

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., April 16, 1884.

THE Nova Scotia Journal of Agriculture, April, contains an interesting article consisting of the evidence given by Major General Laurie before the Committee of the House of Commons at Ottawa, on Agriculture. Many of our readers engaged in agricultural pursuits will read, with interest, what he, the Chairman of the Nova Scotia Central Board of Agriculture, said on this subject before the said Committee. We cannot copy the whole but we think the following extracts will give a pretty good idea of what passed. It is dated Ottawa, March 20th:—

Maj. Gen. Laurie, of Halifax was called and said:—
We have no department of Agriculture in Nova Scotia; the Board of Agriculture is the body really charged with carrying out the work of the Government in this branch of the public service.

Personally, I have been engaged in farming in Nova Scotia since 1866. Of course, I have not taken up farming as a means of livelihood, but I have had a good deal of experience in agriculture, and have been President of the Board of Agriculture for some eight or nine years. In that way I have learned a great deal about agriculture. I cannot call myself an expert on matters relating to experimental stations, nor have I gone deeply into scientific farming, but at the same time I have striven, as far as in me lay, to improve the system of farming in our Province.

The Nova Scotia farmer labors under these disadvantages, to my mind: He has received no agricultural education, by which I mean training in the sciences connected with agriculture, and concurrently in the application in practice of the knowledge so acquired. He, consequently, is quite unaware what his land is capable of, or how to obtain the greatest return for his labor and other outlay. Our fruit growers have given great attention to that industry, and with exceedingly good results; but with this exception, and that of a few intelligent men who, under favorable conditions, are reclaiming marsh land and carrying on their work profitably, the vast majority simply obtain a subsistence, and the results consequently are so discouraging, that, even when in any way money is acquired, it is invested in anything rather than farm property. Our young men receive good advantages in education, but not in subjects which are directly of value to agriculture, and they go into over-stocked professions, and leave the country. We require, first, to fit them to remain at home and follow agriculture. For I conceive the native born is the best inhabitant a country can have.

Next, we want immigration of men of moderate capital. Farm property is exceptionally low and plentiful in the market, but, unfortunately, the capabilities of our Province are not well known in Europe, and hence intending immigrants do not come to us. We want men of some capital, and machinery is now a necessity, and manual labor cannot compete with it. Hence, those who attempt cultivation without machinery become discouraged and leave the country.

Q. Do you grow fall wheat?
A. I am experimenting with fall wheat. It has been tried and has been pronounced a failure, on account of our changeable winters. I had some Ontario wheat—spring wheat—last year, and it was a very fine crop. It yielded 25 bushels to the acre.

Q. Has the factory system grown up with you?
A. Cheese factories have, but not butter. I do not think there is a butter factory in the Province.

Q. Are there no creameries?
A. There are no creameries, but the people of Colchester have gone into a large milk condensing business, which has absorbed the milk of the district to such an extent that it has rather paralyzed one or two cheese factories. They expect to handle this year about 8 tons of milk per day.

Q. Would the appointment of a public analyst, to whom samples of soil and of home manufactured and imported fertilizers might be submitted prove of advantage to our farmers?
A. Yes, if he was within reach, so that the samples might be sent him and information be promptly furnished in regard to them.

Q. What do you think of establishing an experimental farm or garden, where varieties of foreign grain, fruit trees and fertilizers might be tested and whence such seeds, plants, etc., might be distributed throughout the Dominion; would it be advisable?
A. The climate conditions are so dissimilar that experiments made in the drier atmosphere and steady winter of Ontario would be of comparatively small value to the Lower Provinces, but experiments conducted where the

conditions of season, temperature and rainfall are similar to those encountered by our farmers would be of very great value. Our farmers are now more or less engaged in experiments, but the labour is largely thrown away, as they have not the scientific knowledge to work out these satisfactorily, and they often arrive at wrong conclusions. But if an experimental farm was established in the neighborhood they could readily join in conducting the experiments, receiving instructions from the superintendent of the station as to the necessary conditions and points to which they should give attention, and these simultaneous experiments would be of more value than if conducted singly. It is very desirable that branch stations should be established. Our Dominion is very large, and the climate conditions are very dissimilar, so that a central station without the branches, would not bring all the benefits we desire. It would, without doubt, confer great advantages, but it should be supplemented by branch stations.

Q. Where is your nearest quarantine station?
A. At Quebec. We have none in the Maritime Provinces at all. If we wish to import an animal from Liverpool, we must bring it around by Quebec; if from Boston, we have to go round by Sarnia. This is extremely inconvenient; in fact, it practically prohibits importation to our Provinces. We earnestly desire that quarantine stations should be established at Halifax and, it is suggested, at Yarmouth also and that the staff should be held available to visit localities where there is any doubt as to the existence of infectious disease, and take the necessary steps to prevent its ravages.

Q. Have you any agricultural schools in your Province?
A. We have not, but we very much desire to have one.

Q. You believe it would help agriculture very much?
A. I think your proposition for an experimental station should be associated with an agricultural college. The experimental station, the model farm, and the institution for imparting agricultural education seem to be bound up together, and are very necessary in our Province.

Q. I think one objection to experimental farming being engaged in by ordinary farmers, is that it is expensive.
A. Yes, and they have not time amidst the hurry of seeding and harvesting operations to attend to experimental work properly. In reference to agricultural colleges, we have, unfortunately, five degrees conferring colleges has attached to its curriculum facilities for obtaining instruction in law and medicine, and we have been urging that some other college should take up agriculture, but we are met by the statement from all who have examined the subject, that agricultural faculties attached to art colleges have invariably been failures.

Q. I presume there would be no money in them at all, that is, the revenue to arts institutions is generally provided from outside sources.
A. I think so; but still we suggested that the agricultural part of the college should receive assistance from the Government, but they might be associated with existing colleges so as to take advantage of their machinery, in the shape of lecture rooms, buildings and staff. From all sides, however, we have been advised not to proceed with this scheme. I believe there is no reason why an agricultural faculty could not be attached to one of our colleges at an expenditure of \$3,000 or \$4,000 per annum. This would supply one Professor of Agriculture, a Veterinary Professor, and a farm manager. I believe, that of all things, it is necessary that theory and practice should go hand in hand in this work.

Our Catholic friends—both Anglican and Roman—are now released from the austerities imposed upon them during the Lenten season. It is said that this is the time of revival in the Church of England, the same in character as the protracted meetings of other bodies of Christians, but we are quite sure that the forgetting of the risen Christ, although only for a time, is not calculated to stimulate and quicken faith, and bring sinners to repentance. This dividing of a year into seasons of sorrow and joy does not correspond with our New Testament Christianity. It may suit some dispositions to indulge in such moods, but we have not so learned Christ. It seems to be a little incongruous, too, for the time of the solemnities of Good Friday and the Saturday following to be occupied in preparation for all the festivities and gaiety of Easter. On the same page in some Church papers we find expressions of sadness, as of apparently hopeless sorrow, such as was felt by the disciples at the crucifixion, and then we see a burst of joy, with the statement,

On Easter morn we throw aside the gloom and austerities of Lent to rejoice in a risen Saviour.

It would seem to be more in accordance with the spirit of the Gospel of the grace of God that we should always be called upon to rejoice, and even to triumph in Christ, seeing that He ever liveth to make intercession for us. "Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over Him." We can no more think of our Lord as dead. We think of the great sacrifice made for sin, to lead us to see how great was the sin for which atonement must have been made, but the fact is patent that Jesus is now and for ever the risen living Saviour.

We have no more sympathy with the dolorous reproduction on Good Friday of what was done on Calvary than we have with the putting of ashes on the face on Ash Wednesday and the assuming of an unwonted gravity and abstinence from certain articles of food at such times.

There is perhaps less objection to the observance of Easter. The resurrection of Christ is a theme we must ever bear in mind. Yet it seems intended that we shall have this before us every Lord's Day. The first day of the week is the appropriate reminder of this great event and is blended with the observance of the Sabbath as a day of rest and remembrance, for Christians for all future time.

REV. DR. CASTLE has written us inviting our attention to a letter from Senator McMaster in the *Canadian Baptist* and thinks it might do good if transferred to the *Messenger*. We have read it and here place it before our readers. We hardly think that there exists any feeling here such as is suggested by said letter. We have never heard here the most distant allusion to its "close corporation" as at all objectionable. The safe guards seem abundant sufficient to prevent any alienation from the great principles we hold in common.

TORONTO BAPTIST COLLEGE.

Dear Sir,—The views expressed by certain of your correspondents with reference to our denominational institutions will doubtless attract attention, and perhaps be dealt with by those who have long taken an active interest in their management. The few remarks I purpose to make will be confined to the Toronto Baptist College. It might be inferred by what is being said by some of our friends that its Trust-Deed and Charter were designedly framed with the view of excluding our churches from any influence and control in the management of the college. No conclusion could be further from the truth; for the fact is that my personal preference was in favor of placing the college under direct denominational control, and the Rev. Dr. Castle, with whom I conferred on the subject, was strongly in favor of that course being taken. Much time was spent, and much trouble taken, in endeavoring to devise a plan whereby such control might be secured, without sacrificing considerations, to which I shall presently refer, which, I think, all, on reflection, will admit to be more vital than any question as to the manner of appointing the controlling body. Although I conferred with many trusted brethren about the projects that lay so near my heart, the practical work of shaping the initiatory steps towards the foundation of the college, rested almost wholly upon my legal adviser, Mr. D. E. Thomson, and myself. We considered, with the best judgment we could exercise, the different plans that suggested themselves for securing representative management. Our enquiries led to the conclusion that there existed no organization of any kind in connection with our denomination, which could be made to do duty as the appointing power, and which possessed the necessary qualifications of being itself representative, and so constituted as to preserve that permanence so indispensable in the appointing power in connection with an institution intended to last for all time to come. Not content with our own opinion, and not willing to relinquish the idea of denominational control, unless compelled to do so, we consulted the best legal talent, not only within but outside the denomination in Toronto, the result being, that, having reference to our polity of church independence, and to the existing status of our denominational organization, it was found impossible to carry out the objects in view, by means of the desired representative control.

Chief and among these objects I may mention that every safeguard should be provided to prevent the means about to be furnished for the erection of the college, as well as those intended to be given as an endowment, being used at any future time for the propagation of any other than the distinctive principles of the Regular Baptists. Second, that there should be no risk or complication as to the title of the college in any property it might become possessed of, no question as to the validity of its acts, and no room for disputes, either legal or denominational, as to the mode of filling vacancies in the controlling body. It will be observed I do not concern myself at all, as to whether these statements make for or against the arguments of those who are agitating for a change of polity. I am merely stating the facts as they then existed, and still exist. While my own personal preference was, as I have stated, in favor of a different course to that which I found myself compelled to adopt, I do not wish to be understood as having entertained any antipathy to a self-perpetuating Board of Trustees. The latter is no new theory. Many institutions of the kind are managed and, I think, well managed in this way. Further, it is well known that there are sources of weakness in the representative system as applied to educational institutions, and that there are in our denomination in Canada elements which must necessarily have enhanced the dangers inseparable from the carrying out of that system under congregational polity. What looms up in my estimation, far above this and all other considerations, so far as the future of the college is concerned, is the necessity for preserving inviolable the doctrinal standard; and in view of all the new and strange theories that are being constantly advanced in quarters where they are least expected, it may be advisable for the Board, of which I am only one member, to consider whether any safeguards in this direction can be devised in addition to those originally provided.

In conclusion, permit me to add, that much as I should regret any disposition to criticize, from an adverse standpoint, an institution which I was fain to believe had been received by the denomination with some measure of enthusiasm, I do not deprecate fair discussion of the course that has been pursued. All I ask is that it be fair, and that my position in reference to it be not misrepresented. Should the result be a feasible suggestion for bringing the college into more immediate and vital connection with the churches, I see no reason for supposing that the Board which now controls the institution would deal with the subject otherwise than in a proper spirit.

WM. McMASTER.

SOME of our Pedo-Baptist friends are greatly enjoying the recently-discovered "Teaching of the Twelve Apostles," so-called, more particularly the part respecting Baptism:—
"Baptize ye into the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, in living water. But if thou have not living water, baptize into other water; and if thou canst not in cold, in warm. And if thou have neither, pour out water thrice upon the head into the name of the Father and Son and Holy Spirit."

They seem to think that this is a difficulty for Baptists to get over, whereas it is evident from the very words used that the original idea taught respecting the ordinance is, that it is an immersion of the body in water, seeing that it says "baptize ye in" living water, and "into other water," &c. But the most curious thing about this is that the fact of using "warm" water in recent times has been often made the occasion of a smile by the unbelievers in immersion. It seems evident in this "Teaching" that if the parties "cannot in cold" they are to "use warm." The condition of the water does not in any way invalidate the act of baptism.

We expressed our strong doubts from the first as to the genuineness of this famous manuscript. Dr. Armitage, we find in the last New York *Examiner*, asks the question, "Is the newly-found MS. genuine?" He proceeds to shew from its internal evidence very grave doubts of its having so early a date as it professes. How will our Pedo-Baptist brethren impose the fasting "for two or three days before upon the baptizer and the baptized."—The poor little babies! Shame upon those who would cheat them out of their natural food "two or three days"! Our friends are welcome to all the comfort they can get from such "Teaching of the Twelve Apostles." We prefer the New Testament Teaching.

The new law requiring that all captains of coasting schooners shall hold certificates, came into force on the last day of April, and is causing a considerable amount of trouble among them.

FROM INDIA.

The following brief extracts of letters from India, received by the Secretary of the N. S. C. B. W. M. A. Societies, will be interesting to many of our readers:—

(FROM MRS. HUTCHINSON.)

CHICACOLE, Feb. 6th, 1884.

"My dear Mrs. Selden,—Since last writing to you we have been to Cocanada, to attend our annual Conference. All the Missionaries on the field were present for the first time. We missed Mrs. Sanford very much, she being the only absent one.

"We were absent from our station almost a month, and we feel that it has done us much good, but travelling in this country is hard, and we were glad to get back and to work again.

"This letter is to tell you that we have secured the London Mission Chapel, and it will be handed over to us on the first of March. The price is 1000 rupees, or 400 dollars, (at the present rate of exchange). That does not include repairs, the money for which we hope to raise here, so as to relieve the Board of that expense.

"I know you ladies have it in your hearts to give a nice donation towards the Chapel. If you have the funds in hand, could you not give 200 dollars? We would like to feel that you have a half interest in the Chapel.

"My husband is now writing a description of the Chapel for the *Messenger*, so I shall not give any details.

"We are all well. The weather is still quite cool, and we are hoping to get a good deal of work done yet before the trying hot season."

(FROM MRS. ARCHIBALD.)

BIMLIPATAM, INDIA, Jan. 1, 1884.

We returned from Kyalassa the latter part of November, and took up our work as usual. In the latter part of December, the girls, Mr. Archibald and I spent, some days with Mr. Sanford in visiting the villages. I enjoyed it very much, and the girls and I found more than we could do. There I gathered some idea of Mr. Sanford's methods of work among the people, and all that I saw and heard gave encouragement and hope. If faithful labor is expended the promise of fruit is good.

"A few more days at the station and our friends from Bobbili and Chicacole came in to join us in our journey to Cocanada. For the first time in my experience, every Missionary on the field was at the Conference, and it was an exceedingly pleasant and profitable session.

"Arrived Saturday morning, and about midday organized. The afternoon was devoted to the ordination of two native helpers; one to be pastor at Cocanada, and the other to go some miles away to another class of people. After that three couples were married; then we met socially the members of the English Baptist Church, and a small prayer-meeting closed the work of the day.

"Sunday was full of services, Telugu and English, while Monday, Tuesday and part of Wednesday were occupied with regular Conference work, a minute of which you will see in our published reports.

"Left Wednesday afternoon, and went by Mission boat on canal to Samulotta, eight miles distant, where we had dinner, and saw some of the Seminary students, then took the boat again for Akidu, where we arrived on Friday morning. In the afternoon those of us who were going to the Association at a village twenty miles away, took bandies, and I had the worst ride in a bandy I ever had in my life, except the return one over the same road. The natives had made ready for our coming; had their chapel matted with grass, which they had woven, and did all they could to make us comfortable. The Association was grand from beginning to end, and we found that even Telugus could speak sensibly on practical questions. Had several sermons and social meetings, and many things we had up for consideration, such as, How should their school houses be built? By the Mission or by themselves? How should the teachers be paid? What about the use of tobacco, the wearing of nose jewels, and the propriety of manual labor? These and many other matters were discussed with a good deal of enthusiasm and common sense.

"Then by canal and steamer we made our way to Bimili, and reached home in safety last Tuesday. We are preparing to get away to Bobbili next week, where we hope to settle down to hard, steady work."

Mr. R. M. KING, Inspector of Weights and Measures, has been confined to his house a week by erysipelas, but is now convalescent.

We are sorry to learn that Rev. ROBERT MURRAY, Editor of the *Presbyterian Witness*, is ill with scarlet fever.

NOVA SCOTIA LEGISLATURE.

The question of whether the deposit of £52,000 made by Baring Brothers & Co. of London in reference to the agreement of the Syndicate to complete the Nova Scotia Railways shall be returned to them, was up for discussion on Thursday last, in the afternoon and evening. Able speeches were made in opposition by Messrs. Corning and Townshend. The latter gentlemen charged the Government with omitting a portion of a letter from Messrs. Baring to Mr. Vail.

The government shewed the original as sent and contended that the omission occurred in the banker's office. The bill passed and the money deposited as security will be returned minus the percentage covering charges.

The Assembly have been pressing on the routine business in the expectation that the Legislature would adjourn to-morrow.

On Saturday afternoon the Hon. Provincial Secretary laid on the table the Estimate of Receipts and Expenditures for the current year. The following is a summary of the most important items:

DEBTS DUE TO THE PROVINCE ON 1ST JAN., 1884.

Road advances.....	\$100,685
Advances to insane asylum due by board of charities.....	27,383
Due by counties to insane asylum previous to 1st July, 1878.....	29,047
Due by private patients to the insane asylum, previous to 1st July, 1878.....	3,835
Mines for royalty.....	105,770
W. & A. railway & interest to date.....	6,502
Halifax education account due.....	8,456
Advances on right of way, N. S. N. and A. C. railway.....	1,984
W. C. railway, interest on bonds.....	52,001
	\$335,666

PROBABLE REVENUE FOR 1884.

Subsidy including allowance for legislative expenses.....	880,000
Mines for royalties.....	120,000
Crown lands.....	12,500
Fees and marriage licenses.....	8,000
Royal Gazette.....	2,600
Postal subsidy W. C. railway.....	3,768
Collection of debts.....	10,440
Dominion liquor licenses.....	4,000
Interest on bridge account.....	445
	\$541,754

EXPENDITURE.

Agriculture.....	12,500
Criminal prosecutions.....	2,500
Education.....	187,000
Crown land department.....	9,000
Interest.....	1,000
Legislative expenses.....	35,000
Local works.....	12,000
Hospital for insane.....	12,000
Department of mines.....	10,000
Miscellaneous.....	24,000
Poor's asylum and provincial and city hospital.....	20,000
Public printing and statutes.....	13,000
Salaries.....	15,250
Steamboats, packets and ferries.....	29,980
Transient poor and dispensary.....	1,500
Medical college.....	800
Blind Asylum.....	1,000
Normal School Bonds.....	4,000
Roads and Bridges.....	119,554
W. C. Railway interest.....	16,858
Asylum water pipe.....	6,000
Interest N. S. N. and A. C. railway.....	6,000
Total.....	\$539,992

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Municipalities.	Amount less interest on bridge account.
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Annapolis.....	6,058
Antigonish.....	5,686
Cape Breton.....	6,597
Colchester.....	6,792
Cumberland.....	6,706
Digby.....	3,408
Clare.....	2,275
Guyston.....	4,980
St. Mary's.....	2,450
Halifax.....	16,180
Hants, West.....	8,476
Hants, East.....	3,492
Inverness.....	7,678
Kings.....	6,295
Lunenburg.....	5,242
Chester.....	1,748
Pictou.....	8,893
Queens.....	5,689
Richmond.....	5,889
Schellburne.....	3,389
Barrington.....	2,800
Victoria.....	5,909
Yarmouth.....	3,413
Argyle.....	2,282

STEAMBOATS, PACKETS & FERRIES.

TO STEAMERS.

Hantsport to Parrsboro.....	\$ 2,000
Yarmouth to Westport and return; thence to Barrington Passage and return.....	1,000
Halifax to Cow Bay, touching at intermediate ports.....	1,000
Halifax to Arichat, weekly, calling at Sheet Harbor & Cape Canso.....	8,000
Halifax and Yarmouth, touching &c.....	6,000
Yarmouth to points west.....	1,200
Annapolis and Granville.....	300
Sydney and Port Mulgrave.....	8,500
Richmond and Lennox.....	400
LaHave, Bridgewater, to connect with Halifax steamer going and returning.....	525
Port Mulgrave to Port Hood, Arichat, Cape Canso and Guysboro two trips each week.....	1,600