No demerits have been given the past term, and there has been a general disposition to conform to all regulations made by the governing body.

On Thursday morning classes were examined in Political Economy and Ancient History by Prof. Tufts, in Greek by Mr. E. W. Sawyer, in Algebra by Mr. W. F. Kempton, in Arithmetic by Mr. Haley. These exercises exhibited the usual thorough preparation characteristic of these schools. In addition this public examination, the students have been submitted to monthly written examinations, from which their standing has been derived.

interests of the College.

and of uniting more closely those who

are concerned in promoting the best

WOLFVILLE, Dec: 22, 1883. To the Editor of the Christian Messenger. DEAR SIR, - I am directed by the Board of Governors of Acadia College to send the following communication to your paper, for the information of your readers. A request was made by a number of the friends to present certain petitions to the Board of Governors, relative to the establishment of the Chair of "The Principles and Practice of Education in Acadia College.

Leave was cordially granted, and the petitions were presented. The whole subject was then carefully and thoroughly reconsidered. In view of all the facts, the Board judged it prudent to respectfully place before Dr. Rand the changed condition of things. In reply Dr. Rand at once stated that he placed the whole matter entirely in the hands of the Board, both in respect of his ap. pointment, and of the salary they might be able to give.

After a full reconsideration of the whole case the Board concluded that in the best interests of the College, the new chair should be retained, and that Dr. Rand be appointed to the chair of "Education and History" in Acadia College at the same salary as the other Professors receive.

Dr. Rand accepts the chair. The Faculty approve of its creation, and are pleased with Dr. Rand's acceptance. T. A. HIGGINS,

Sec'y. of the Board. The accounts of the Public Exhibitions in another column shew the high stand ing of the Institutions as a whole. We heartily congratulate the Governors the Faculty and the friends generally on the progress already made, and the encouraging prospects opened up by the harmonious conclusions reached.

WE shall be glad to hear from all sub-scribers indebted to us without delay.

WHAT IS IT OCLOCK O

o'clock.

Tue Standard Time which, we under stand, was first projected by Mr Sand ford Fleming, and would divide the time into even hours from Cape Breton to British Columbia, would be a great con venience when fully adopted.

If Nova Scotia should adopt the Standard Time, it would make all the timepieces just an hour earlier than the Intercolonial Railway time. Clocks and watches at Sydney would agree with the correct time, but at all places west they would be fast until arriving at the 75th meridian, when they would be one hour fast and would require to be so altered.

OBSERVE. - We greatly need all the money due us to meet pressing demands.

The following article has b en handed to us by a respected brother to make such use of as we might deem suitable and proper. We most heartily commend it to the serious consideration of our patrons.

NEWSPAPER MATTERS.

Among the important questions which claim serious attention at the hands of every intelligent Christian head of a family at the present season is, How can I make our weekly religious newspaper more useful at home and assist towards its being generally taken during the coming year? Some of your friends and neighbors will be asking, What newspaper shall I take? There are doubtless individual cases where the question of expense will force itself into prominence. In many households we are warranted in assuming in this enlightened, reading age that one or more newspapers are taken regularly, possibly a political as well as a religious journal. We may offer a suggestion or two for your consideration. Do you know,

1st. The religious newspaper is one of the very best educators in a household? Next to the mother it is the chief

bly arise by not knowing just What it is that we have endeavoured to present to you, and that your views of truth are in

harmony with what it aims distinctly unwaveringly and fearlessly to proclaim -we shall be glad if you will get others to participate with you in securing its weekly visits to their homes for the coming year. It will afford us pleasure to know that it is a MESSENGER of good things to many new homes in 1884.

THE WAY THEY DO IN BOSTON. - A new and valuable order of ladies seems to have come into being in some of the churches in Boston. They are styled in the Tremont Temple Church paper -" Our capable of doing-any-thing ladies." It may be that some of the same style exist in the shape of "Sewing Circles," " Benevolent Societies," &c. &c. The former title is given in connection with the getting up-what they call-"a kettle drum," by which a handsome sum was realized for the Sunday School Missionary work, the nett proceeds of which amounted to \$215.82. Some may be curious to know what such a kettle-drum is. This is the explanation given-a social dinner, tes, &c.

"When the first table was ready, a 'long roll' on the drum was the announcement. The tables were then filled, and forty to forty-five minutes occupied in eating and chatting; then all the guests at the table rose, when all the tables were prepared and re-arranged just as they were before, and then another ' long roll' upon the drum, and the tables filled up again. This was repeated four or five times."

At each of the twelve or fifteen tables (each of which accommodated in our next. twelve persons) a lady and gentleman presided,---in most cases a husband and wife, but in a few instances certain ladies and gentlemen presided who may be husbands and wives. Some five

would have been worth while to bring those men here, for the three great meetings in the Music Hall." But he believes that "advantage has been taken of the plain speaking, and perhaps somewhat exaggerated utterances, of the most poweriul and attractive of these Missioners, upon one topic, to nullify in some minds the beneficial effects of what was unquestionably sound and good in their teaching."

The Bishop further states that "erroneous reports of a sermon which has now gained much notoriety, have been freely circulated, and writers in newspapers and even, (I say it with shume), ministers in their pulpits have affirmed, or plainly intimated' that the Preacher ignored the elementary truth that God alone can forgive sin. They might have known, what is clear even from the defective newspaper reports, that they were in danger of bearing false witness." In the discussion which has followed, the Roman Catholic view seems to have overshadowed the Anglo Catholic, and the position feebly contended for by the latter is claimed without besitation by the former, and the Presbyterian ministers more particularly are waging war against Auricular Confession and Priestly Absolution in their boldest pretensions. We can afford to let them proceed with the controversy by simply affirming that the New Testament knows nothing of either of them having the true succes sion any more than the humblest Baptist minister that leads his people to be. come the followers of his Lord and Master-that is the true apostolic suc. cession.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER will commence on the 6th of January. We shall have a full notice of the meetings to be held

A SET OF ' PICTURE LESSON CARDS forms a good help to study, as well as being pleasing to pupils in the Primary class. They are beautifully print-

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	does not appear to lose anything of its former value. It does not now attempt as in former years anything in the way of prognosticating what the weather will be in July or August or any of the other months of the year. It can afford to leave that to Vennor It can afford to leave that to Vennor	th ter str on 18 for ma 18 pr in has do its att the we any It and tell Ye Ju shi wh it s	BELCHER'S FARMER'S ALMANAC, 884.—This old familiar title comes orth again fresh as ever, and full of natter. Having been established in 824 makes it now 60 years of age, a retty good life for a useful annual these days of chapge. In the ands of McAlpine and Barnes it bes not appear to lose anything of a former value. It does not now tempt as in former years anything in he way of prognosticating what the eather will be in July or August or by of the other months of the year. can afford to leave that to Vennor at the modern weather prophets, who ll us there will be a dip about New ear's Day, or great heat at the end aly &c. The almanac is however full of valu- ble information for everybody and here it has had a place in former years will be required again. It has the hole field, and doubtless pays well en at the low price at which it is	gramme : Piano Duet—" Military March," Schubert, by Misses Hill and Rogers. Reading—" The Death of the Old Squire, by H. S. Shaw, Berwick. Essay—" John Bunyan," by C. R. Higgins, Wolfville. Reading—" Putting Up Stoves," by C. W. Eston, Canard. Piano Solo—" Il Desidereo," by Miss Alice Eaton, Canard. Reading—" The Dead Student," by C. R. Minard, Billtown. Essay—" Persistent Effort," by M. D. Hemmeon, Wolfville. Reading—" John Smith's Will," by A. E. Shaw, Avonport. Vocal Solo—" Shadows," by Miss Lizzie Rogers, Amherst. Essay—" Dr. Samuel Johnston," by H. E. Shaw, Berwick. Reading—" Artemus Ward's Mormon Lecture," by E. T. Stevens, Cochituate, Mass. GOD SAVE THE QUEEN. These readings were given with graee and effectiveness, showing the result of the training given by Miss Wallace. The Mount Allison Methodist Institu- tion at Sackville closed the fall term on the 17th. The St. John <i>Telegraph</i> gives	correct time of day at any place is ascer tained by observing when the sun attains its highest elevation in the heavens. This gives us our noon, which, of course, is earlier or later at other places as they are more towards the east or west. All places also on the same meridian—north or south—of course have noon at the same time, so that Halifax, Londonderry, Pugwash, and on to the island of Anti- costi aud Labrador, being in the same meridian, consequently have their solar time the same. If, however, the clocks were regulated entirely by this they would vary in every place from every other place, east or west, one from the other. This produces the variations of time which obtain in different parts of the country, and of course, in different countries, according as they lie eastward or westward from where we live. It has been found necessary for railways to have something different from this so as to avoid these variations, and have some degree of uni- formity so as to prevent accidents which otherwise must occur. The Intercolonial management had for some time past adopted Moncton, N. B., time, and calls it Railway Time, which is 15 min- utes slower than Halifax time, and of	of religious and moral instruction. In a well regulated family the members are, of course, in the habit of attending church regularly to listen to the half hour sermon once or twice a week, but here is a preacher which comes to you dis. coursing upon all topics having reference to religious and moral life, presenting instruction in every conceivable phase, applicable to man, woman, or child, at work or at play or at rest, at home or abroad, on the farm, in the country house, shop or office, taking firm hold of the Christian life, unfolding the teaching of the Sunday School and the pulpit, preaching of home duties, plea sures and economies, and communing with the old folks, where there are such, perhaps confined to the house, in the sunset of life. Here the latest phases of religious thought are discussed, di- gested, and epitomized by the best minds in the country, in pulpit or in pew. The religious newspaper brings tidings to you of what is going on in the great world of Christendom, and that other world still sitting in darkness waiting for the light. Reports from the churches at home and abroad, Home News, News of the World, in short, con- temporaneous history to keep you fully informed upon all important events transpiring upon the terrestrial globe— this and far more is brought to you door	evening. An excellent orchestra dis- coursed delightful and really very fine music during the evening. SUBSCRIBERS in arrears will much oblige by immediately sending on the amount due us. THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH'S CHURCH PATRONAGE.—The Duke of Marlborough—better known by his re- cent title of Marquis of Blandford—who has just been divorced for misconduct, is the patron of ten Church livings 1 Is a word of comment necessary on so suggestive a fact ?— <i>Liberator</i> . It is high time that the Church was relieved of such patrons, and indeed of all patronage, especially of State patron- age. Meetings are being held in Wales with this object in view. The <i>Libera- tor</i> , referring to the recent conferences and meeting in Wales, says :—' The object of the visit of the deputation from the Liberation Society which has lately visited Wales has been effectually accomplished. That object was to as- certain whether the Nonconformists of Wales were prepared for a thoroughly earnest movement for the emancipation of their country from the yoke of the English Establishment - and if memory.	 but, in several colors, a different can for each lesson. Hence, a set for our quarter consists of thirteen lesson can and one quarterly merit card. Order are required to be in 5's, 10's, 15 and so on, and for an entire quarter the price per sett being only twelve cents a year. We are glad to eas special attention to them, and heartif commend them. Dog-Latin, Barbarous, or bad Latie — Worcester's Dictionary. LIFE WITHOUT SUNDAYS.—We have often called attention to the value of sunday, and that we should all do a much as possible to lessen Sunday here, "I'm dying—I feel I'm dying-fetch some one to pray with me," crick a poor cabman who bad been throw from his box some days ago: At herequest his weeping wite sent her poor boy for the tearest minister. The sorrowful boy soon returned with the minister, and found his father surrounded with medical attendants doing a they could to alleviate the agonies of the suff-rer. The minister, bendin over him, assured him there was mercy A convulsive struggle showed that the conflict was nearly over. He opene half-closed eyes, and, with an expiring effort, he muttered, "Tve had no Surrey".
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