

ed for busily in the time of Queen Elizabeth. It is found also in Glen Turret, in Perthshire, and at Cumberhead, in Lanarkshire. Attempts have been made to turn to account the gold existing in North Wales and Cornwall.—About sixty years ago, gold was found accidentally in the bed of the streams which run from a mountain on the confines of Wicklow and Wexford, by name, Crognan Kinshela. A good deal of gold was collected by the people, who, having the first pick, had soon earned about ten thousand pounds among them by their findings. Government then established works, and having realized in two years three thousand six hundred and seventy-five pounds by the sale of gold, which as it cost them more than that amount to get, they let the matter drop, judiciously.

CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1852.

ACADIA COLLEGE.

We have been enabled to lay before our readers this week the doings of the Convention, held last week at Wolfville, to consider the claims of the College and devise means for its support. We learn that owing to the state of the roads the attendance was not what it had been hoped it would be. It will remain for the Governors to devise some means for learning, as speedily as possible, what it was hoped would have been ascertained by this meeting. The letters, however, which have reached Wolfville, indicate so much unanimity of opinion in regard to the expediency of attempting the Fund of £10,000, that no reasonable doubt can be entertained of the popularity of the measure in every part of the three Provinces. Some details, however, need to be adjusted, even if it was known that the measure, as a general one, was universally acceptable, and these details cannot be adjusted by correspondence. A meeting, therefore, of some kind is imperatively required, in which there shall be a fair representation of the churches, before this or any other plan can be submitted for action.

We presume this will come under the immediate attention of the Governors and that it will soon be known whether another attempt at a Convention will be made, before the meetings of the several Associations, in order for their action upon some definite scheme as they severally meet, or whether it shall be left to learn from the meetings of the Associations their wishes, in order to the adjustment of a plan, based upon the views of all, when the regular meeting of the Convention shall be held at Sackville. This latter course would involve considerable delay, but if the means for properly sustaining our expenses can be devised, it might be on the whole the least liable to exceptions. Neither Churches nor Ministers can afford the inconveniences and expenses of numerous public meetings calling Ministers from their flocks. But if no means can be devised by the Financial Committee for covering current expenses in the mean time, then, great as the inconvenience may be, some special meeting must be called. The credit of the Convention, and in fact, the continuance of the College might be hazarded by neglect. None, we trust, under such circumstances would object to such a course, as the Executives of the Convention and of the College might advise us to pursue.

We feel that such perplexities are a great trial, but they will doubtless occasion many prayers, and dispose the friends of the College, under a sense of their dependence upon his beneficent care, to cast their burden upon the Lord. May He have the lead and direction of the whole work, as the purpose of all is to advance his kingdom and glory.

AFRAID OF THE PEOPLE.

The Bible makes its appeals directly to the people, and all its converts must be from them. God reveals himself to them; the Holy Spirit is poured out upon them; the Saviour is not ashamed to be called the brother of as many of them as repent and believe, and his word is given to be the man of their counsel. In their capacity as a Church they are constituted the pillar and ground of the truth. This is seen to be in perfect keeping with the nature of the Christian religion, demanding intelligent conviction, rational and reasonable repentance, with willing and cheerful submission.

Men can be forced to conform to ceremonies, and to adopt the outward symbols of religion, but can never be made religious against their will. If intelligently and heartily religious then the interests of religion, so far as they depend upon their submission to the great Lawgiver, are safe. Where the entrance to the Church is so guarded that its members can be received and recognized as saints and faithful brethren, there is no just occasion to fear their influence in the administration of its affairs.

When on the other hand a few out of the many insist upon an exclusive right to controul and administer government over the mass of members, and are afraid of the people, one of two things seems evident. Either such government is obnoxious to the principles of religion and will not bear the scrutiny of honest enquiry; or the people are not fitly joined together, nor are they such materials for Church building as the Saviour directed to be employed.

That the administration of ecclesiastical affairs cannot be entrusted to the people in a National Church is at once evident; because no dependence can be placed upon the integrity of such a membership; that it can be with all safety entrusted to a Scriptural Church is equally as evident, because they are such as gladly receive the word of the Lord, such as are in subjection to his authority, and such as He himself appointed as the repositories of his truth.

In giving a popular form of Government to the Christian Church, and in authorizing the Church to exercise it in the selection of its officers, and in receiving and excluding members, and in making provision for its support an unequivocal commendation is given them as the excellent of the earth, a royal priesthood.

In substituting for this government a self-perpetuating hierarchy to legislate for and govern a Church is only a necessary confession, at least, of their view of its constitution as made up of the lawless and disobedient. We regard it as the most severe reflection that a minister or an association of ministers can cast upon the Church with which they are connected, that they are afraid of popular influence in the administration of its affairs. Not so, Christ the Head of the Church; not so the Apostle, Paul whose advice is so largely given on this point in his Epistles to the Churches.

Religious Condition and Prospects of St. Helena.

We noticed more than a year since the arrival in the United States of Rev. Mr. Bertram, a Baptist Minister from St. Helena, which he had chosen as a Missionary field, and that he came soliciting aid for a Chapel, Mission House, &c. Mr. Bertram has been frequently spoken of by those who have been cognizant of his labors upon the Island, and particularly by Rev. Mr. Judson, and Mr. and Mrs. Wade, American Missionaries, who have experienced his hospitality and visited his Church, as a diligent, faithful and successful Missionary.

Mr. Bertram has been successful in his application in the States, and has collected something over \$5,100; of this \$2,700 has been collected from Baptist Churches, and the balance from other sources.

The following particulars are gathered from statements which he has made in his public addresses:—

Mr. Bertram having designed laboring among the nations of South Africa, had spent some time at the Cape of Good Hope. While there a young man, a native of St. Helena, who came to the Cape to carry on his business, became a Christian, when he presented the claims of the island to the Churches at the Cape as a missionary field. St. Helena is a rock in mid ocean, 1,860 miles from the Cape of Good Hope, 2,600 miles from Rio Janeiro, 1,200 from the African coast, and 600 from the Island of Ascension, and with its lofty and precipitous cliffs rising from 500 to 2,000 feet in height, it is like a vast rock in the sea. Yet, though forbidding in its approach, on entering the harbors, and penetrating into the valleys, the most delightful climate, the most lovely valley and landscapes, and the most romantic pictures of natural beauty, are to be met with, probably unsurpassed in any part of the world. The island is about 30 miles in circumference, and from 9 to 10 in diameter. The population is about 7,500—composed of 1,500 whites, 1,000 liberated Africans, rescued from slave ships, the rest natives, who are a mixture of Portuguese and Africans early introduced in the brilliant period of Portuguese discovery

and navigation. They are ignorant and degraded, and were without any knowledge; without the idea of a soul or of God, till they were taught by the missionary. Being three-fourths colored, they had been enslaved by the whites, till the period of British emancipation.

Mr. Bertram, on the representation of the young convert before spoken of, turned his attention to this island, as a missionary field. He was the first dissenting minister who had ever entered the harbor for the purpose of settling there. The account the speaker gave of the first preaching, the first convert—a young man of the finest talents and education, who is now an ordained minister in one of the churches—the gathering of the natives, and their habits, together with the occasional descriptions of natural scenery, were highly interesting. It is but about five years since the speaker first went to St. Helena, and there are now a Church of whites, and two native Churches, and several Sunday schools. Mr. Bertram is seeking assistance to support this mission and to build houses of worship for the poor natives.

CAMBRIDGE COLLEGE, MASSACHUSETTS.—The reforms which have been urged in the Government of this ancient College, which belongs to the State of Massachusetts, seem to have resulted in quite a unanimous desire on the part of the Unitarians that their Divinity School should be severed from the College.—A memorial to this effect from the President and Fellows of the College was submitted to a Committee of the Board of overseers who have recommended its excision.

FRENCH MISSION.—We would hereby acknowledge the receipt of the following sums for the French Mission.

Friends at Sussex, per D. Crandal,	£0 10 3
“ “ Moncton, “	0 16 0
Mr. Jordan Crandal, Salisbury,	0 5 0
Friends at St. Martins, per Mr. Hurd,	0 17 6
	£2 2 9

When political papers dabble with religion and morals, and to guard the latter recommend Theatres and Lottery, gambling, we think it quite in order for a paper “devoted to Religion and General Intelligence,” to stand by the cause of Temperance.

The cause of Temperance is essentially moral, and vitally connected with religion as taught by Scripture, and recognized by popular sentiment, nor can the opposition of politicians, to the efforts of Temperance men, be made any colourable pretext for arresting the efforts of its friends.

The Steamer *Admiral* came as the first bird of spring on Saturday last; those who visited her, extol very highly the improvements which have been made in her, and the announcement again of Capt. Wood as commander, is a warrant for every care and attention to the safety and comfort of travellers by her.

We hear much also of the little gem of a boat the *Pilot*, which has been fitted with cabins and accommodations for passengers during the past winter, and will be upon the route for the season, either across or up the Bay of Fundy. She is a capital boat both for speed and safety, and such an one has been very much needed. When we have an opportunity of inspecting her, we will have more to say.

Will Agents who have back numbers of the Visitor on hand, not taken by Subscribers, be kind enough to enclose them, and mail them to us, as we cannot supply back papers to new Subscribers who are applying for them.

LETTERS RECEIVED.—Mr. Henry E. Seely, with remittance; Rev. D. Crandall, do.; Rev. J. Trimble, do.; Mr. G. White, do.

Mr. O. L. Perkins, Mr. A. H. Munro, Mr. J. J. Hovey, Mr. E. Shaw.

Correspondence.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

ACADIA COLLEGE.

The proposed meetings on behalf of this Institution were held at Wolfville last week. Owing to the state of the roads and other causes, the attendance of friends from a distance was but small, in consequence of which the course of procedure was somewhat modified.

The Governors and other friends met for

conference on Wednesday evening, and held an adjourned meeting for the same purpose on Thursday afternoon.

On Thursday morning, Dr. Cramp delivered a Lecture in the Academy Hall on “the Future of the Baptists.” The object of the lecturer was to show that in the religious inquiry now going on in various parts of the world there is an evident tendency to Baptist principles, and that our Denomination should be careful to make preparation for the discussions and conflicts which are likely to ensue, by establishing educational arrangements of the highest order.

In the evening, the subject of education was brought before the Meeting, and ably set forth in addresses by the Brethren Hall, Tupper, Barpe, and Professor Chipman. Dr. Cramp presided. The following Resolutions were unanimously passed:—

1. That while education is justly regarded as a great and necessary good, essential to human happiness, and closely interwoven with the welfare of nations, Baptists are under special obligations to promote its advancement, since, in addition to other and substantial benefits connected with learning, it tends to foster that spirit of free enquiry, and that love of religious freedom, by which they have been ever distinguished.

2. That the education of candidates for the christian ministry assumes growing importance as knowledge diffuses its blessings throughout the community; and that it is the duty of the Baptist Denomination to make liberal provision for the attainment of this most desirable object, both by founding educational establishments, harmonising, in their plans and methods of instruction, with the improvements of modern times, and by rendering pecuniary aid to young men while pursuing their theological studies.

3. That this Meeting cannot but acknowledge, with profound gratitude, the goodness of God towards the Institutions of learning founded by the Baptists in these Provinces, from which many and great advantages have been derived by numbers of individuals, of various ranks and professions—more particularly towards Acadia College, in which, raised as it was in faith and prayer, and therefore associated with hallowed recollections, the future minister and the future missionary have pursued their studies, and prepared for the work of the Lord.

4. That whereas, in order to secure efficient collegiate instruction, a division of labour is absolutely necessary, so that each Professor may be limited, as nearly as possible, to one branch of tuition, it is much to be regretted that there are now but two Professors at Acadia College, and it is greatly to be desired that the number should be increased at the earliest possible period.

5. That however desirable it may be, for various reasons, to obtain support for the College by annual subscriptions, it has been found by experience that the funds derived from that source are precarious and insufficient, and that the uncertainty of collection, and consequent irregularity in the receipts, produce manifold inconveniences, which are seriously detrimental to the successful working of the Institution; while it is manifest, that the enlarged income indispensably required for an increased number of Professors, cannot be reasonably looked for without a change in the pecuniary management.

6. That in order to place the College on a permanent foundation, by procuring an adequate amount of annual support, it is desirable to raise the sum of not less than £10,000 for an Endowment, to be invested in approved securities; the interest of which sum, £600 per annum, together with the tuition fees, the proceeds of the Union Society funds, applicable to theological education, and any voluntary subscriptions which may continue to be realised, will suffice to provide for the appointment of a suitable number of Professors.

7. That in the opinion of this Meeting, the Baptists of these Provinces are fully able to raise the sum of £10,000 for the endowment of Acadia College, and that the object may be accomplished in the following way:

1st. Individuals may found Scholarships, by the payment of £100 currency each, such Scholarships to be held by their sons and descendants, or by such other persons as they and their heirs may appoint, who will be exempted from tuition fees while holding them, in conformity with a notice issued by the Governors in June, 1851.

2d. Two persons may unite for such purpose nominating holders of the Scholarships in succession, as may be agreed on between themselves.