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**CHRISTIAN VISITOR.**

SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1852.

**THE DOINGS OF THE FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE AT WOLFVILLE.**—We have had on hand for several weeks a private letter from a brother who attended the several meetings at Wolfville for Missions and Education, but as yet have received no official account of the proceedings from the Secretary, nor have they yet been communicated for the Messenger. Why such matters are so long delayed we cannot conceive. We think our brethren appointed to these services as Secretaries and Scribes should consider how much more valuable such communications are when the intelligence is fresh, than after it has been passed a month or two from mouth to mouth.

We know our brethren may have many pressing claims upon their time and attention, but if any assume such trusts they should make the most strenuous exertions to do them justice. We are in a situation to judge fairly upon such a case.—We doubt if any of our brethren are more severely taxed with a multiplicity of cares and an abundance of work than comes to our lot. It is no unusual circumstance for us to be obliged to write, in addition to our task of preparing matter for the paper, some four, six or eight letters per day, indeed within two weeks past we have written in one day no less than sixteen letters, we frequently receive eight or nine letters in one day by the several mails, and all give us work.—The Secretaries of our Committees and Quarterly Meetings could easily supply us with their intelligence in good season if they will do what we are obliged to do repeatedly every week, and week after week—write when others sleep, or work when others rest.

We sometimes, though with as much good nature as possible, wish we could roll upon some good brother a part of our 'heap,' when we open a scarcely readable letter and find at the foot a polite note that he was in great haste, and is quite sure we will correct all mistakes. But after all, when we know a thousand of our readers are waiting anxiously to hear the doings of a Committee or of a Convention we had rather get such a *hasty* letter, and work it into shape, than worry over the want of it a month or two till it is comparatively worthless both to us and our readers. We don't mean in all this of course our good brother the Foreign Mission Secretary, but we do hope he will soon report to us or to the Messenger the doings of the Board at their Meeting, April 12th.

The Revival with which the Evangelical Churches of Boston have been refreshed this spring still continues. Dr. Stowe, Pastor of the Baptist Church in Rowe street, has baptized 100, 55 of whom were Sabbath School Scholars. In connection with the Baptist and Congregational Churches of the City more than 1000 have been recently converted.

**ENGLISH ANNIVERSARIES.**—We have received, by the last steamer, our usual English Periodicals. The Baptist Reporter for April, the Evangelical Christendom, the London Baptist Magazine, and the Family Friend, each for April. The Baptist Anniversary Meetings have already transpired and we shall perhaps be able to give some account of them in our next or the week following. They commenced April 22d. The annual public meeting of the Missionary Society in Exeter Hall, at which S. M. Peto, Esq., M. P., one of the Treasurers of the society, had consented to preside, was held Thursday, April 29th. The next mail will bring us the London Christian Times of April 30th.

**THE NATIONAL DIVISION OF THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE.**—The annual session of this important organisation commenced yesterday in the city of Richmond, Va. It will be a highly important session, as officers are to be elected for the succeeding two years; the committee upon a new ritual for subordinate

Divisions, will submit a report for consideration and action; and the question of honorary membership in Divisions will be acted upon. The advance of public sentiment during the past year arising from the discussions of the Maine Law, will cause many to look with great interest for the Report of the doings of the National Division.

**THE QUEEN OF MADAGASCAR.**—Mauritius papers, although they report the arrival of several vessels from Madagascar, at a later date than the issue of the report in regard to the Queen's death, yet make no mention of this. This leads to an impression in England that the report is not well founded.

If Queen Ranavalona were dead, it is much feared that the son, Rarotolano-Radama, who has manifested so much kindness to Christian converts, would not succeed to the sovereignty. The present prime minister, Rainihano, is in fact the administrator, Her Majesty having been a mere tool in his hands, and he is firmly seated in power, the superstitious customs of the country placing an immense power in the hands of a despotic minister. The probability is supposed to be that the Prince's death will be announced before her Majesty's, and that Commander Rainihano will openly assume sovereign power, putting to death all who dare to express a sentiment opposed to his succession.

Colonel Benton, one of the oldest and ablest senators in the Congress of the United States, whose party predilections have been decidedly with the Democratic party since the administration of General Jackson, has recently delivered and published a speech to his old constituents of Jefferson Co., Mo., in favour of Protection. On the article of iron particularly he advocates a specific duty equal to 30 per cent., about double the present duty. The results of the present Tariff in the United States have not been at all what was promised by Mr. Walker, who shaped it, and the leading politicians of the party who carried it.—Whether this change of policy on the part of Mr. Benton indicates a general change in the democratic party in the States does not appear; if it does, the change of administration, if one should occur at the next election, will not be so much of an advantage to the British Colonies and to Great Britain as some have anticipated, and the lines between the two great parties in the States will not be so distinct as they have been. The Whig party have always been in favour of high protective duties, the Democratic party of late years have shown a strong tendency towards Free Trade.

**VOLCANIC ERUPTION IN HAWAII.**—The celebrated Volcanic Mountain Mauna Loa, one of the Sandwich Islands, about 100 miles north from Oahu, on which latter Island is situated Honolulu, the capital of the group, was at the last account in full blast.

In 1843 a remarkable eruption took place at this mountain, and burning lava swept down the forests and reached the sea at a vast distance in a current one mile broad. This so heated the ocean that multitudes of fish died in the vicinity. Mariners many miles at sea could see to read during the night by its light; and the fires were distinctly seen from the Missionary station of Hilo, 40 miles distant.

The Mountain it is said would easily contain within its crater the city of New York. On the 17th February last, at 3 A. M., a small light appeared on the summit which continued to increase, and in half an hour a brilliant column of lava shot up against the heavens, and a general burst of blood red fusion poured out of the orifice. This molten flood rolled down the side of the mountain so rapidly, that in two hours its progress was judged to have been 15 miles, the whole glaring with great brilliancy. The following is the latest intelligence from the Alta California, copied from Sandwich Island letter of March 3.

By advices to Hilo to the 2d inst., we further learn that the stream of lava had burned through the woods to within fifteen miles of Hilo, and that it was still progressing. The current was not so rapid as at first, but it is gradually filling up all the inequalities of the ground, and it was supposed at that date, that it would ultimately reach the sea and discharge itself into the bay of Hilo.

The light at night was very brilliant, and at Hilo it was almost as light as day. Persons who left this city last week, on a visit to Hilo, will arrive at a seasonable moment to witness one of the most sublime phenomena of nature, and one of so rare occurrence that few are fortunate enough to witness it.—Alta California.

Brother David Crandal, we are informed, baptised one candidate a week ago, at Dorchester, where the meetings, during his visit, were of an interesting character.

**LETTERS RECEIVED.**—Rev. D. Crandal, with remittance; Mr. D. C. Stillwell, do.; Mr. S. Miner, do.; Mr. J. S. Trites, do.; Mr. David Dow, Mr. Alex. McPhail and Rev. E. F. Foshay.

**Correspondence.**

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

Reasons for the Endowment of Acadia College.

History corroborates the statement that the prosperity of every nation is intimately connected with the number and efficiency of its literary Institutions. Knowing this, therefore, those in whose hands the government of a country is placed, act judiciously in devoting their first consideration to the encouragement of education. England and the United States may attribute in a considerable degree their increasing greatness to the liberality with which their Colleges, Academies and common Schools are supported, and consequently to the diffusion of knowledge amongst the masses of their people. Perhaps no country has adopted more liberal and extended measures for the advancement of education than the latter, and none, we believe, has increased more rapidly in power and influence. On the other hand glancing at some of those countries where education is comparatively neglected, and where the minds of the people are suffered to remain uncultivated, we perceive prevailing poverty, discontent and rebellion.

Viewing the subject in this light, we readily conclude that the future prosperity of these Provinces will depend much upon the widespread diffusion of useful knowledge, and hence upon the manner in which our Public Institutions of learning, among which Acadia College occupies a prominent position, will be sustained.

We proceed more particularly to adduce a few reasons why an Endowment Fund of £10,000 should be raised for the annual support of the above Institution. These reasons, of course, are to be considered as especially applicable to the Baptists of these Provinces, by whom the College is owned, and to whom it must necessarily look for its support.

I. *The connexion between the existence of this Institution and the future prosperity of the Baptists of these Provinces.*

We live in an age of literary enterprise. Education is rapidly advancing. The various Denominations are generally exerting every nerve to establish seats of learning, bearing their several names, and in which their several sentiments are cherished. Spurious, unscriptural and God dishonoring doctrines are being propagated by men of literary standing, and human nature, prone to adopt those sentiments which are most congenial to itself, is freely imbibing them. Infidels\* and sceptics are zealously endeavoring to establish their principles and to extirpate the true religion of Jesus Christ. The Baptists, to whom, we believe, is intrusted the defence of the pure truths of the Bible, are most urgently called upon to occupy a front rank in the onward march of education. Large numbers of men renowned for their deep erudition and sound scriptural views are required to take their stand in defence of the Word of God, in order that the floods of error and superstition may be driven back. The missionary field, both foreign and domestic is extensive, and white already to the harvest, calling for scores of labourers. A great part of our own Provinces is still destitute of the preaching of the Gospel, and from late foreign intelligence we are led to believe that wide doors will ere long be flung open for a host of additional Missionaries. The desire to see these immense fields supplied with qualified men of God, and the demand for highly educated men already referred to, should inspire every true Baptist of the Provinces to exclaim—Let Acadia College be placed upon a firm and permanent basis!

Another idea worthy of consideration is, the increasing demand for educated men exclusive of the Ministry, to fill the numerous public offices and stations of the day, viz—School Teachers, Clerks, Legislators, &c. Unless the Baptists can satisfy the demand in this department, other Denominations will do so, and thus leave them in the shade.

We are happy to affirm that a thirst for education is already created amongst multitudes of our young men, and this thirst must be gratified. If an Institution such as they require, therefore, cannot be found in their own land, they will seek the gratification of the desire in the neighboring Republic, where every inducement is offered to young men. And when they leave their native shores and

experience the many advantages and witness the many encouragements offered to literary men abroad, they seldom or never return, and consequently their talents and influence are lost to their native land. These statements are fully strengthened by the past history of our Provinces, and should bear with due weight upon the minds of the friends of Acadia College.

II. *Its present pecuniary means are insufficient and uncertain.*

Since its first establishment, Acadia College has laboured under many discouragements, and the designs of its patrons have been much crippled for the want of funds. Formerly a grant from the Legislature considerably aided in its support, which even then was by far too limited. No grant being now received, Acadia is entirely dependent upon the voluntary subscriptions and donations of her friends. The difficulties attending the collecting of annual subscriptions scattered over three Provinces must be obvious to every discerning mind. And further the uncertainty of the continuance of these subscriptions, owing to the fluctuations of business, and the wavering and whimsical disposition of many of its supporters, must also be evident to all. Under these circumstances the Financial Committee are slimly prepared either to meet their engagements with the Professors, or to carry into execution any plans for the repairing or completion of the Building.

We have endeavoured to prove that the existence of Acadia College is indispensable to the future prosperity of the Baptists, as a denomination, in these Provinces. We have also noticed the fact that the present arrangements for its sustenance are altogether inadequate. Now if these statements be true, and we presume none will deny them, the question naturally arises, how may the funds of the College be so replenished as to place it beyond the annoyance of pecuniary embarrassments? in answer to this query we proceed to consider

III. *The practicability of the proposed Endowment plan and its adaptation to meet the present exigencies of this institution.*

We believe that it is not only practicable for the Baptists in Nova-Scotia, New-Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, to raise the sum of £10,000 for so desirable an object, but that, if proper means be adopted, the accomplishment of it would be comparatively easy. What! will any one presume to say that this sum cannot be realized in 193 Baptist Churches, containing over 16,000 members spread over three large and flourishing provinces. How unreasonable such an assertion! Divided equally but a little more than £50 would fall to each church, that is two churches for a scholarship, or about 12s. 6d. to each member. Thus divided, this sum appears insignificant and there are men amongst us who have already volunteered to give their hundreds, and now, we hope, stand ready. Why then need we doubt the feasibility of raising the proposed sum, or double that amount if required! Again, the Endowment scheme is not only practicable, but admirably adapted to place our College in the desired position in reference to funds. Most of the institutions of a similar kind in the United States are founded upon this plan and its practical working is excellent. In fact our neighbours there deem this the only safe and reliable method for sustaining their colleges, and it is by them considered but a small matter to raise 50 or 100 thousand dollars for an object so nearly allied with their spiritual and temporal weal.

Lastly—*The results that would accrue from the Endowment of Acadia College.*

It is proposed to raise the £10,000 principally by the founding of scholarships. The tendency of which will be to secure the constant attendance of an increased number of students, as every founder of a scholarship would be desirous of having it occupied, either by his own son or some other young man whom he might please to make the object of his beneficence.

The Board of Management would be prepared to secure the services of two additional professors, who might measureably relieve those now engaged on their very arduous and responsible duties. The staff of professors being thus increased the literary and scientific character of the Institution would consequently be so far improved as to offer strong inducements for multitudes of our young men to avail themselves of its advantages instead of leaving their native land in pursuit of an education.

Ample provision would also result therefrom for the encouragement of students for the