

adness and despair, and an extreme dearth of provisions, whole herds of cattle and sheep are killed by a rapidly spreading disease. All feelings of human nature begin to be more perverted and convulsed. The most loathsome food, meat infested by murrain, is eagerly sought after; in some instances dogs have been slaughtered and ravenously devoured by a famishing population. In one case, in Wurtemberg, a dog, buried for some days has been dug up, and, what will scarcely appear credible, the flesh in its advanced state of decomposition has been actually made use of as food. To satisfy the cravings of hunger, the last miserable remnant of furniture is not unfrequently disposed of. And what kind of food is it which, to sustain their mere life and unenviable existence, these wretched people are forced to, and but too glad to procure? Wholesome meat is out of the question—a luxury rarely obtained. Bread made of bran must supply its place, and bran soaked with water, in which salt has been dissolved to give it a taste, and the skin of potatoes, and coffee boiled over and over again to extract the least remaining particle of nourishment. Unfortunately, sir, there is little or no prospect of an immediate, or even of an approximate, alleviation of such harrowing misery. The most abundant harvest will but slowly counteract its destructive effects, and although vigorous human exertions have been made in various quarters, by government and private individuals, their result is wholly inadequate to meet in any degree, this fearful amount of distress. You will, no doubt, sir, understand it more readily why Germans, in yet unheard of numbers, are literally besieging every point available for emigration, both here and abroad.

TERMS OF THIS PAPER.

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CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1852.

It is our painful task to-day to announce that by one of the most mysterious dispensations of the Head of the Church, we have been suddenly deprived, by death, of the presence, help and comfort of the Rev. EDWARD D. VERY, Editor of this paper, and Pastor of the Church in Portland, while in the midst of health, mental vigour, and the path of duty. The particulars of this truly melancholy catastrophe will be found in the following letter from the Rev. Dr. Cramp, President of Acadia College, to the Rev. Samuel Robinson, of this city:—

ACADIA COLLEGE, June 8, 1852.

MY DEAR BROTHER,
I sent a brief message this morning to Brother Demill, by telegraph. He has doubtless communicated to you the sad tidings. I sit down now to furnish a few particulars, as far as information has reached us.
On Lord's day Brother VERY preached an excellent sermon from Romans viii. 29. He also delivered an address at the Missionary Concert in the evening—very appropriate, serious and forcible. Little did we imagine that we should hear his voice no more!
Yesterday morning, about 4 o'clock, our brother left my house for an excursion to Cape Blomidon, in company with Professor Chipman and four of our Students, Messrs. Rand, Phalen, Grant and King. Two boatmen completed the party. Brother Very had anticipated much pleasure from the trip, having often heard of the mineral treasures of that locality, and intending to avail himself of the opportunity to collect specimens.
They spent the day in that pursuit, and were returning with the afternoon's tide. As they approached our shore the wind freshened, and at length blew a gale. The boat shipped a sea, which half filled her; they baled out the water, and were endeavoring to tack, for the purpose of taking shelter in the Habitant river, when the boat was again struck, filled with water, and swamped. Our friends clung to the boat, in the hope of saving themselves, but one by one they were washed away. Brother Very was the last: he lost his hold once, but the surviving boatman (the other had already sunk) caught his hand and helped him to lay hold again: shortly afterwards, however, he was washed off a second time, and sunk to rise no more. The boatman above-mentioned was the only one who escaped.
This distressing calamity occurred near Long Island, four miles from this place. The bodies have not yet been recovered, but it is thought prob-

able that they will be found in a day or two. Any instructions respecting dear Brother Very's remains, should they be found, will of course be carefully attended to.
It is indeed a heart-rending sorrow. It is darkly mysterious. How many interests are affected by it—Families—Churches—the College—the Visitor—the Denomination! The Lord is "gracious" as well as "righteous"; but sometimes, as in this instance, "clouds and darkness are round about him." May we be kept free from murmuring, and "humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God"!

I am, dear Brother, your's truly,
J. M. CRAMP.
Rev. S. Robinson, St. John.

While we weep with his widow, his children, and the church, we bow down silently before God, who gives and takes away, as seems good in his sight—saying "Blessed be the name of the Lord!" and we rejoice that our dear brother being dead, will speak to us by the testimony he has left of his faith in Christ—by his example of devotedness to the Lord—love for the truth, and to the Saints, for its sake—of his love to all men as he had opportunity—of his zeal for the conversion of the heathen—and for the ingathering of the sheep to the fold of Christ, and building them up in the most holy faith. We may, with propriety, adopt the language of David, who, lamenting the death of Abner, said, "A great man has fallen this day in Israel!" Yet we know that our loss is his gain, for "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them."

Our departed brother left this City, in good health and spirits, on Monday morning the 31st ult., to attend the Examination of Acadia College, and the Association at Liverpool, N. S., intending to be absent about a fortnight. Little did we then imagine that it was to be a final separation. Such is the uncertainty of earthly things.

The following Editorials, which were received the day previous to the arrival of the news of his death, are the last articles from the pen of the late much lamented Editor. They will be perused with intense interest.

ANNIVERSARY OF ACADIA COLLEGE.

This occasion, so full of interest to Students and Officers, has now passed, and we sit down with great pleasure to communicate to the friends of the College and of Education among our readers, the impressions we have received in regard to it. The friends are aware that owing to the temporary suspension and the embarrassments connected therewith which occurred two years since, we have been deprived of a regular graduating class this year, such as is usual in Colleges at the close of each year. The students have none of them completed the regular course of study prescribed to candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Arts. The number who have been pursuing their studies for the year, as will be seen by the Report of the officers in another column has been sixteen. The examination of the several classes into which these have been arranged, was conducted by the officers on Wednesday and Thursday, the 2nd and 3rd inst., before a number of friends, and was highly satisfactory. It was particularly interesting to witness the freedom from all confusion and embarrassment on the part of the students, and the readiness with which all their recitations were given.

We were repeatedly assured by students with whom we have since had private conversation, that from the beginning of the year to its close the utmost harmony has prevailed, all have been happy, each student affectionately attached to his fellow students, and every one cherishing a most tender and affectionate regard towards their Teachers. This was quite evident in their bearing and in the cheerful aspect which every one wore through all the public exercises of the week.

It does not appear to have been customary for more than a very few to attend the examination of the classes in their classical and mathematical studies, but a general attendance is given upon the public exhibition. This occurred on Friday, in the Lecture Room of the College, which was appropriately and tastefully decked for the occasion. The weather favoring the occasion, a large number assembled from the vicinity of the College, and the Hall was filled.

At eleven o'clock the public exercises commenced with Prayer by the venerable Theodore S. Harding. Singing was interspersed with the declamation, and from 11 o'clock to 3 o'clock no symptoms of restlessness appear-

ed, and though so protracted, the exercises commanded the most respectful attention.

Nine young gentlemen, in the absence of a graduating class, consented to prepare Oration and Essays, and deliver them, which was done in a manner most gratifying to all present and most creditable to themselves. We only repeat here what we publicly and conscientiously stated there—that we never at any College Exhibition witnessed more satisfactory performances.

The following were the subjects and order of Exercises:—

1. *Universal Language*.—George W. Day, Manguerville, New Brunswick.
2. *The Royal Scholar of the Ninth Century*.—Henry W. King, Onslow.
3. *"A Man's a Man for a' that"*.—Thomas W. Higgins, Rawdon.
4. *Tribute to the Rev. Edward Manning*.—Judson J. Skinner, Cornwallis.
5. *The Child of the Buzrushes, and the Herald of Sinai*.—David McKeen, Mabou, C. B.
6. *The Pilgrim Dreamer*.—Henry Angell, Halifax.
7. *"I CAN and I WILL," the Talismans of Human Progress*.—Benjamin Rand, Cornwallis.
8. *The Student of Nova Scotia—his aspirations, his claims, and his destiny*.—Anthony E. Phalen, Rawdon.
9. *Heroes of the Nineteenth Century*.—William Grant, Sydney, C. B.

At the conclusion of the above, Rev. T. S. Harding, Rev. E. D. Very, and Rev. Wm. Hall, offered a few words of congratulation and encouragement, when after a few words from Dr. Cramp, the audience was dismissed.

The addresses of the Students were of their own composition and were well written. Those acquainted with such exhibitions are often very awkward affairs and that for a little bombast to protude here and there is no strange concurrence. But not in a single instance did we notice this in connexion with these orations. There was a marked preponderance of sterling common sense. There were good thoughts clearly expressed, and delivered in a natural and forcible manner.

Every thing about this Examination and Exhibition seemed to forbid the fear of a relinquishment of Acadia College.

The portraits of its venerable founders seemed smiling with satisfaction over the scene as the crowded audience sat delighted with the proofs of proficiency on the part of Students and of success on the part of Teachers.

Rev. Dr. Cramp, before the audience separated, announced the progress of the effort so far in Horton and Cornwallis Townships to the Endowment scheme.

A noble example of zeal and liberality has been set by these communities. More than £1200 have been subscribed in Horton and £1000 in Cornwallis. The first Baptist Church and also the second Baptist Church in the latter place have each subscribed for a Scholarship for the Churches. So also the first Horton Church. An Edward Manning Scholarship has also been subscribed, and a Theodore S. Harding Scholarship, mainly among the College Students and entirely by their exertions.

Of course from every part of the Provinces an eye will be directed to this neighbourhood first, and we rejoice that no occasion has been left to lament what will here be seen. Cornwallis it is not probable has done all that will be done there, it may be that more will be done in Horton. We were glad to learn on our way that a public meeting had been called by Elder Ring, at Bridgetown, to see what that Church would do; we have not heard the result. A good beginning has been made, and if the like encouragement is afforded at Liverpool, and a reasonable interest is manifested by those who attend the Association there, the friends will be well encouraged to prosecute their labors elsewhere through the Provinces.

THE PILOT.—This excellent steamer will, we are persuaded, be drawing the attention of those who have occasion to cross the Bay either on business or pleasure. Her fittings are very fine and cleanly, and her speed admirable. In our trip last week we left St. John at 8 o'clock A. M.; at 12 we were at Digby, and at 3 o'clock P. M. we were at Annapolis. The skill and attention of Captain Leavitt are too well known to need remark. We heartily commend the Pilot. Her trips from St. John are on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, at 8 o'clock A. M.

LETTERS RECEIVED.—Mr. J. R. Reed, with remittance. Rev. Seth Bliss, Mr. Peter Knight, Mr. J. Curtis, Mr. William Smith.

Correspondence.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

ACADIA COLLEGE.

Report of the Studies of the Year ending June 4, 1852.

[The following Report presents a glance at the course of studies pursued during the past year at Acadia College, and upon which the students have now been examined. It will be seen that the course, considering the number of Teachers, is a very thorough one, and that to conduct the students through it must have required unwearied and unceasing assiduity on the part of the Officers of the College.—We feel desirous of laying this Report before the friends of the College, because it will be so easy to infer the absolute necessity of more Teachers, and of so dividing the labor of teaching in this wide range of studies that justice may be done to the students seeking instruction without inflicting gross injustice upon teachers, and without wearing them out and exhausting their health and strength under false impressions of economy in the administration of the affairs of the College.]—Ed.

The Session was opened on Tuesday, September 2, 1851. Sixteen students have attended the classes during the year.

CLASSICS.—In Greek, the senior class have read the Medea of Euripides, from the 908th line to the end—a portion of the first book of Homer's Odyssey—and ninety-four sections of the Oration of Demosthenes on the Crown.—The junior class have read in the Iliad of Homer throughout the Terms.

In Latin, the senior class have read the "Agricola" of Tacitus, from ch. 19, to the end, the whole of the "Germania," and thirteen chapters of Cicero de Officiis. The junior class have read Sallust's Catiline, from ch. 26, to the end, and twenty of the Odes of Horace, selected from his third and fourth books. This class have also been regularly exercised in Greek and Latin composition.

MATHEMATICS.—Classes have been instructed in Geometry, Algebra, Trigonometry, Plane and Spherical, Navigation, Surveying, and Nautical Astronomy. In Geometry, the Text-book has been Davies' Legendre, nine books; in Algebra, Davies' Bourdon, to the Theory of Logarithms; in Trigonometry, Davies' Plane and Spherical to the end; in Navigation, Surveying, and Nautical Astronomy, Hackley to the end. The subjects have been studied theoretically and practically combined.

MENTAL PHILOSOPHY.—The Class in Mental Philosophy have gone through Upham's Treatise on the Intellect as a Text-book, with extended comments.

MORAL PHILOSOPHY.—A class, chiefly composed of senior students, was formed immediately after the opening of the Fall Term.—Dr. Wayland's Moral Philosophy was used as a Text-book.

EVIDENCES OF CHRISTIANITY.—Having completed the course of Moral Philosophy, the above-mentioned class proceeded to the study of the Evidences of Christianity. Dr. Paley's well-known work (Religious Tract Society's edition) was the Text-book employed, and lectures were delivered, embracing many topics which are but slightly discussed, or altogether omitted, in that work.

RHETORIC AND ELOCUTION.—Blair's Lectures have been the basis of the instruction in Rhetoric; and once a week, exercises have been conducted in Reading or Declamation.

ESSAYS.—The students have written essays on various subjects, literary, historical, &c., which have been examined and criticised, with a view to improvement in composition. Seventy-six Essays have been prepared during the Terms; twenty-eight by the senior class, and forty-eight by the junior.

THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.—The President regrets that so little has been done in this department. Having been compelled to undertake the duties of the Classical Professor, he has been unable to give attention to theological instruction, except to a very limited extent. This evil, it is hoped, will be speedily corrected.

An exegetical exercise on the Greek Testament has been attended to once a week, in which all the students have shared. Matthew ii.—xxvi: inclusive, has been thus studied.

A Hebrew class has been formed. After studying Gesenius's Grammar, (a portion of which has been recited twice,) the class com-