

For the Christian Messenger.

College Agency.

LETTER FROM REV. A. D. THOMPSON.

DEAR BROTHER,

Before this reaches you, you will be expecting to see me in Halifax, which will not be the case at present, as the friends of the Institution here advise me to repair to Wolfville to meet the Governors of the College on the 8th, and report.

I consider that I have succeeded even better here than at Yarmouth. I have received more value in endowment notes, and considerable more in ready money which is a very handy thing these hard times.

The churches here both in Liverpool and Milton are receiving refreshings. Bro. Higgins baptized his first candidate to-day, under very favourable circumstances. He lives in the affections and prayers of his people, and is justly esteemed by all who know him in this region.

Brother Martell has had the Quarterly Meeting in his house of worship, and among his people it has resulted most favourably. He baptized six happy converts to-day and I judge he will have more of the same work to do ere long. He is labouring faithfully and untiringly in the good cause.

As I do not know what course I shall take from Horton, I cannot say when I shall meet you in the capital.

ADAM D. THOMPSON.

Milton Liverpool Oct. 4th, '57

For the Christian Messenger.

Letter from Milton.

COLLEGE AGENCY—REVIVAL OF RELIGION.

DEAR BROTHER,

Your numerous readers will be anxious to know how Mr. Thomson is succeeding with his agency for Acadia College, in this county. I am happy to be able to state that if every community would respond to his earnest and touching appeals as they have in Liverpool, Acadia College would not have to walk upon crutches very long. The Baptist who can withstand his touching appeals in behalf of the College, must be in anything but an amiable position or state of mind.

If Bro. Thomson's invaluable services could have been obtained before, I think the College would have been in a different condition now. Yet even now I feel that the object of his agency will be accomplished; but it may require a little longer time than is specified in the resolution of the Governors, as contained in the circulars just issued by Dr. Cramp. There is a great deal in having the right man in the right place. In this instance, at all events, we have succeeded; for brother Thomson is eminently qualified for the work of increasing the endowment of the College. His whole soul is in the work and he will succeed.

His warm-hearted sermons have been of great service here. The church seem to be coming up to duty, and souls are beginning to inquire after salvation. I baptized six yesterday and am in strong hopes of a continuation of the work, and that many more precious souls will come forward and own their Saviour. My prayer to God is that sinners here might be saved. "O that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion." There was baptizing at Liverpool town yesterday too, also at Port Medway and Caledonia. May the Lord revive his work in all his churches!

Yours &c.,

A. MARTELL.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, OCTOBER 14, 1857.

OUR Indian news by the last English mail brings the accounts from that country down to about the 10th of August. Prospects there are still gloomy and uncertain, although troops were dropping in from different quarters. It would, however, be a month later, or about the beginning of September, before the bulk of the English regiments would begin to pour in. Delhi still held out. Indeed, the English force, nominally, carrying on the siege, were obliged to remain stationary, except when attacked in their intrenchments by the hosts of the mutineers, with which the City was thronged. Whenever this was the case the Sepoys had been repulsed with great loss, but the British had also suffered pretty severely by approaching too near the ramparts, which are mounted with numerous heavy cannon, well served by the native Artillery. Rein-

forcements were approaching from the Punjab under Gen. Nicolson, and it was said that on their arrival there was a probability of an assault on Delhi by the 15th of August.

Gen. Havelock, who was marching with a small force to the relief of the British Garrison in Lucknow, had been compelled from sickness in his army, and the numbers of wounded in repeated engagements, to make a backward movement towards Cawnpore.—It was reported, however, that after providing for his sick and receiving reinforcements he was again advancing on Lucknow.

Great agitation had prevailed in Calcutta owing to the continued discovery of new plots, and the disturbed state of several of the large Cities up the Ganges. Indeed the whole range of Country for a distance of upwards of a thousand miles from Calcutta to the Punjab, is in a state of disturbance and trepidation.

Lord Elgin had returned from Hong Kong to Calcutta with several Regiments which had been sent on with him from India for the Chinese war.

Many of the English papers are very severe upon what they designate the imbecility and vacillation of the Indian Government and Lord Canning, in dealing with the Insurgents. There seems very little doubt but that if a little more energy had been used in the first instance, and proper precautions resorted to, much of the horrible work that has been done might have been prevented. Notwithstanding loud and repeated warnings, the Indian Authorities, until the last moment, appear to have acted with the most unaccountable apathy. The heavy rains were still prevailing in India, and Cholera, to a considerable extent, was carrying off its victims.

Cholera has also made its appearance in several places in the North of Europe, especially in Sweden, where it is said to be very virulent and destructive.

It is said that the "Great Eastern," Steamer, would be launched at Blackwall about the 15th inst.

THE indignation and demand for revenge which was so loud and deep on the first outbreak of the Indian rebellion has been considerably modified of late as the revelations of tyranny and oppression on the part of the East India Company's Government have come to light.

Whilst we would not join in the anti-British cry of some who embrace every opportunity to undermine and weaken English authority, yet, we trust there will result from the knowledge of the past injustice more desire to enquire into the needed reform, and that a wise and christian system of legislation will succeed the restoration of order in that unfortunate country.

We forbear further reference to so painful a subject. The Calcutta merchants, with others, have sent home a petition to Parliament, the greater part of which is a history of sheer incapacity. The late Editor of *The Friend of India*, forbidden to state his views in India, returns, it appears, to England, in charge of the petition.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT does not allow the alliance into which he lately entered to diminish his letters on what is passing in the political and religious world either in length or piquancy. In addition to his resume on India, &c., he gives us an interesting sketch of the BERLIN CONFERENCES, which we allow to supercede an editorial we had prepared on the same subject.

THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

Berlin has been the scene of a most interesting Conference, of the above named body, having for its objects the assembly of Christians of all sects, "to spread brotherly love among all Protestants; to invigorate the churches of that faith; and to extend its truths throughout the world." There were representatives from America, Great Britain, France, Savoy, Switzerland, Holland, Bohemia, Hungary, Prussia, and the Baltic provinces of Russia. The Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel, and Sir Culling Eardley, represented England; M. Fiesch, well known in France, represented that country; Switzerland, sent Merle D' Aubigné, Historian of the Reformation. The American Ambassador at Berlin also took an active part in the proceedings.

The importance of such union at the present time has been well pointed out, to counterbalance the power of Rome on the Continent. In Galicia and Bohemia, Catholics are making bold attempts to regain lost powers. In France persecution is strong against Protestantism; the Roman and Austrian priesthood have entered into solemn league, by that infamous Con-

cordat which would re-establish middle-age superstition and bondage. It is therefore a fit time that Protestants should merge minor differences—meet the common foe; and, Lutherans, Baptists, or Episcopalians, join in that brotherhood of love, for common principles, which should be Christianity's strongest characteristic.

The King of Prussia is well known as a most ardent Protestant; and his sanction and patronage of the Congress are most gratifying. Rarely do crowned heads so recognize christian assemblies. His Majesty received the members in the gardens of his palace at Potsdam on the 11th inst. After addresses by the various sections, to which the King replied in English, French, and German, a hymn closed the first day's proceedings.

On the second day, the Court Chaplain hailed such a meeting as one of the most remarkable things Germany had seen. "Barriers that had separated christians for centuries had fallen, and they beheld the universal community of christian believers rising before their eyes." Other speakers followed, in the same strain; a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury was read; and then all the members went, by invitation, to the King, at Sans Souci.

Other proceedings intervened (which I have not space to record) bearing upon the general objects in view.

The Emperor of Russia, on his way to Darmstadt was at Charlottenburg on the 16th. In the morning he had been out to inspect some military manoeuvres, with the King of Prussia and a brilliant staff. The Emperor was about to start for Weimar, when a deputation from the European Committee arrived, desiring an audience of the Emperor. "The deputation consisted of a Church of England clergyman, an English layman, an American missionary at Athens, and Sir Culling Eardley's son, representing his father. Their object was to present to the Emperor a petition in German, French and English, requesting him to permit the Holy Scriptures to be printed again in modern Russ, and circulated in his dominions: in other words, to repeal the prohibition of the Scriptures in modern Russ which his father, the late Emperor Nicholas, had enacted. The request for an audience was kindly entertained by the Emperor, and the King, but the paucity of minutes left before starting to Weimar precluded its being granted; the Emperor, however, consented to receive the petition or memorial, if the deputation would hand it to the King's adjutant, which was done."

What room for speculation is there, as to the result, in idolatrous, enslaved Russia, of Bible circulation! The Greek Church—the varied races, worshipping gods as various—would indeed be bearded in their den. But there is little hope that the autocrat of 60 millions of slaves will let them be enlightened, and so worship HIM as a god no more.

The conferences were closed by a very eloquent speech from the Rev. Dr. Krummacher, preceded by a few words of acknowledgement for the kindly spirit displayed on all sides, and a prayer for a blessing on their endeavours, by the Dean of Canterbury. The King and Queen who came into town on purpose to be present, remained until the close of the proceedings, joining in the concluding hymn, which, according to German custom on festive occasions, was sung with an accompaniment of trombones. Lord Bloomfield was also present at this last sitting, as a private member of the meeting.

Said our Lord, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." This, it appears to be the object of the Alliance to exhibit.

Its 1500 members are composed of all sects; and unfortunately, every one knows how much uncharitableness such an expression sometimes involves. But, though Baptists and Lutherans would have jarred at that Conference, had either put prominently forward their points of difference, they wisely forbore to do so; and, while respectively retaining separate convictions on some points, they all united on the common ground of Protestantism.

"How good and how pleasant," such agreement of brethren! Rome would see it, and be discouraged: the infidel would lose his laugh: and—were the members not the better for it? will not the world also gain? Would it not be all the more as things should be, if there were more of such a spirit?

IRISH RIOTING.

Apropos of Romanism and Protestantism, there is at present great excitement at Belfast, through a Rev. Mr. Hanna insisting on his right as a Protestant to hold out-door preaching. The

* By the vast mass of Russia's peasantry, the Czar is looked on, and worshipped, as a God.

Catholics, according to most accounts, have behaved moderately: but, to an Irishman, a row or a mob is as a puddle to a duck, and great fears were entertained lest some of the old faction-fight violence should be aroused; especially as firearms were collected. The civil authorities interfered; 2,000 soldiers were in readiness; and the police quietly dispersed the assemblies, though much excitement was general. Mr. Hanna, right or wrong as he may be in reality, appears to have no idea of EXPEDIENCY, or anything like christian meekness. Preach, he is allowed to do, by the authorities: preach, therefore, he will, though it rain brickbats, and lash mobs into madness.

Only about a year ago, some Ministers who went over for the same purpose, nearly lost their lives. The people would not hear them, and behaved as they used at Donnybrook Fair—that is fought anybody, for anything or nothing. There is, of course, the consideration, how far priestly influence maddens those who view their priests as the very gates of Paradise: and, priest-ridden as Ireland is, let Romanism take the credit for what she has made the people, in religious matters.

Acadia College.

We have much pleasure in laying before our readers the following letter, which, we are informed, has been sent to the Pastors and Deacons of the Baptist Churches throughout the Province. We are persuaded that it will meet with a very general response. Any lengthened remarks of ours by way of urging attention to the subject are quite unnecessary. It must be evident to all thinking and sensible christian people that nothing is of so much importance at the present crisis as a warm-hearted and generous support to an institution which has been the means of so much good, and is eminently adapted to convey yet more extensive blessings to the Province, and especially to the churches of our Lord and Master. The letters of Brethren Thomson and Martell, in another column, will show that the subject is receiving attention in the places already visited by the Agent appointed by the Governors. Surely the promise of the Saviour in Matthew xix. 29, may be very properly applied to this case as well as in reference to sustaining other gospel institutions. We trust its fulfilment may be experienced by many who have been blessed with "possessions" in this life.

ACADIA COLLEGE, Oct. 1st, 1857.

DEAR BRETHREN:—I am directed by the Board of Governors to transmit to you a copy of a Resolution passed at the Annual meeting of the Board, held at Yarmouth on the 22nd. ult. It is as follows:—

"Resolved, that the following plan be adopted to raise the annual income of Acadia College to Nine Hundred pounds, viz That district meetings be appointed at the most prominent points in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward's Island, to co-operate with the General Agent, and that the pastors and leading brethren of the Churches, be requested to attend these meetings, and use their best efforts to accomplish this important object. It is further understood that in case these extra efforts do not succeed in raising the necessary funds by the expiration of six months that the Governors of Acadia College will reduce the expenditure to the amount of probable income."

The Board of Governors earnestly solicit your co-operation in this movement. Should your valuable aid be obtained, it cannot be doubted that the brethren generally will respond to the appeal. The Board trust that you will exert your influence in favour of the proposed district meetings, so that our esteemed brother, the Agent, may have the opportunity of stating the case of the College, and of presenting such explanations and arguments as may tend to secure united action. And it is hoped that you will accompany our brother to the meetings in your vicinity, and in every way encourage him in the work.

Brother Thomson is instructed to collect outstanding notes, with the interest due on them,—to procure additional subscriptions to the endowment, the annual interest on the same being payable in advance,—and to obtain donations towards the income of the College, of any sums, small or large, which the donors may be willing to contribute to the object. By thus laboring to engage the sympathies of all classes, and affording to all an opportunity of assisting the Institution, it is confidently expected that our brother will succeed, and that ample provision will be made for the wants of Acadia College.

The Board cannot but contemplate the alternative placed before them in the above cited resolution with very anxious feelings. They are very desirous of establishing additional professorships, which have been urgently needed for some time past, and are in fact essential to the thorough efficiency of the College. But if they should be compelled to adopt a reduced rate of expenditure, this important measure cannot be carried into effect, and in consequence the reputation of the Institution will be injuriously affected. Ought we not to strain every nerve to prevent such a result? Ought we not to do all in our power to maintain the high position which the College has now acquired, and to keep pace with the progressiveness of the age?