

For the Christian Messenger.

## THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA AND ACADIA COLLEGE.

Dear Sir,—

The Charter of Acadia College empowers its Governors and Fellows to confer literary degrees. At the last session of the Local Legislature, a member of the Government introduced a bill designed to take away this power from Acadia and other existing Colleges, and vest it exclusively in the Senate of a Provincial University.

The 93rd Sec. of the British North America Act, 1867, provides as follows:—

"In and for each province the Legislature may exclusively make laws in relation to Education, subject and according to the following provisions:—(1). Nothing in any such law shall prejudicially affect any right or privilege with respect to denominational schools which any class of persons have by law in the province at the Union," &c. The italics are mine.

Now a "denominational school" is one controlled by a denomination. Acadia College is controlled by the Baptist denomination. The rights and privileges of the Governors and Fellows of this College, therefore, with respect (among other things) to the granting of degrees, cannot be taken away from them by our Local Legislature; but are secured to them for all time by the Act of Union. Any Act which our Legislature may pass with a view of depriving Acadia College of any of its chartered rights or privileges, will be, in this respect, *ultra vires*,—simply waste paper.

I have ventured to make the above statements after consultation with several eminent lawyers, each of whom entirely concurs with the view above set forth.

Let the Baptist denomination come forward and generously endow this institution the rights and privileges of which are secured to them beyond the power of the *Journal of Education*, or the Council of Public Instruction, or the Local Legislature, to impair or destroy. Let us shew ourselves abundantly worthy of our rights and privileges.

OUTIS.

## The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., October 23, 1872.

The following note from Rev. W. S. McKENZIE, although not written specially for publication, yet, as our brother has occupied the important position of Secretary to our Foreign Mission Board, and as it gives us his own views and feelings on leaving the Province, and it is due to him and our brethren that they should hear from him, we therefore publish it for the information of our readers generally:

SAINT JOHN, 17th October, 1872.

Dear Brother Selden,—

Your kind and appreciative notice in this week's issue of the *Messenger*, respecting my few and feeble efforts to promote, with my loved brethren in these Provinces, our various denominational projects, calls for my thanks. And though very much pressed with preparations for moving from Saint John to Boston, I must pause and communicate in a few hurried lines my grateful recognition of the good feeling you have publicly expressed. I have been deeply interested in all the movements that contemplate the progress of our Educational and Missionary enterprises, and never felt more anxiously concerned for these matters than I do at this very moment. This step I am about to take may not seem to some to be entirely consonant with that declaration. But to my fallible judgment duty appears to call, and I must obey. My whole heart is wrapt up in every thing relating to the grand work of *Foreign Missions*, and now the way is opened to me, most unexpectedly, and with no seeking of mine, to give my time and strength exclusively to a branch of labor in that department of christian effort. I quit the pastorate, but not the pulpit. The church I am leaving for a new and different field of labor is loved by me as I never expect to love another. No pastor, in these Provinces at least, ever had more and stronger reasons for being attached to his people than I have for being attached to the Leinster Street Church. For over five years that I have been with them we have lived and labored together in entire harmony. They have patiently and affectionately borne with my many short comings, and manifested an interest in my labors such as my labors have not deserved. And I venture to say that no pastor was ever blessed with a

nobler band of deacons than those to be found in the Church which I have very imperfectly served as pastor in this city. For good judgment, for kindness and courtesy, for fidelity to the welfare of the Church, and for constancy in sympathizing with and in encouraging the pastor, they have few equals—I love these men, and this church, and though I am to be sundered from them, I cannot be severed in affection. May the Lord speedily and more fully fill the place that I have been poorly occupying. I have been several times tempted, by no fault of mine, nor by any fault of my dear Church, but by inducements, as they are considered, to make a change, but I have felt and said that nothing but the most unmistakable indication of the divine will could lead me to leave this church for another. But I need not praise this praiseworthy people to you, for you know them, and know them to be all I say they are.

I do feel sad, very sad, in parting with my dear brethren in the ministry of these Provinces. My associations and labors with them have greatly endeared them to my heart. In a few, very few things we have not entirely agreed, but we have had no disagreements that created strife and division between us. May the Lord abundantly bless my brethren in the ministry.

For Acadia College I have no words that will express my interest. I do wish that New Brunswick Baptists would come forward more promptly, unitedly and vigorously to its support and prosperity.

But I must check this writing. I had only intended to thank you for your word of appreciation, and to ask you to direct the *Messenger*, after next week, to 12 Bedford St., Boston, BAPTIST MISSION HOUSE.

Yours cordially,  
W. S. McKENZIE.

The following report of a meeting of the Foreign Missionary Board held on Monday the 14th instant, is just received:

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOREIGN MISSIONARY BOARD.

Saint John, N. B. Oct. 14, 1872.

The Foreign Missionary Board met this evening in the Committee Room of the Brussels Street Church at 7.30 o'clock. Members present: Hon. A. McL. Seelye, Chairman; Rev. W. S. McKenzie, Secretary; Z. G. Gabel, Esq., Treasurer; Revs. G. M. W. Carey, W. Everett; and W. B. Boggs; and A. W. Masters, Esq. Rev. E. Hickson being present, was invited to a seat with the Board. Prayer by Rev. G. M. W. Carey.

The board, in accordance with a recommendation from the N. S. and N. B. Central Boards of W. M. A. Societies, ordered an appropriation of fifty dollars, from the funds contributed by those Societies, to assist Miss Norris in replacing the books lost by her in their transmission to Burmah.

Rev. W. S. McKenzie being about to remove from the Province, tendered his resignation as Secretary of the Board, which was accepted.

The following Resolution was moved by Rev. G. M. W. Carey, seconded by Rev. W. Everett, and passed unanimously.

*Resolved*, That this Board, having accepted with deep regret, the resignation of their Secretary—Rev. W. S. McKenzie—do hereby express their appreciation of his invaluable official services, and their desire that he may be abundantly useful and happy in the sphere of labor to which in the Providence of God he is called.

Rev. W. B. Boggs was appointed Secretary in the place of Bro. McKenzie.

*Resolved*, That the action of the Board at its last meeting, in the appointment of auditors of the F. M. accounts, be reconsidered—the auditors then appointed being members of the Board.

On motion—that appointment was rescinded and V. Graves and J. F. Masters, Esqs., were appointed auditors of the accounts of the Board.

The Board ordered the payment, to Rev. W. S. McKenzie, of \$121, expended by him for stationery, postage, &c.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer be authorized to remit to Miss Norris, \$200, and to Miss DeWolf, \$200—being salary for the half year.

The Committee appointed to prepare bye laws for the Board reported. Revs. G. M. W. Carey, and W. Everett were added to the Committee.

Voted to adjourn till the second Monday evening in November. Prayer by Rev. W. Everett.

W. B. Boggs, Sec'y.

The following letter from the Secretary will speak for itself:—

## TO THE FRIENDS OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Dear Brethren and Sisters,—By our action in reference to Foreign Missions within the last two years we are committed to a great undertaking. The establishment and successful carrying forward of an Independent Mission will be a work requiring all the wisdom, resources, and persistent zeal that can be applied to it. It is therefore very desirable that we should adopt such plans and methods of working as will be most likely with God's blessing

to ensure success, and seek to rectify anything in our present methods which might interfere with the great work before us.

We would not say a word to check in the slightest degree the growing zeal manifested in our Foreign Missionary enterprise, but rather seek to stimulate that zeal; but if at the same time it can be wisely directed, the prospect of success in our Independent Mission will be still more hopeful.

Now it is questionable whether the designation of various small sums of money to particular objects is wise, or well adapted to accomplish the greatest good. Such designations are liable in many cases to be injudicious, unless the donors are in possession of precise and full information in reference to the objects of their benevolence. For example, amounts are frequently sent to the Treasurer with the request that they shall be appropriated to the support of orphan children in Burmah. These contributions have doubtless been called forth by a letter from Miss DeWolf, written in August, 1871, in which she speaks of two or three orphans left to the care of missionaries. Now we do not know whether the support of these orphans has been fully provided for, or whether any further help is required. And would it not be well, before further designating various small sums in such an indefinite way, to ascertain whether any more funds are needed for the object, and if any, the exact amount.

Again, sums are often designated for "the schools," under the superintendence of our missionaries. Before such appropriations are made, it is very desirable to know whether those schools require assistance, and what amount is needed—and whether the monies devoted to this object might not be more advantageously appropriated to the general purposes of our prospective mission. An extract from a letter from Miss Norris in the *Christian Messenger* of Dec. 27th 1871, will make our meaning clearer. She says:

"One word more, one of your Societies has sent me a special donation to be appropriated for school purposes as I thought best. I would rather my sisters would not send me money in this way; gather all the funds you can and place them in the hands of your Board, to be appropriated as the needs of the field require, but do not send funds to be appropriated in some certain way, and to accumulate uselessly, or be spent needlessly. I will let you know when I see real need, and then I have perfect confidence in the Board to supply it if practicable; but please do not send me out any money I have not applied for. Look at the first article in the *Macedonian* for June 1870, if you want to know what special donations amount to in Burmah. Have sufficient confidence in your Board to allow them to control your funds as they are advised by those whom you send out. I think this a matter of no small importance, and hope you will be able to see it in its true light."

These words of sister Norris accord with the views generally expressed by missionaries, and with the idea which the American Baptist Missionary Union is endeavoring to impress upon the churches. The conviction is forcing itself upon those who possess the most thorough knowledge of mission work—that "specific donations" do not as a general thing accomplish the good which the donors expect, and that the same funds, if put into the general treasury and expended in sending out missionaries, or strengthening the positions already occupied, would produce vastly greater results.

The following is an extract from the *Macedonian* of January 1870.

"Donations designated by the donors for specific purposes are always cordially welcomed to the treasury, and sacredly set apart to the objects for which they are given. It is obvious however that the case might occur that by reason of such designation some objects within the sphere of our missionary work might sometimes receive undue help, leaving others of equal importance to want. It is generally safe and wise to leave the appropriation of monies to the Executive Committee who have the whole field before them, and whose aim is to apportion the funds with which they are entrusted according to the necessities and the hopefulness of each department of the work. A generous giver has just sent to the Treasurer his check for fifty dollars, accompanied by these words:—'I was going to particularize its designation, as I have my favorite missions, but on second thought I leave it to you.'"

The designation of funds to specific objects tends to complicate the accounts of the Treasurer to an extent that can scarcely be imagined by anyone who has not personal knowledge of these accounts.

We would not on any account discourage any of our brethren and sisters in their benevolent efforts; and while specific donations continue to come in the Board will seek to carry out strictly the wishes

of the donors. But at the same time we may say that, in the opinion of the Board, it would be much better if we could all adopt the broad and liberal principle of giving to "Our Foreign Mission," instead of to this or that particular object. And if all or almost all our funds were to come into the Treasury designated simply "for Foreign Missions," instead of being divided and subdivided into numerous small sums for different purposes, we would be laying a broader foundation for the great work to which we have put our hands. Besides, the Board having frequent and direct communication with the Foreign field, has the best opportunity of knowing the actual state, and of judging of the requirements of each department of the mission work.

We feel confident that our brethren and sisters throughout the Provinces will understand and appreciate the object of these remarks—that it is not to dictate to them, or control or check them—but simply to point out what seems to the Board the best way to promote the interests of the Missionary Cause.

W. B. Boggs,  
Sec'y of F. M. Board.

**CHURCH WORK.**—A communication in the *Church Chronicle*, informs its readers that Mrs. W. B. King, the wife of the Rector at Parrsboro', and Mrs. James Ratchford have opened a small store in the village of Parrsboro', the profits of which are to be devoted to Church purposes. These ladies state that:

"Our clear-headed Diocesan gave us his warm approval, accompanied with the substantial donation of forty dollars. The kindness of other friends of the Church increased the sum to eighty dollars, which was all we had in cash.

Messrs. W. & C. Silver generously advanced four hundred dollars in goods, Mr. O'Neil some crockery, and Mr. Kennedy of St. John a small stock of groceries. A large and well-fitted up store was given us, rent free, for six months, and we were our own clerks.

We commenced early in May, and the rapidity of our sales has convinced us that the store could take rank with any other in the village if we have the same supplies. We have not only paid for our original stock of groceries, but have twice replaced them in the six months. We have also paid for a large portion of the dry goods and crockery; but there is a quantity of both still on hand which will require time to realise the money for.

As we do not wish to incur additional obligations for the Full Stock of goods—which seems absolutely necessary to the keeping up the store—we confidently appeal to all Churchmen and Church women to aid us."

The reasons for this experiment in shopkeeping are given in a Circular appended to the letter of these ladies. They say:

"Our Parish is very large, and our Church people are the poorest in it. There is not a Church trader among the dozen stores in the thriving little village; consequently all the loose Church money finds its way into the pockets of other denominations.

Mrs. James Ratchford and myself, who have hitherto devoted our spare energies for all Church purposes to the getting up bazaars and tea meetings, fancy that we have arranged a plan for diverting this Church money into a more legitimate channel.

We propose opening a *Church Variety Store*, and being our own clerks, with the aid of those who cheerfully give us a portion of their time for love of the Church alone.

The profits of our sales are to be devoted entirely to Church purposes, the disposal of the money to be decided on by the Rector, Curate, and Churchwardens. Our store will be given us rent free, for a while has a most eligible site, and we hope in time to add to it a Refreshment Room.

To compete with our neighbors, we shall require groceries, a few Dry Goods, Crockery, Stationery, and the various small articles usually found in country stores.

We shall be obliged to get many of these on credit, but we intend to beg as much as we can; and if our Church friends would each spare us a little, which we by our exertions may in time double in value, it would enable Mrs. Ratchford and myself to accomplish our present object, which is, to aid in the erection of churches in the remote parts of the Parish; where the people are too poor to build for themselves."

We have quoted thus largely from this Circular to shew our readers the hearty earnestness of these ladies in their endeavours to serve the church. Their zeal is worthy of all praise. When the "Refreshment Room" is added it will be a sort of perpetual Bazaar and Tea-meeting which of course will be highly popular in all the country around.

We remember some time since to have conversed with a gentleman, (now a retired merchant) who advocated a plan something like this for sustaining Acadia College. He was fully

persuaded, if we remember correctly, that by one thousand pounds invested in business he could make enough to support the College. We thought the scheme somewhat visionary; but here we have two ladies actually proposing to build churches by doing a business commenced with a capital of eighty dollars. All success to them.

## TO THE WOMENS AID MISSION SOCIETIES.

The numerous friends of our dear Sister Miss Norris, especially those who contributed to the Box sent out to her last April, will be pleased to know that it arrived safely, and the contents in good condition.

Miss DeWolf we hear has also received hers, sent from the friends in N. B. The following extracts from Miss Norris's letter will we feel assured be acceptable to all the parties concerned.

M. R. S.

My dear Mrs. Selden,—

My box from home has arrived in good condition, and its contents have given unbounded satisfaction. Coming as it does, a gift from the dear friends at home, and full of tokens of remembrance here and there, it has given me renewed confidence in what I had no reason to doubt before, that we work together in the vineyard of the Lord—for those whose fingers have been busy for me, will not forget to pray, and when there is need will be ready to make other efforts as necessary for the Master's cause here.

The things you send me, are an ample supply for present need. "I have all things, and abound." The books have been an especial delight to me. To have so many new books out here was a rare treat, and the "Cyclopedia," and "Companion to the Bible" sent by the coloured Sabbath School at Truro, will be of essential service to me in my work. One thing that greatly enhanced the value of the books and other articles sent, was the names of the donors; if they could know how pleasant it is to be able to connect the gift with the giver, every one would take care to let this light shine on our darkness.

I know too that you are but the centre of a noble group of sisters, a strong band "to do whatsoever they find to do with their might." "They shall in no wise lose their reward."

I wish I had time to write, a little note at least, to all the contributors to my pleasure in the box.

Yours most affectionately,  
H. M. NORRIS.

We welcome again the BAPTIST QUARTERLY. The October number contains:—

1. Roger Williams as an Author, by Rev. S. L. Caldwell, D.D., Providence R. I.
2. The Three Systems of Belief in China, by Rev. Roswell C. Graves, Canton, China;
3. Homer and the Old Testament, by Rev. J. B. Hague, Hackensack, N. J.
4. The Themes and Methods of Apostolic Preaching, by Rev. A. W. Sawyer, D. D., Wolfville, N. S.
5. Dr. John Clarke, by Rev. C. E. Barrows, Newport, R. I.
6. Book notices.

We have received a copy of the CALENDAR OF KING'S COLLEGE for 1872-73 with its usual amount of information concerning that institution, comprised in a handsome pamphlet of 81 pages. Special prominence is given to the Civil Engineering school under Professor Oram. Dr. Stiefelwagen is again appointed to the chair of Modern Languages. The Governors state that there has been a marked improvement in the discipline of the College, during the past year or two, yet some changes are required in the buildings to facilitate the exercise of proper control.

It was a heathen proverb that "the gods help those who help themselves." A principle is involved in this maxim, which commends itself to christian people, no less than to the old heathen in their mythology. We congratulate our Sydney friends on the success which has attended their efforts to secure a home for their ministers as shown in the following note. The appeal it contains will approve itself to every christian heart, and we hope to hear that many benevolent friends have availed themselves of this opportunity of doing good to the household of faith.

## SYDNEY PARSONAGE.

Dear Editor,—Would that I could communicate the tidings of a precious revival of grace going on among us at the present time. I have not just now that pleasure. Yet am living and laboring in hope. Our prospects as a church and congregation are, I believe, slowly improving. One—a brother advanced in years, has at length reached satisfactory anchorage-ground, and followed his Lord in the beautiful ordinance of believers' baptism, casting in his lot with us.

Among our favorable and hopeful symptoms, is our recent purchase of a very old