

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., March 15, 1882.

STUDENTS AT NEWTON.

It appears from its last catalogue, that there are now sixty students connected with the Newton Theological Institution. Thirty-seven of this number are from New England, and seventeen from the Maritime Provinces. Of the thirty-seven from New England, twelve, or about one-third, have not taken a college course. Of the seventeen from the Maritime Provinces, eleven, or about two-thirds, have not taken a college course. If the seventeen from the Provinces are taken from the whole number, only forty-three remain as coming from all other sources. This seems a small number for such an old, wealthy and really able Theological School to draw to its classes. Either a large proportion of the Theological students from the Baptist churches of New England go to other Theological Schools, or the accessions to the Baptist ministry of that section must be largely made up of young men who have had no special theological training; or it may be that both of these statements are in a measure true at the same time. The great variety of churches within so large an area will call for a large variety of ministerial gifts. Probably the tendency of the population to gather in the large towns, leaving the rural sections to foreigners, has so weakened many of the old churches, that they are no longer able to give a sufficient support to a settled ministry. If this diminution in some sections be considered in connection with the growth in others, it may appear that on the whole the denomination is not much stronger than it was thirty or forty years ago. This is the most rational explanation of the fact that the number of liberally educated young men of New England, preparing for the ministry of the Baptist churches, is not much larger now than it was in the last generation. The facts thus brought to our notice are suggestive of various inquiries and reflections intimately connected with the welfare of our denomination in the neighboring States, but we leave them for those who are more immediately concerned in them.

The fact that seventeen of the sixty are from these Provinces, has more special interest for us. It is probable that several of these students will not return to labor in our churches. They are supported largely by funds from the N. E. Baptist Education Society. If they remain to labor for the people by whom they are so liberally aided, we cannot complain, on the score of justice. Nevertheless, we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that we are suffering a loss. The labor of these young men is needed within our own field. If they must go to Newton to study, we should not leave them to depend on the generosity of the Baptists in New England. We should follow them by sufficient appropriations from our own funds and thus foster in them a warm sympathy with the interests of their native land. A comparison between the amount which each of these students receives annually from a foreign society and the whole amount given by our churches in a year to aid all their ministerial students, is painfully suggestive. While the contributions in this department remain so small, the question will be, whether we have any right to expect to retain a hold on our young men, while the inducements are so strong to lead them elsewhere?

While we have the subject in hand, we ask attention to another view of it. Is it quite clear that the Faculty at Newton are acting wisely for the Institution, or kindly to all classes of students, in admitting members on such easy terms? In theory the Institution is designed for graduates from a college. But in fact there is a wide range of qualifications on the part of the students in attendance. If the information which we have received is correct, several of the young men who have gone to Newton from these Provinces, would have done better for themselves, if they had spent some time at Acadia. Indeed, it is probable that a large number of the young men who have thus gone away for study would have done as well, perhaps better, for themselves,

if they had taken literary and theological studies at Wolfville. We believe that those students who are defective in general education, and who are not able to take the full college and theological courses, will find it more for their advantage to take blended courses that are now open to them at Acadia, than to study in the best Theological School that will admit them to its privileges.

PROFESSOR SCHURMAN.

We copy the following from the *Mail* of Friday evening. We forbear offering any opinion on the approaches made to our friend, to which reference is made in the closing paragraphs. Whilst Politics doubtless opens a wide field for doing good there may be some question, whether that of literature is not equally inviting and less exposed to dangerous influences:

KANTIAN ETHICS, AND THE ETHICS OF EVOLUTION.

A Critical Study by J. Gould Schurman, M. A. (London), D. Sc. (Edin.), Professor of Logic and Metaphysics in Acadia College, Nova Scotia, and late Hibbert Travelling Scholar, published by the Hibbert Trustees.

This neat little volume of 103 pages is the first work given to the world by Professor Schurman in his special department—Philosophy. It was written in Germany about two years ago, while Prof. Schurman held the Hibbert Scholarship. It is published by the trustees of that Scholarship.

The Essay itself is a critical study of the two systems of Ethics in connection with which the names of the leading thinkers of England and America are found. It is a discussion in the higher regions of philosophy, and we shall not attempt any review of it; but shall content ourselves with calling attention to some of the notices found in various reviews and newspapers.

In the *Quarterly Review* for January, T. Whittaker devotes five pages to a criticism of this work. His notice is highly complimentary to the ability of Prof. Schurman in dealing with this abstruse and difficult subject.

The "Westminster Review," for January, in noticing this new book on Philosophy, refers to it at some length. It says the essay is a "searching examination of the subject discussed. The result is unfavorable to both systems of Philosophy. The first part of the essay strikes us as exceedingly able, and is evidently the fruit of a very intelligent study of Kant and his immediate successors."

The "Daily Scotsman" devotes about half a column to this book. Its notice, like the others, gives credit to Prof. Schurman for marked ability and learning in dealing with this subject. This leading journal of Edinburgh ventures the following opinion:—"It is not too much to say that Kant's Ethical Scheme has not been so acutely and dispassionately canvassed in any previous work in English." Mr. Schurman argues acutely that Kant's imperative is no more than a law of logical consistency. Mr. Schurman makes some good points in combatting the fundamental assumption of empiricism, that pleasure is the only ultimate good. Both parts of the essay are closely reasoned, and show an easy mastery both of thought and expression in dealing with a very abstruse subject. The work may be cordially recommended to all who can move in the highest regions of Philosophical inquiry."

The above is a sample of the liberal bestowment of compliments by the Scotch newspapers. There are other notices of this work but as they are in the same strain, it is unnecessary to refer to them. We congratulate Prof. Schurman and the friends of Acadia College on the encouraging and complimentary manner in which the "Reviews" and newspapers, on both sides of the water, have received the Prof. into their ranks as an able author in the department of Philosophy.

While reviews and newspapers have seen in Prof. Schurman the ability and qualifications for a successful author, and Acadia College has found in him an able professor, the leading men in Kings County have discovered in this same Professor Schurman the elements of a successful statesman; and that he has been approached, in an unofficial and informal way, for the purpose of ascertaining whether he would consider favorably a proposition in this direction. It is also rumored that the Professor is not disinclined to undertake work in this field, if invited to do so in a way that would be satisfactory to himself and to his friends. In whatever department or departments of labour Prof. Schurman may choose to employ his distinguished ability and scholarship we predict for him a successful career.

It is gratifying to see young men, after spending years abroad in qualifying themselves for the work of life, return to their own country, and begin practical life in this Dominion which holds out so many tempting offers to talent of all kinds with reasonable hopes and promises of success and reward.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

Blue Books are proverbially dry and uninteresting reading, but people who live by eating and drinking will find the Commissioner of Inland Revenue's Supplementary Report upon Food Inspection, lately published and submitted to Parliament, full of most entertaining information upon a subject which comes home to us all in a most practical manner. The question "What shall we eat and what shall we drink?" has ever claimed a lively interest with mankind, but it has been reserved for this generation, and this enlightened day to be favoured with kindly paternal governments so solicitous of the welfare of the people as to provide a careful analysis of the provisions for our table, that we may know just what not to eat and drink.

It must be borne in mind that the main object of this inspection instituted by government is to purge our daily food of the noxious and unreal substances which are palmed off as genuine, and by publication of the nature of the imposture and the names of those who perpetrate the shams and impositions arraign them at the bar of public opinion which is in this country a terror to evil doers as well as a praise to them who do well.

It may be known that public analysts have been appointed in the five chief cities of the Dominion to whom upwards of 1000 samples of the various articles which are in daily requisition in the culinary departments of our households, have been submitted during the past year for most careful analysis and inspection in order to fully ascertain their fitness to supply our ever returning wants—and to keep our poor frail bodies in the proper condition of health and vigour.

A few detailed statements from these reports claim more than a passing notice. The Commissioner says of *Tea* that eighty samples were analysed, seventeen of which were adulterated, and one returned as doubtful. Fourteen of these samples were inspected in our good city of Halifax, and it will be satisfactory to learn that no adulteration was found in any of them. But if our St. John friends would with confidence enjoy the "cup that cheers but not inebriates" they should come to Halifax, for we find that many samples of this article submitted to the analyst in that city are not approved, one sample being adulterated with 40 per cent. of willow leaves and stalks; another contained 10 per cent. of gypsum, while still another contained Prussian blue and plaster of Paris! It may be consoling however for the St. John people to know that in Montreal the analysis has disclosed some even more remarkable combinations—one sample of mixed tea being labeled, "highly faced with chromate of lead, Prussian blue and gypsum," while another bears this inscription "Grossly adulterated with gypsum, Prussian blue and iron oxide, and also foreign leaves."

Coffee we are informed continues to be largely adulterated, out of 58 samples tested, 41 were found to contain other ingredients. None of the 9 samples tested in this city were pure coffee while two contained only 30 per cent. of the real article, the balance being 10 per cent. chicory, and 60 per cent. of peas! Would it not be more strictly correct to label this article "Peas flavoured with coffee"? Here again St. John claims pre-eminence in both the pure and the adulterated for we find one sample analysed in that city "contains 60 per cent. of starch in leguminous substances, chiefly peas," but we also find 6 samples of pure coffee so that if we are to enjoy this exhilarating breakfast beverage in its purity we fear we will have to go to St. John, N. B. It is comforting however to know that all the adulterations in coffee are good wholesome articles excepting 2½ per cent. of sand found in one sample in Toronto.

Cocoa and Chocolate. Of the 111 samples of these preparations examined the proportion of real cocoa ranges from 25 per cent. to 80 per cent. The ingredients used in adulteration are mostly harmless drugs and sweets, but we observe several samples were found in a musty condition, and unfit for food, while one sample in Montreal contained no cocoa whatever, but was

flavoured with a large quantity of the inner husks of the cocoa bean, and is pronounced to be practically worthless.

In *Spices and Ginger and Pepper* there are a goodly number returned as pure, but the way in which the major portion of these spices are fearfully and wonderfully made up passes ordinary comprehension, the principal ingredients appear to be of a very homogeneous character such as "meal," "millings" "bran" "buckwheat hulls" &c., while one sample of *Ginger* analysed in Montreal contained 40 per cent. of an aluminous earth or clay!

Sixty-three samples of *sugar* were analysed and all were found to be free from deleterious adulteration.

In *sweets* there were 56 samples analysed, 4 of which were found impure, one sample contained chromate of lead, a dangerous poison.

Dairy produce received a large share of attention and may be considered as fairly satisfactory. An occasional adulteration of 15 to 20 per cent. of water in *milk*, and a little excess of salt and water in *butter* are surely harmless additions.

Of 22 samples of potted meats analysed, two were found unfit for food—containing lead in solution. An important paragraph is the one which states that the syrups so largely used for temperance drinks are grossly adulterated with aniline dyes, and even with poisonous substances such as bitter almonds containing prussic acid.

The percentage of adulteration for the past six years has been carefully tabulated. These tables show a wholesome improvement, the adulterations being reduced every year from 1876, when the average was 51.66 per cent. to 1881 when it was 24.97 per cent.

The above are a few of the most striking items among the facts gleaned from this interesting pamphlet. The benefits arising from this public inspection of food, are manifold, and are but indexed in the marked improvement in the averages which we have noted. Whatever may be said in respect to the necessity or utility of some other branches of the public service it can at least truly be said of this that it exists solely—"pro bono publico."

The occasional appeals presented by the brethren having charge of our several Benevolent Funds, should not be allowed to pass unheeded. The same thing is being done by our brethren in other parts. The following from Dr. Tupper, the Secretary of the Southern Baptist Mission Board, will serve as a good specimen, and show that when we do all we can we are only keeping in line with brethren of other countries:—

"WINGS NEEDED."

To the Baptists of the South:

While the present conventional year has been marked by unusual interest in giving the gospel to the heathen, it has been marked also by extraordinary expenditures for the outfit and sending out of new missionaries, as well as for the visit to this country and the return to their fields of labor of toil-worn and devoted laborers. During the last quarter of the year, the Board of Foreign Missions usually receives from one-third to one-half of the yearly contributions of the churches. To meet their obligations and carry forward their onward movements, the Board must receive this quarter at least Five Thousand Dollars per month. Tens of thousands of tracts have been distributed among the churches; tens of thousands more will be distributed before the close of the year. But the living voice is necessary. A word from each pastor would do more than a million printed pages. Will not our pastors do the wise thing of turning the minds and hearts of their people from themselves to their Lord—to their Lord struggling with the powers of heathen darkness, and crying for help to come up against the mighty? Will not the press give us the aid of their more than myriad tongues? Let our agents, societies, and other representatives renew their efforts, and remit promptly as they receive funds. Above all, let not the gospel-law of praying to the Lord of the harvest with all supplication, and thanksgiving, and free-will offerings, be neglected by any of the disciples of Jesus. The Lord sits on the Throne of Heaven, and over against his treasury on earth, and sees all who cast in, and all who do not cast into his treasury; and he makes even the money of men to praise him by making it wings to spread his name over the world.

H. A. TUPPER,
Richmond, Va. Cor. Sec'y.

The Burlington *Hawkeye*, of Feb. 28th, gives an account of revival work in the Baptist Church, under the pastoral care of the Rev. Dr. Spinney.

Dr. Leonard an evangelist and Prof. Messe, a singer of some repute, are assisting in the religious meetings. On the previous Sunday evening, it states, long before the hour of service the church was filled with an anxious and eager throng of people. Extra seats were placed in the aisles of the church. Still the capacity was inadequate to the demand. It is said hundreds were turned away unable to gain admission because of the press. Dr. Leonard took for his subject, "The wedding garment." The speaker most forcibly pointed out the barriers which those who would not walk in the way of life broke down in their persistence of opposition to their conscience and the better laws of their being. This sermon was one of unusual force and power. Prof. Messe aided by the choir added much to the interest of the occasion. At the close of the sermon a very large number asked prayers for themselves. The ordinance of baptism was administered by the pastor, Dr. Spinney, to a number of converts. During the past few weeks more than thirty additions were made to the church. Many others will soon unite. Over a hundred persons professed to be enquiring after the way of life at the several services held during the day. The revival is one of great power. It is already wide-spread in its application.

The Tunnel under the English Channel, to connect England and France is occupying much attention in both countries. The first half mile under the sea by way of experiment, has been successfully completed. Its military aspect is being warmly canvassed.

It is likely to be the subject of a parliamentary debate. Some of the great military authorities have delivered very strong opinions against it. Sir John Adye has expressed an equally strong opinion in its favour. It is very unwise to speak contemptuously of what men of undoubted courage and capable of forming an opinion assert to be really a peril. All agree that the tunnel will have to be strongly fortified. They who hate war are apt to imagine that if fortifications are needed there may be danger. Those who are charged with the defence of the country assert that if the tunnel be completed it must lead to a considerable war charge on the resources of the nation.

The Salvation Army are not disposed to withdraw from the field of conflict by the late ill-usage they have received. The Army has taken the old Skating Rink at Regent-circus, London at a rental of £1,000 a year. The building will be seated to hold 3,000 persons, and it will be opened by "an exhibition of trophies" in the shape of a gathering of ex-convicts, thieves, drunkards, roughs, and bad characters of both sexes who have been reclaimed by the army.

The fact of the Premier, Hon. Mr. Gladstone, paying a visit to the Metropolitan Tabernacle, and listening to a sermon from Rev. C. H. Spurgeon seems like gall and wormwood to some of the Church of England clergy. It is a great pity they cannot take the matter a little more philosophically. At a recent political banquet, after dinner, the Rev. W. Randall, vicar of Handsworth, near Birmingham, is reported to have referred to this matter in the following terms:—

Turning to Mr. Gladstone and his Churchmanship and policy, he thought it absolutely impossible to define either. He doubted whether Gladstone could do it himself. Some maintained that he was a Roman Catholic, even a Jesuit, bent upon destroying the church, and they pointed to certain secret negotiations with the Pope; others regarded him as an orthodox Churchman, reading the Sunday lessons, and meditating when he retired from politics, entering holy orders, with an eye perhaps to the bishopric of Jerusalem, old or new. (Laughter.) Others said that Mr. Gladstone became all things to all men, after a rather perverted imitation of a great example; and that following the said example he might say after the strictest school of our religion, "I have lived a Pharisee." The last development of that man of mystery, was that, accompanied by Herbert his son, he appeared in Mr. Spurgeon's Tabernacle, sat in Mr. Spurgeon's pew, expressed his high appreciation of the service, and in Mr. Spurgeon's vestry drank Mr. Spurgeon's health, which was not good, in Mr. Spurgeon's wine,

which was very good, and straightway walked home a confirmed Baptist—(laughter and applause)—the dear old man impressing on the young one that as Nonconformists were the backbone of England—had he not said it?—so from that day the Baptists were the backbone of Nonconformists, and Mr. Spurgeon was their spinal cord, their marrow and fat. (Laughter.) They need not be surprised if they next heard of father and son in the camp and ranks of the Salvation Army. (Loud laughter.)

Not content that this statement, as foolish as epitetul, should go unchallenged—though it was surely hardly needful to do so—a local admirer of Mr. Spurgeon addressed a note of inquiry to the pastor of the Tabernacle, in order that the truth might be elicited respecting the wine-drinking episode; and the following reply, which will be interesting to other than Birmingham friends, has been received:—

"Westwood, Beulah Hill,
Upper Norwood, Feb. 7, 1882.

"Dear Sir,—The wine drinking is quite imaginary. I am a teetotaler. I neither take wine myself, nor proffer it to others. Mr. Gladstone did visit the Tabernacle, and that is about all that is true in the rector's statement. Had he been drinking anyone's health at the time he made this foolish display?—
Yours truly,
C. H. SPURGEON."

THE CENSUS.

The population of Nova Scotia, by Counties, is as follows:—

Halifax—(city 36,100),—	67,763
Pictou.....	35,530
Cape Breton.....	31,258
Antigonish.....	28,584
Cumberland.....	27,368
Colchester.....	26,275
Inverness.....	25,651
Hants.....	23,651
Kings.....	23,464
Yarmouth.....	21,284
Antigonish.....	20,501
Digby.....	19,881
Antigonish.....	18,060
Guyaboro.....	17,808
Richmond.....	15,121
Shelburne.....	14,913
Victoria.....	12,473
Queens.....	10,577
Total.....	440,877

REV. ALEX. MACARTHUR, pastor of Granville Street Church is still unable to speak except in a low whisper. On the recommendation of his medical adviser he has gone for a trip to Bermuda in the mail steamer, with the hope that the change will give tone to his vocal organs, and restore to him his powers of speech. He expects to return in the same steamer. Rev. T. A. Higgins preached on Sunday last, morning and evening.

REV. E. M. SAUNDERS is on a visit to Kings County, and was to preach on Sunday at Berwick.

REV. W. E. HALL has been on a visit to Antigonish. We are informed that the church has extended to him a call to the pastorate, but have not heard whether he has given any reply.

A letter from a friend in Chicago, dated March 5, 1882, says:—"I observe that you are having a stern and stormy winter in Nova Scotia. The ground has not yet been covered with snow in this region. For a few days we have had weather very spring like."

N. Y. *Christian Herald*—Mr. D. McGregor has handed us a copy of this Illustrated Weekly paper. He informs us that 190 copies are sold on the weekly payment plan. It contains a sermon by Talmage and Spurgeon every week.

VENNOR, the Weather Prophet, ventures the following prediction for Saturday and Sunday next:

MONTREAL, March 11.

I would warn New York and the contiguous seaboard, also the Middle States, possibly Newfoundland and the Maritime Provinces, of the approach of a storm period on the 18th and 19th of the present month—probably heavy rains with light wind at the former, and wind, snow and rainfalls at the latter.

HENRY G. VENNOR.

Some Halifax friend of the *Wesleyan* has donated \$150 to pay for copies of that paper to be sent to poor families. A most benevolent and praiseworthy charity.

The Mormons are getting up a fraud by pretending that Brigham Young has risen from the dead. The resurrected Brigham bears no resemblance to the departed.