

catechism. The man is urged to be baptized. The New Testament is now introduced, which the missionary exhorts him to read, as there he will find all instructions on the subject of baptism; and should he be satisfied, on his next call in about a month, he will administer the rite then and there. He calls. The convert is satisfied, and asks the privilege of baptism. The missionary, nothing loth, proceeds; obtains a basin, and asks the convert to fill it from the stream flowing at the bottom of his garden. The Indian, in surprise, asks what the basin is for; is told, 'the water therein is for; is for his baptism.' 'How is it done then?' inquires the astonished man. The missionary explains the *modus operandi* of sprinkling. Had not the man read the book he left? Yes, he had, and timidly suggested to his teacher that it taught baptism by immersion, and that he was prepared to be immersed. No, said the missionary, and proceeded to repeat the sprinkling argument. Having listened attentively thereto, the convert inquired if he thought that was in the book he left? 'Most certainly,' said the minister; to which the unsophisticated convert replied, 'Then, sir, you left me the wrong book.'

For the Christian Messenger.
The New Buildings.

Mr. Editor,—

The article in the last number of the *Messenger*, in relation to the late meeting of the Governors of the College seems to have been written with some misapprehension of the facts. In respect to some points it may not be necessary now to offer any suggestions; but in regard to a Building for the female department of the Academy, it should be distinctly understood that the primary question is not concerning location, but organization. Six years ago the Academy was opened to young ladies; and for the last three years, during which time the Academy has been practically under the control of the Convention, this mixed school has been fostered and strengthened until it has become large and prosperous. The faculty of the College, in complying with a request that they would suggest plans for building, interpreted facts within their knowledge to indicate that it was the purpose of the Governors to continue the system of mixed classes, and unanimously agreed in reporting a certain site as the most suitable on the land owned by the Board, if it was desired to have the female department of the school conducted in connection with the others. That they were naturally led to understand the purpose of the Governors as they did, will appear from the fact that nearly every one who has favored the location on the north side of the road, has spoken as if he supposed that the young ladies were to go to the College Hill for recitations, or else that young men were to join the young ladies in classes on their own grounds. There were still other plans proposed for continuing the mixed classes. In these circumstances, it is not to be wondered at, if we interpreted the designs of the Governors as we did. But the question respecting the system of the school is before us now, and it should be settled on the merits of the case. If a conspicuous location does not serve the purpose, it is not the right one. If an obscure one meets the wants to be supplied, it will soon possess all the attractiveness that a properly balanced plan will admit; and with that we may be satisfied.

Though I have stated that the faculty of the College united in recommending a certain site on the supposition that a certain system was to be continued, yet I do not here indicate our views on the merits of that system. At the proper time each will be allowed to speak for himself. It is said that the Governors should have settled the question at their late meeting. But a Board of Trust responsible for the maintenance of a College inadequately endowed and destitute of the necessary buildings for the performance of its proper functions and for the use of its students, and, also, for the maintenance of a Male Academy which has no endowment except the somewhat precarious revenues of a Boarding Hall, may well pause to think twice before assuming, in addition to these obligations, the responsibility of sustaining and managing a Ladies' College "to be complete in itself,"—that is, I suppose, complete in itself, except an endowment. Besides, it is a very delicate question to decide, how much of the building fund may be taken for a Ladies' Seminary,—

much the larger part of that fund having been subscribed to make good the loss that has befallen the College, and the whole of which might advantageously be used for that object. It must be evident that the Governors are called to act in a crisis of grave importance. We have a rare opportunity to incur a splendid debt; but there is, also, a grand opportunity to lift our educational work to a plane of greatly enlarged influence. At such a time hasty decisions are to be deprecated. Let us discuss the questions before us frankly, fully and kindly. It may be there will be no great differences of opinion among us when the case comes to be understood.

Yours truly,

A. W. SAWYER.

Wolfville, March 15, 1878.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., March 20th, 1878.

Festina Lente

is a valuable Latin motto, the importance of which is apparent in all large undertakings, and one which it is evident, Dr. Sawyer well understands and fully appreciates.

To "make haste slowly" is to allow no time to pass unimproved; but with the speed of haste to have that carefulness and deliberation in preparing for future contingencies which would be observed if there were no haste at all.

We are glad to know that the Governors of Acadia have decided on erecting the College proper on the old site, but have not yet determined as to the location of the second building.

We are assured that on the mature thought which will be given to the subject, they will consider well the fine adaptation of the grounds they have, and will secure for that structure the most suitable surroundings for the Ladies Department of Horton Academy.

With regard to the facts which the President thinks we have misapprehended, we may suggest that we learned them from "two or three witnesses," but if our view of them requires correction we shall only be too glad to receive any suggestion he and others may give us on these matters and we shall with much pleasure place them before our readers.

Great prudence is necessary in laying foundations, to see that they are sufficiently broad and firm to bear the structures to be erected on them. No less so is prudence needed in considering the requirements, present and prospective, of what is to be built.

The wisdom of the Governors in what they have already done in providing for the work of Higher Education for our young men and young women, according to the means placed at their disposal, is a guarantee that in the great work now resting upon them they will be equally wise and far-seeing.

In our remarks on the subject of rebuilding, to which Dr. Sawyer refers in his letter, we made no mention to any deliberations or recommendations of the Faculty; but we stated facts obtained from Governors of the College who attended the last meeting of that body at Wolfville.

The Faculty should exercise confidence in the friends of female education, and proceed according to the decisions already arrived at by the denomination; and, we have no doubt, they will do so when they find the Board of Governors standing firmly by them.

We again urge the many friends of our Institutions of learning to come forward and strengthen the hands of the Governors and the Faculty, and ere long commodious edifices may adorn the hillside, for the young men, and a beautiful edifice will also adorn the fine site on the north side of the street for the young ladies, who have been heretofore somewhat neglected; but for the future their righteous claims must be respected.

We are not surprised at the very cautious remarks of the President. He feels that weighty interests are at stake; and, with the other members of the Faculty having to keep up their work under all the disadvantages occasioned by the fire, their hands must be pretty well filled.

At the same time that we admire all due precautionary measures let us not forget another corresponding motto:

TEMPUS FUGIT.

The fact that "Time flies" must also be borne in mind by the subscribers to the fund for rebuilding. Those who undertake to build will want the money as early as possible. It is of great advantage to have money in hand to meet required purchases.

The editor of the *Alliance Journal* is responsible for the following anecdotes in an amusing article on "Names":—

The late venerable Dean Bullock exercised his ministry in his earlier years on the coast of Newfoundland. One Sunday a child was brought to church for baptism; and he, having the child in his arms and saying "Name this child," the reply given was "Beelzebub." "Hoot, hoot," was his astonished response,—"where did you get that name?" "My wife found it in the bible, sir," said the Godfather. "That is the name of the Evil One," said the Priest; "call him William Bullock"; and he went on with the service, "William Bullock, I baptize thee, &c."

We read of another who did not wish his greatness or his name to be forgotten; and left three guineas in the hands of his three Executors to pay for his epitaph. It was in Bonnie Dundee, of which city he had been Provost. The Executors thought they might "just as well" make the epitaph, and take the guineas themselves, and they agreed each to furnish a line. The first said about all that could be said of him, "Here lies Dickson, Provost of Dundee";

the second had nothing for his muse to work upon, and he said,

"Here lies Dickson—Here lies he"; and the third, completely overpowered by what his predecessors had done, in despair cried out,

"Hallelujah, Hallelujah."

So the three guineas worth, when completed, ran thus; and the great man was duly honored—

"Here lies Dickson, Provost of Dundee; Here lies Dickson, here lies he; Hallelujah, Hallelujah."

Rev. John Alexander has resigned the pastorate of the E. Ward Church at Brantford. Mr. A. has been invited to undertake the agency on behalf of the Grand Ligue Mission. Rev. W. H. Porter is to take charge of the E. Ward Church in addition to the two churches of that town already participating in his labors.

Take care Bro. Porter. It is the last straw that breaks the camel's back.

The Alexander St. Church, Toronto has given an invitation to Rev. J. Denovan formerly of Montreal which Mr. D. has accepted.

The Ottawa new Baptist Tabernacle, erected at a cost of \$18,000, was opened on the 4th Inst., for Divine worship. The inaugural sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Campbell, of St. Catherine Street Church, Montreal.

At the Montreal Olivet Church two persons were baptized on Sunday 3rd Inst.

At Alvinston, five persons were baptized and at Alsa Craig four, and at Claremont five on the same day.

From Park Hill, Deacon J. Miller writes: Since Rev. C. Y. Snell was called to the charge of the church he has laboured faithfully, and his labours have been much esteemed by the congregation and highly appreciated by the church. On the evening of the 24th of Feb. he baptized three, and on Wednesday following two more were received by letter and three by experience. On Sabbath evening, the 3rd inst., three more were baptized for which we can thank God and take courage.

No! the days of persecution have not yet ended. The form it assumes is simply changed. It is the same in spirit. If a man, although a brother, chooses to think and act out his own views, if his acts are not in accordance with the opinions of certain parties he must be first misrepresented, then denounced, and then, if possible, he must be deprived of his bread. This is the same spirit that formerly took men to prison and to death, and it shews that men who will so act want but the power and they would not scruple to do the same thing.

Let us pray for them that despitefully use us and persecute us. They may thus be led to look at their course in its real character and repent of their wickedness.

Examination into fitness for office is being applied much more generally in England than it used to be. From the *Sanitary Register* we learn that, in future, examinations are to be made to test the fitness of applicants for the office of Local Surveyors and Inspectors of Nuisances. The announcement of the new scheme states that the great and increasing importance of the duties devolving upon Local Surveyors and Inspectors of nuisances, in connection with the various Acts relating to Public Health, the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, &c., has led the Council of the

Sanitary Institute of Great Britain to establish voluntary examinations; to appoint a Board of Examiners and to grant Certificates of Competence to Local Surveyors and Inspectors of Nuisances. Each examination occupies a portion of two days. On the first day the Examination of Surveyors is continued for four hours. Inspectors of Nuisances have two hours written examination on the first day. On the second day the examination is *viva voce* with one or more questions to be answered in writing if deemed necessary. The ordeal costs £5. 5s. in the case of a Surveyor, and £2. 2s. in that of a Nuisance Inspector. Should the candidates fail, they may come up a second time without further charge.

This will doubtless be a protection to such offices. We might take a lesson and introduce improvements in some of our officials in this country.

The Third Baptist Church of this city have agreed to give their Pastor Rev. J. F. Avery six months leave of absence to visit England, and propose raising \$200 as a donation previous to his departure. This is most praiseworthy and will doubtless be a great benefit to Mr. A. We believe also it will afterwards be a benefit to the church as their pastor will return with fresh vigor and renewed health. Mr. A. expects to leave next month.

St. Patrick's day had its characteristic snow storm, notwithstanding that we had been having the most Spring like weather for weeks previously. The sons and grandsons of the Emerald Isle, and some who probably had not a drop of Irish blood in them, had their grand turn out with martial music and banners flying, making all things gay, on the natal morning of their patron saint. The late progress of the Reform Clubs were effectual in preventing much of the drinking so common heretofore on this great national anniversary.

The St. John Christian Visitor says "The denomination is nearly unanimous in the purpose to keep Acadia College free and independent."

Why does our brother say nearly unanimous? We do not hesitate to affirm that we believe the denomination is unanimous in this purpose. We do not believe that our brother of the Visitor could name one minister, or member of a Baptist Church in Nova Scotia who is of a different mind, and if not in Nova Scotia, why, surely there are none in New Brunswick opposed to keeping Acadia College "free and independent."

A typographical error is sometimes a somewhat serious matter. One of our daily papers of Saturday last said "Rev. Robert Laing will be indicted in the pastoral charge of St. Matthews on Thursday evening." The difference between "indicted" and "inducted" is as far apart as the church from the police court, but, after all, it is only the same as exists between you (u) and I (i).

The following despatch will be read with much sorrow by many of the friends of the family to whom it refers:

At St. John, Mar. 18, Charles Everitt, son of Rev. Mr. Everett, of this city, met with an accident on Saturday, by which he nearly lost his sight. He was engaged in melting lead, and on removing from the stove the melting pot some of it dropped into the water and flew back into his face, touching both eyes. It was at first thought he would be blinded, but before night they felt brighter hopes.

We offer our warm sympathy to the parents and their suffering son.

EDUCATIONAL.

HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT 'TIS SO.—It is an old story that about the inventor of the noble game of chess. His sovereign was so delighted with it that he offered to grant him any reward that he might ask. The inventor humbly requested for one grain of rice on the first square of the chess board, two on the second, four on the next, then eight and so on, doubling the number successively on each square up to the sixty-fourth. The Shah laughed and told him to ask for something better, but he insisted on his modest wish. When they came to count out the grains, it was found that there was not grain enough in the land to pay that amount. Few persons have an idea what the sum is, but one calculation will show:—The sun is about ninety-three million miles from us. Make a string of grains (3 to an inch) from the pile on the chess-board. You don't believe it will reach the sun? Cipher it out, and you will

find that, after having made one string of 93 millions of miles long, there are grains enough left to make more than a million such strings. The correct sum of the grains for the 64th square is, 9,233,372,036,854,775,808 grains.

For the first time in history, a Protestant Theological Seminary has been established in Paris. This important undertaking can not fail to strengthen and enlarge the Church in France.

William Everett, of Boston, in discussing the question of the admission of girls into the Latin school, has presented a curious and original reason for opposing the teaching of Greek to girls. He maintains that the Greek literature is essentially masculine, since the influence of women in Greek civilization was very small, while the Latin literature, even at the most corrupt periods, was purer and higher, since woman at Rome held a position of honor and consideration.

Notices.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE N. S. CENTRAL BOARD W. M. A. S.

CANNING, March, 2nd.—Dear Madam, Enclosed you will find \$18.00. Twelve of the eighteen are from the Mission Band in this Village. The Band, which is ably conducted by two young sisters, has pledged itself to support a little girl in Mrs. Sandford's school to whom has been given the name of Ellen.

The remaining six dollars are from the W. M. A. S. Regret is felt that the sum is so small.

Though the monthly missionary meetings have been but sparsely attended, they have been regularly held since the organization of the Society in 1870, and will continue to be held during the lifetime of at least some of its members; for there are those here who really believe that the command, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature," imperatively demands that those living in christian lands sustain the laborers in the foreign field both by their contributions and their prayers.

But blessed be God there is every encouragement to send the Gospel abroad. Thousands and tens of thousands of converts from heathendom are now followers of Christ; and we are taught that the redeemed before the throne will be of all kindreds, and nations, and peoples, and tongues.

MARY L. T. WITTER,
Secretary.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We have heard before of children and even young ladies behaving badly at public worship, and even at the administration of the ordinance of Christian Baptism, but we hardly think it would benefit them or serve the cause of truth to "speak out in meeting" or in the "Messenger" the names and all about them. Their own consciences will tell them, perhaps sooner than we think, of the wickedness of their course.

RECEIVED TOWARDS THE FUND FOR RE-BUILDING ACADIA COLLEGE.
Rev. L. B. Gates, West Port,
Digby Co., \$15 00
Mrs. L. B. Gates, Do., 10 00
Total, \$25 00

RECEIVED TOWARDS THE ENDOWMENT FUND OF ACADIA COLLEGE.
Per Rev. L. C. Layton, Mrs. D. A. Davidson, \$5 00
Edmund Fraser, DeBert River, 3 00
John Carter, Do., 1 00
Total, \$9 00
A. D. W. BARRS, Treas.
Wolfville, March 16, 1878.

RECEIVED FROM WOMEN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES.
Bear River,—Mrs. J. Harlow, \$12 00
M. R. SELDEN, Sec'y.
Halifax, March 19th, 1878.

Letters Received.

Mrs. F. McPhee, \$2. A. T. Baker, \$2. Rev. E. N. Archibald, \$4. Rev. R. S. Morton, \$2.50. N. M. Nelson, \$2. Rev. G. B. Titus, \$2. R. Delap, \$2. Jas. P. Dodge, \$2. N. R. Westcott, Esq., \$3, also \$1.25 omitted previously. J. D. Halfyard, Esq., \$4. Wm. Lent, \$2.

Local News.

On Tuesday last a man named Trotter was seriously, if not fatally, injured at Richmond Depot while unloading the steamer Sarmatian. He was going down an incline from the steamer to the wharf with a hand trolley, on which were two cases of goods, when he tripped and fell and one of the cases rolled on his back, crushing him very seriously. He now lies in a very critical condition. At a later hour another workman had one of his feet badly crushed by a box of goods.

On Friday last seven car loads of fresh beef arrived here from Ontario, for shipment by mailsteamer on Saturday.