

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., April 16, 1884.

THE Nova Scotia Journal of Agriculture, April, contains an interesting article consisting of the evidence given by Major General Laurie before the Committee of the House of Commons at Ottawa, on Agriculture.

Maj. Gen. Laurie, of Halifax was called and said: We have no department of Agriculture in Nova Scotia; the Board of Agriculture is the body really charged with carrying out the work of the Government in this branch of the public service.

Personally, I have been engaged in farming in Nova Scotia since 1866. Of course, I have not taken up farming as a means of livelihood, but I have had a good deal of experience in agriculture, and have been President of the Board of Agriculture for some eight or nine years.

The Nova Scotia farmer labors under these disadvantages, to my mind: He has received no agricultural education, by which I mean training in the sciences connected with agriculture, and concurrently in the application in practice of the knowledge so acquired.

A. I think your proposition for an experimental station should be associated with an agricultural college. The experimental station, the model farm, and the institution for imparting agricultural education seem to be bound up together, and are very necessary in our Province.

Q. I think one objection to experimental farming being engaged in by ordinary farmers, is that it is expensive. A. Yes, and they have not time amidst the hurry of seeding and harvesting operations to attend to experimental work properly.

A. I think so; but still we suggested that the agricultural part of the college should receive assistance from the Government, but they might be associated with existing colleges so as to take advantage of their machinery, in the shape of lecture rooms, buildings and staff.

Q. Do you grow fall wheat? A. I am experimenting with fall wheat. It has been tried and has been pronounced a failure, on account of our changeable winters.

Q. Has the factory system grown up with you? A. Cheese factories have, but not butter. I do not think there is a butter factory in the Province.

Q. Are there no creameries? A. There are no creameries, but the people of Colchester have gone into a large milk condensing business, which has absorbed the milk of the district to such an extent that it has rather paralyzed one or two cheese factories.

Q. Would the appointment of a public analyst, to whom samples of soil and of home manufactured and imported fertilizers might be submitted prove of advantage to our farmers? A. Yes, it would be within reach, so that the samples might be sent him and information be promptly furnished in regard to them.

Q. What do you think of establishing an experimental farm or garden, where varieties of foreign grain, fruit trees and fertilizers might be tested and whence such seeds, plants, etc., might be distributed throughout the Dominion; would it be advisable? A. The climate conditions are so dissimilar that experiments made in the drier atmosphere and steady winter of Ontario would be of comparatively small value to the Lower Provinces, but experiments conducted where the

conditions of season, temperature and rainfall are similar to those encountered by our farmers would be of very great value. Our farmers are now more or less engaged in experiments, but the labour is largely thrown away, as they have not the scientific knowledge to work out these satisfactorily, and they often arrive at wrong conclusions.

Q. Where is your nearest quarantine station? A. At Quebec. We have none in the Maritime Provinces at all. If we wish to import an animal from Liverpool, we must bring it around by Quebec; if from Boston, we have to go round by Sarnia.

Q. Have you any agricultural schools in your Province? A. We have not, but we very much desire to have one.

Q. You believe it would help agriculture very much? A. I think your proposition for an experimental station should be associated with an agricultural college.

Q. I think one objection to experimental farming being engaged in by ordinary farmers, is that it is expensive. A. Yes, and they have not time amidst the hurry of seeding and harvesting operations to attend to experimental work properly.

Q. I presume there would be no money in them at all, that is, the revenue to arts institutions is generally provided from outside sources. A. I think so; but still we suggested that the agricultural part of the college should receive assistance from the Government, but they might be associated with existing colleges so as to take advantage of their machinery, in the shape of lecture rooms, buildings and staff.

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On Easter morn we throw aside the gloom and austerities of Lent to rejoice in a risen Saviour. It would seem to be more in accordance with the spirit of the Gospel of the grace of God that we should always be called upon to rejoice, and even to triumph in Christ, seeing that He ever liveth to make intercession for us.

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We have no more sympathy with the dolorous reproduction on Good Friday of what was done on Calvary than we have with the putting of ashes on the face on Ash Wednesday and the assuming of an unwonted gravity and abstinence from certain articles of food at such times.

There is perhaps less objection to the observance of Easter. The resurrection of Christ is a theme we must ever bear in mind. Yet it seems intended that we shall have this before us every Lord's Day.

REV. DR. CASTLE has written us inviting our attention to a letter from Senator McMaster in the Canadian Baptist and thinks it might do good if transferred to the MESSENGER.

Dear Sir,—The views expressed by certain of your correspondents with reference to our denominational institutions will doubtless attract attention, and perhaps be dealt with by those who have long taken an active interest in their management.

TORONTO BAPTIST COLLEGE.

Dear Sir,—The views expressed by certain of your correspondents with reference to our denominational institutions will doubtless attract attention, and perhaps be dealt with by those who have long taken an active interest in their management.

They seem to think that this is a difficulty for Baptists to get over, whereas it is evident from the very words used that the original idea taught respecting the ordinance is, that it is an immersion of the body in water, seeing that it says "baptize ye in" living water, and "into other water," &c.

We expressed our strong doubts from the first as to the genuineness of this famous manuscript. Dr. Armitage, we find in the last New York Examiner, asks the question, "Is the newly-found MS. genuine?"

Chief and among these objects I may mention that every safeguard should be provided to prevent the means about to be furnished for the erection of the college, as well as those intended to be given as an endowment,

being used at any future time for the propagation of any other than the distinctive principles of the Regular Baptists. Second, that there should be no risk or complication as to the title of the college in any property it might become possessed of, no question as to the validity of its acts, and no room for disputes, either legal or denominational, as to the mode of filling vacancies in the controlling body.

FROM INDIA. The following brief extracts of letters from India, received by the Secretary of the N. S. C. B. W. M. A. Societies, will be interesting to many of our readers: (FROM MRS. HUTCHINSON.)

CHICAGO, Feb. 6th, 1884. "My dear Mrs. Selden,—Since last writing to you we have been to Cocanada, to attend our annual Conference. All the Missionaries on the field were present for the first time.

(FROM MRS. ARCHIBALD.) BIMPATAM, INDIA, Jan. 1, 1884. We returned from Kyalasa the latter part of November, and took up our work as usual.

SOME of our Pedit-Baptist friends are greatly enjoying the recently-discovered "Teaching of the Twelve Apostles," so-called, more particularly the part respecting Baptism: "Baptize ye into the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, in living water.

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"Then by canal and steamer we made our way to Bimbi, and reached home in safety last Tuesday. We are preparing to get away to Bobbili next week, where we hope to settle down to hard, steady work."

Mr. R. M. KING, Inspector of Weights and Measures, has been confined to his house a week by erysipelas, but is now convalescent.

NOVA SCOTIA LEGISLATURE.

The question of whether the deposit of £52,000 made by Baring Brothers & Co. of London in reference to the agreement of the Syndicate to complete the Nova Scotia Railways shall be returned to them, was up for discussion on Thursday last, in the afternoon and evening.

On Saturday afternoon the Hon. Provincial Secretary laid on the table the Estimate of Receipts and Expenditures for the current year. The following is a summary of the most important items:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Road advances (\$100,000), Advances to insane asylum, Due by counties to insane asylum, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Agriculture (12,500), Criminal prosecutions (2,500), Education (187,000), Crown land department, etc.

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Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Hantsport to Parrsboro (\$2,000), Yarmouth to Westport and return, Hantsport to Westport and return, etc.