

rather to have been his to exhibit the christianity he preached in its loving, yielding, gentler aspects. His keenly sympathetic nature often exposed him, no doubt, to the intrigues of the designing and base, but it also gave him a warm place in the affections of all the worthy who knew him, as was abundantly manifest in the regretful words which accompanied every notice of his departure, and the powerful impulse which drew out to his funeral one of the largest assemblies ever convened on such an occasion in Toronto. His memory is fragrant and blessed.

Letter is already long. Let me in closing add a word in respect to weather and crops in Ontario. The season has been a most rainy known for years. Instead of the long continued drought we so often have in July, we have rain upon rain, torrent upon torrent, until in low places the water stands often in pools. The local papers all speak hopefully of the crops, though they cannot, I fear, but be seriously affected upon the lower lands. The hay crop is good but the securing of it has been very difficult.

Some districts have been visited by severe storms. We in Woodstock had one a few weeks ago, that was a hail-storm. It came upon Sabbath evening and lasted for about fifteen or twenty minutes. It was accompanied or rather hustled forward, by a terrific tornado. The hailstones proper, i. e., the globular ones, were near the size of marbles, at the greater portion of the falling substance came in the shape of large lumps of solid ice of irregular shape, and varying in size from that of a hen's egg downwards. The effect upon crops and windows may be imagined. Within the range, happily very limited, of the storm, scarcely a green thing was left. Potatoes, corn, grain, grass and every other thing were cut down more closely than could have been done with a scythe and almost as completely. Trees were stripped of foliage and growing fruit, and the younger ones in many instances, almost entirely denuded of bark upon the windward side. Thousands of dollars worth were lost on farms, gardens and nurseries. The demand for glass and glaziers next day was great. Scarcely a house in town, not protected by closed shutters, escaped with a loss of less than from 40 to 100 pence. The Institute had upwards of 700 to replace at a cost of not less than \$100. Thirteen missiles came hurtling through the rooms, in some instances breaking dishes upon tables, and driving frightened inmates to seek refuge in halls and closets. Many thought the last day had come. A neighbour who was confessedly greatly terrified by this view of the case, had his fears pattered by a rather amusing diversion. In the midst of his consternation he glanced from the window and his eyes involuntarily rested upon a scene without. Near by stood a trembling cow, shrinkingly enduring the pitiless pelting of the storm. By her side was a poor old woman who, overpowered either by sympathy for the suffering animal, or fear for the loss of her property, stood in utter forgetfulness and abnegation of self, vainly striving, by the poor aid of her umbrella, to protect her suffering milk-giver, from the fierce bombardment. Seen through the terrific storm it was a picture for the pencil of a Hogarth. Its effect upon the risibles of my friend was irresistible and his terrors were speedily dissipated in a fit of laughter.

J. E. W.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, AUGUST 4, 1869.

REV. HENRY ALLEN'S HYMNS.

The hymns we sing have much to do with the character of our piety, our public worship and our social religious life.

The phraseology we employ in our public and social worship are the vehicle of our holy aspirations, and the medium by which we draw nigh to God. Changes have taken place from time to time in the hymnology of the church, according to its condition and the altered modes of thought and amount of religious feeling.

Many of our readers are familiar with the name of Henry Allen, one of the first preachers of the gospel in the western parts of this province. We have heard much of his labors, and know not how much many of the christian churches are indebted to him, or to the grace of God in him, for the warm, earnest piety existing in their aged members and some of their ministers. We remember hearing from a beloved minister, some years since removed to the better land, of some peculiar views held by

Mr. Allen; but did not know that they had ever been put in print, till, a few days since, being favored by Rev. Dr. Tupper with the loan of some fragments of a hymn-book used by Mr. A. we found these views expressed in quaint, forcible terms.

Mr. Allen, we believe, held very prominently the idea that the souls of all men were created at the beginning of the world, and were actually present at the time Adam was in the Garden of Eden, and there witnessed the temptation and fall of our first parents, and assented to the act of the progenitor of their bodies. That they "fell, in him" was more than a consequence of their relationship to him.

Their actual consent and agreement in Adam's sin rendered all equally guilty by actual transgression. The following is one of his hymns. The stanzas appear to teach this doctrine:

"No more we'll talk of Adam's sin
Imputed to his sons,
Since all the numerous race have been
Once active in his loins."

Once they were all in Eden too,
To stand or fall of choice,
And all that Adam did or knew
Was all his children's voice.

Freely they acted all as one,
And struck the fatal blow,
What Adam did they all have done,
Thus all were plunged in woe.

One man an actor was not made
For uncreated men,
But breath of lives in him were laid,
The countless millions in.

O God forgive the unhappy crew,
Repair the fatal stroke,
The second Adam can renew,
What the first Adam broke."

Many of these hymns are full of heart-stirring appeals and often of lively evangelical piety. There is much of quaintness in many of the expressions, which probably would convey more thought and religious sentiment to those accustomed to the new-light teaching and the experience of his day than of these more quiet times. The following is a highly expressive stanza, but not in such terms as we should now choose for religious worship:

"Awake, arise ye carnal souls;
No longer waste your breath,
In carnal joys and sensual bowls,
So near eternal death."

We cannot say much for the rhyme of the following; although the warning is as true as if the words had the most musical jingle:

"Ye little think those hours you spend
In laughter and in mirth,
Will bring all pleasures to an end
And close in endless death."

A large portion of the hymns are of a most sorrowful type—longing for fuller manifestations of Divine love. Here is a specimen:

"A guilty starving wretch I be
Wasting my days without the Lord,
No happiness on earth I see,
Nor can I find immortal food."

Here is another:

"Lord how unhappy is my state,
Not knowing if in thee or no,
My hopes are small, my fears are great,
And thus I wade through seas of woe."

Here is another:

"O wretched soul! I now begin,
I feel my woful case,
Ah! wretch! what days I've spent in sin,
Rejecting God's free grace!"

My precious days are almost gone
In the broad road to death,
And now which way can I return,
In my declining breath?

So long with sinners I have trod,
And disregarded heaven,
How can I think to call on God,
Or seek to be forgiven?

Yet if I here remain I die,
And surely sink to hell,
Therefore I am resolved to try
While there's a who can tell."

Whether this last line refers to the mysteries of the future, or to the fact that mercy is now offered by God's ministers is not very clear. The same hymn proceeds:

"They say his mercy yet is free
To all that will return,
It surely then would reach to me,
If unbelief were gone."

'Tis now with me the latest hour,
And I in darkness dwell,
O Jesus manifest thy power,
Or soon I sink to hell."

Like Mr. Allen's preaching, many of his hymns bring out the condition of the sinner with much power. His state is set forth in a most vivid light and we can imagine how pungent under such addresses would be the convictions of persons who had not been accustomed to have the gospel in its spiritual character and experimental power presented to their hearts and consciences.

Here is "a call to the careless," having much point and vividness.

"Why will ye die O wretched men,
And choose the way to hell?
Jehovah offers you a crown,
And you with him may dwell."

Why will you hug your cruel chains,
And load your souls with guilt,
Jesus has come to bear your pains,
For you his blood was spilt."

We cannot forbear taking a few stanzas from a hymn entitled, "The world held up by God's incarnation:"

"When Paradise was sunk by sin,
Swift ruin must ensue
That instant, had not God step'd in,
The rage for to subdue."

But God that hour incarnate came,
And in his love appear'd;
And thus became a slaughter'd Lamb,
That man might be restor'd."

All those are sav'd that hear the call,
And let the Saviour in;
While they that will reject must fall
In their own hell and sin."

And when four thousand years were past
This God to bleed and die,
Assumes a body of the dust,
And 'ppears to mortal eye."

Press'd as a cart is press'd with sheaves,
Behold the Saviour dies!
And soon triumphantly he leaves,
The grave and mounts the skies."

We copy the following from the *Journal of Education*. The proposal is a highly appropriate; one and will doubtless commend itself to the Teachers throughout the province, and meet with a ready response from them.

A MEMORIAL STONE.—The labours by which the late Dr. Forrester became most widely identified with the public interests of his adopted country were rendered in connection with our Common School. The Teachers of Nova Scotia can not repay the laborious discharge of duties undertaken by him in their behalf, but we trust they will claim the privilege of marking their esteem and gratitude for the great services which he rendered, not only to the cause of popular education, but especially to the teaching profession throughout the length and breadth of Nova Scotia. By his instructions at Truro, by his labours on the platform, by his pen as editor of the "Journal of Education and Agriculture," and as author of the "Teacher's Text Book," all the members of the profession have been largely benefitted. It seems to us that no more fitting public testimonial could be provided than the erection of a memorial stone in the Cemetery at Truro. We think that it is only necessary to suggest this to the teachers of Nova Scotia, in order to secure a suitable memorial. We are sure that each Inspector will be pleased to receive the subscriptions of the Teachers in his country. A dollar from each Teacher in the Province would, we think, be sufficient. The value of a such a memorial would be greatly enhanced if all the Teachers contributed something towards it, however small the amount. We would suggest that those teachers who desire to contribute to this object, should hand their subscriptions to the Inspector as early as possible, in order that when the Educational Association meets at Christmas, the total amount may be known, and measures at once adopted to secure the erection of the memorial. A list of the subscribers will be duly published in the "Journal."

One of the leading characteristics of education at the present day, as compared with former times, is its aim at the practical rather than at that which is merely theoretical or unsubstantial. The School now takes cognizance of the progressive spirit of the age and aims to prepare its youthful occupants to enter upon the active duties of life, and become useful members of society, as well as scholars. A good article in a late issue of the *Journal of Education*, on "How plants grow," entitled "Practical Education," concludes as follows:

"One of the most direct means of ensuring the prosperity of any department of human industry is to enoble and dignify that industry by elevating it into the realm of thought, and study and science. Surely it is not too much to expect from our Public Schools that they will by the impartation of sound practical knowledge, do much to check that superficial dignity which in the choice of a profession, leaves so many to pass by the noble employments of the farmer and the artisan. But if lessons on subjects lying at the very foundations of these branches of industry are to be studiously avoided in the School room, and the attention of the young wholly devoted to abstract studies, we are casting away practical means which might be used to secure the prosperity of the people. Once let the young clearly see that every lawful occupation to be truly successful must be carried on in conformity with laws and principles inflexibly established by the Author of all knowledge, that these laws and principles can be searched out and reduced to a science, and we have done more to dignify labour and to enlist the energies of cultivated minds in some one department of its service, than can be effected in any other way."

We commend to our readers the following from our cotemporary the *Ch. Visitor*, and trust that the brethren may come to us

under the influence of that spirit, to consult and determine on the matters relating to kingdom of Christ, at home and abroad.

"THE APPROACHING CONVENTION at Halifax calls for devout supplication before the mercy seat. The Baptist Associations, and Educational and Missionary Societies of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and P. E. Island, are embraced in this Convention. We contemplate a large representation of the wisdom, talent, piety and wealth of the denomination. Much good ought to be done."

Notices, &c.

Baptist Convention.

We have been requested to publish the following list of the Delegates who have intimated their intention of being present at the Baptist Convention with the places to which they have been designated: Armstrong, W. H., at James Jackson's 1234 Spring Garden Road. Bacon, Charles, at Whitney T. Harris, 115 North Park Street. Balcom, Rev. Jas. E. and wife, at Alex. Robinson, 27 Hurd's Lane. Beckwith, Mayhew and wife, at R. N. Beckwith, 95 Dresden Row. Chase, Rev. John, at T. H. Rand, Dartmouth. Cramp, Rev. Dr., at S. Selden, 61 Granville St. Crawley, Rev. A. R. R., at J. W. Nutting, 69 Morris Street. Davis, Rev. John, at W. C. Moir, Morris St. Day, Rev. George E. and wife, at David Thompson, 55 Gittingen St. Dobson, N. H., at W. L. Evans, Dartmouth. Freeman, Rev. D. and wife, at Alex. Robinson, 27 Hurd's Lane. Freeman, Rev. M. P. and wife, William Ackhurst, Victoria Road. Gates, Rev. L. B., at J. W. Ruhland, 17 Hollis St. Hall, Rev. W. E. and wife, at Wiley Smith, 16 Church St. Harley, Rev. Timothy, at T. G. Budd, 25 South St. Jones, Prof. R. V., at Hon. Dr. Parker, Dartmouth. Kempton, Rev. J. F. and wife, at L. S. Payzant, Dartmouth. Murray, Rev. Joseph, at J. F. L. Parsons, 28 Albion Street. Parker, Rev. James and wife, at Asabel Bligh, 17 Buckingham St. Parker, Rev. D. O., at H. N. Paint, 4 Annandale Street. Parker, Edward, at Geo. Woodworth, 190 Lockman St. Pince, A. A., at H. N. Paint, 4 Annandale St. Porter, William A., at George Wiswell, 5 Bayer Street. Rand, Rev. S. T., at Miss Vase, 5 Morris St. Read, Rev. E. O., at Rev. J. E. Goucher, 28 Albion Street. Richan, Rev. W. H., at Captain Wood, 1 Blower St. Sawyer, Rev. A. W., at Hon. Dr. Parker, Dartmouth. Shaw, William, at W. C. Moir, Morris St. Skinner, Rev. I. J. and wife, at Rev. E. M. Saunders, 15 Birmingham St. Wallace, Rev. Isiah, at Patrick Crowe, 38 Albion Street. Welton, Rev. D. M., at T. G. Budd, 25 South St.

THE BAPTIST CONVENTION OF NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND will hold its Twenty-fourth Annual Session with the Granville Street Church, Halifax, commencing at 2 o'clock, P. M., on Saturday, the 21st day of August, 1869.

NOVA SCOTIA WESTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, at Hebron, Yarmouth County, on Saturday, the 25th day of September, at 10 o'clock, A. M. The Associational Sermon by Rev. A. H. Munro; alternate, Rev. J. C. Morse. The Circular Letter by Rev. I. Wallace.

FREE TICKETS to return on the Railways will be given to Delegates attending any of the Religious Anniversaries.

Mr. Fishwick has consented to bring Delegates to the Convention from the places at which his steam-er the *M. A. Starr* calls, and take them back again for one fare and a half.

Letters Received.

Rev. I. Wallace, 1 sub. M. Atkinson, \$4.50. Rev. J. F. Tooker. W. Churchill, Esq. W. T. Waterman, \$5, 1 sub.—The account was \$3.37. Isa. Thurber, Esq., 1 sub. Rev. E. O. Read. A. Johnson, (2). Rev. W. L. Parker. M. R. Eaton. Rev. Dr. Tupper, (2), \$4. Rev. T. Harley. A. Thompson, \$5. W. J. Gates. J. McLeeran, Esq. F. Denton. Rev. E. Hickson, \$4. F. I. Hale, \$1. N. Taylor. W. Frizzle. Isaac Shaw, \$4. Rev. O. Chute. Rev. J. Davis. N. Miller, 1 sub.

HORTON ACADEMY.

THE FIRST TERM will commence August 2nd and end Dec. 29th.

Rev. T. A. Higgins, A. M., Principal. Rufus Sanford, A. B., Assistant.

Teacher of French. Mrs. Alfred Fisk, Matron. Tuition Fees \$3 to \$5.50 per quarter. French \$2 extra.

Board, washing, and care of rooms, \$2.25 per week. Room rent, \$1 per quarter. Boarders furnish bedding, light and fuel for their own rooms.

Bills payable quarterly in advance. When payment is delayed the charges will be higher in proportion to the time. July 14. tf.

BOARDING HOUSE.

THE Subscribers beg to say they have removed from No. 93 Cornwallis St., to that new and pleasantly situated house, No. 12 JACOB STREET. Thankful for past favors they hope by strict attention to business to merit a share of public patronage in future.

Permanent and Transient Boarders accommodated on reasonable terms. Remember the place, No. 12 Jacob Street, nearly opposite Argyle Street.

WINDSOR HOUSE, HALIFAX, N. S. Miss CAMPBELL BACON, Proprietress. July 14. 3m.