

ledge confers, and finally we see the result in the prostration of once the proudest, and most extensive, and the most formidable country in the world. Let us review the periods in which the greatest nations existed, and we shall find that their power, their dominion, and their strength are solely to be attributed to knowledge. That nation which possesses the most practical knowledge, has always maintained superiority over the rest; and according as nations approach nearer to each other in enlightenment, in the like proportion will superiority diminish. The independence of the several Grecian States was maintained as long as they kept pace with each other; but the moment one, either from the superior endowments of its people, or from their more extended knowledge, rose higher than the rest, that moment the balance of power was lost. The Grecians, in consequence of that power which knowledge alone confers, not only defended their country from the invasion of Xerxes, with his million of disciplined soldiers, but after having defeated their enemies, they carried the war into their country, and finally subdued those who attempted to crush their liberty. The Romans held the whole world in subjection, and maintained their undivided sway for so long a period, because knowledge gave them the power. Spain, Venice, Portugal, and Holland were each raised to grandeur, influence, wealth, and dominion by the same power. And thus may we review country after country rising in prosperity, increasing in strength, extending in dominion, concentrating in power, until we behold Great Britain, a speck on the map of the world, embodying in its very name the fullest exemplification of our motto, that "knowledge is power."

It is worthy of remark, that liberty always accompanies enlightenment; if we glance over the page of history, we will find this fully exemplified. In the earlier ages, knowledge was exclusively confined to the higher ranks of society. It was alone accessible to them, and we know in what state of subserviency the majority of the people were held; but according as it became diffused, the people began to survey their condition, to examine into the nature of things, to check the evil doings of their rulers, and to partake of a greater share of power and happiness during the middle ages. Look to our own time, and see the glorious prospect before us. Wherever knowledge is cultivated, there liberty, peace, happiness, order, and contentment reign. All nations proclaim, all ages establish, all mankind acquiesce in the truth of our motto, that "knowledge is power."

TO ADVERTISERS.

For Advertisements relating to Books, Sales, Articles of General-Consumption, Situations, and Appeals for Philanthropic and Religious objects, the Visitor, which has a circulation of over 1600, can be scarcely surpassed. The terms are on the same scale as our contemporaries, and a reduction is made on Advertisements repeatedly inserted.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

TERMS OF THIS PAPER.—10s. per annum in advance; 12s. 6d. if payment is deferred three months. Eight copies sent to one address for fourteen dollars.

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No subscriptions will be taken for a shorter period than 6 months; and in no case will less than 5s. be charged for a half year.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is our wish to insert no communication whatever without knowing who the writer is. Those of our Correspondents, therefore, who wish the letters or the intelligence with which they favour us to be published, will best promote that object by attaching their names, which will be considered sacred.

CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1852.

Dr. Maclay and Acadia College.

The letter which we publish from Brother Francis is exceedingly encouraging. The success which is attending Dr. Maclay's advocacy of the endowment movement inspires us all with new life. To use his own emphatic words, "he has thrown his whole soul into the work," and when our beloved Father in the gospel does this, in any cause which he undertakes success is certain. He hesitated for some time before he could make up his mind to take even a few weeks from his favorite object, the "Bible Union," and devote them to the interests of ACADIA. But his travels through these Provinces had given him an enlarged acquaintance with the necessities of our Churches, and impressed upon his mind deeply the importance of an efficient College for training our young men, who give evidence of being possessed of a ministerial spirit, in order that they may be fully quali-

fied for the great work of unfolding God's truth, so as to give every one his portion of meat in due season. He therefore finally determined, in accordance with the earnest solicitations of the brethren, as expressed at the Association, in Prince William, and at the Convention in Sackville, to engage in this work for a short period. We are happy to learn that his friends in New York, heartily approve of the course he has pursued, and we greatly rejoice that he is succeeding in a manner that is fully equal to our most sanguine expectations. May his way continue prosperous, is the sincere prayer of many hearts.

Agency for the Endowment.

We publish this week the names of those Brethren who were appointed by the Convention to complete the Endowment for Acadia. We beg respectfully to say to them,

Dear Brethren,—The work is now in your hands; a failure on your part will be ruinous to the whole scheme. What is to be done must be done quickly. Time is flying,—the first of January will soon be here; and if the agency be not prosecuted at once with vigour and determination, the results will be of the most painful and serious character.

We noticed in a preceding No., the invitation extended by the Convention to Dr. Crawley to become associated with Dr. Cramp in the management and instructions of Acadia College. The doctor's reply has been received, and late on Saturday evening, letters from Dr. Cramp came to hand, urging the Governors in St. John to attend a meeting appointed for Wednesday, at Wolfville, for mutual consultation upon the subject of the reply.

The Governors here felt at once the importance of the meeting, and were desirous of attending in person, but were unprepared to do so at so short a notice. Their only course was to forward their views by letter, reiterating what they had before expressed, a unanimous and urgent desire that Dr. Crawley would comply with the invitation of the Convention, and their readiness to concur in any arrangement that would secure the co-operation of Drs. Cramp and Crawley, in the responsibilities and labours of the Institution.—We believe that the Baptists of these Provinces will fully harmonize with these views; and we strongly cherish the hope that the desired object will be accomplished. Surely there is wisdom and grace enough in those most concerned to make such arrangements as the peculiar circumstances of the case demand.

All who have taken anything like a prominent part in the rise and progress of Acadia College have had their trials; but let each and all forget the things that are behind, and in the spirit of the great Apostle, press on to those things which are before. We cannot boast of stores of wealth in our Churches; but if we maintain amongst us the unity of the Spirit; and concentrate our energies in the promotion of truth, we may confidently look for the blessing which maketh rich, and which will ensure progress, and ultimate triumph over every obstacle. "ONWARD! ONWARD!" is our motto.

Report on the State of the Denomination.

It will be seen by the Report, as published in our columns of the 1st inst., that the increase by baptism during the past year falls considerably short of the increase of the preceding year. Should not this fact awaken fears in our minds that there has been a proportionate diminution in our zeal for the conversion of souls to God? The number instead of being less should be GREATER. Our opportunities for doing good are multiplying on all hands, and the influence of our Churches is widely extending; and should not the number of converts to the truth be in co-equal ratio?—Is there not cause on the part of both MINISTERS and CHURCHES for deep lamentation before God? Let each one ask himself why has Jehovah withheld the reviving and converting influences of his Spirit? Is it because souls are less precious in his sight, or because he is less willing to open the treasures of his love than formerly? Or, is it because we have departed from him, restrained prayer, and provoked him to anger? If he were to furnish the answer, would he not say as he did to backsliding Israel, "Your sins will separate you from God, and your transgressions have hidden his face from you?"

Shall we not, dear Brethren, acknowledge the justice of the charge, and each, for himself, as in the light of eternity, search his own

heart, prostrate himself in the dust before the Lord, and plead for pardon in the name of Christ? Have we been vain of past prosperity; or have we indulged in an evil temper, or have we been drifting off in currents of worldly conformity? thereby falsifying our professions of solemn consecration to God?—Let CONSCIENCE speak, and if that decide against us, O let us turn unto the fountain of cleansing, and rest not until we shall feel that God for Christ's sake, has forgiven; and then shall we be prepared to teach transgressors their ways, and sinners shall be converted to the saving knowledge of the truth. "Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the Lord: awake as in the ancient days, in the generations of old."

We beg to call especial attention to the following notice. The Committee having understood that there would be a great meeting of the friends of Temperance in the City on the 27th inst., selected that evening for attending to the concerns of the Visitor, so as to accommodate such brethren from the country, as might be here for the purpose of attending the Temperance Convention.

We cannot be too strongly impressed with the magnitude of the interest involved in the proposed meeting. In accordance with the expressed wishes of the Baptist Association of this Province, the Brethren of St. John brought the Christian Visitor into existence five years ago, have nourished it in its infancy, and by the co-operation of the Pastors and Churches, in the Province, have carried it forward to its present state of efficiency. But they justly feel that the progress of the age and the necessities of the people, alike demand extension and improvement. This cannot be done without involving increased responsibility. They are willing to meet their full share of this, provided the brethren in the country, are willing to do the same; and will aid them in carrying out their plans of progress.

We call on our brethren to help us forward; and one of the most powerful agencies by which this progress can be secured is by a well conducted PRESS consecrated to the diffusion of primitive Christianity. Such a power for good, the Baptists of New-Brunswick are abundantly able in point of numbers and wealth to command to any reasonable extent.

Let all then enter into the spirit of this matter, and attend the contemplated meeting at Brussels-street, with a full determination to take such harmonious and energetic action as shall correspond with the requirements of the age, and the obligations under which we are placed to God, and to his Church.

Notice.—The Committee appointed by the Association, to conduct the Christian Visitor, beg to submit to the Denomination the following statement:

At the expiration of the last quarter, they made arrangements for the enlargement of the Paper, and it was accordingly announced that at the opening of the next quarter, the Visitor would appear in an enlarged and improved form. Circumstances, however, have transpired over which the Committee had no control, which have prevented the arrangement from going into effect for the present; but the Denomination may rest assured that the Committee are deeply impressed with the importance of this object, and earnestly desire to see it accomplished as soon as possible.

In order that this may be done in a manner satisfactory to all concerned, it was judged advisable, at a Meeting held in the Vestry of the Brussels-street Chapel, on Wednesday evening last, that a General Meeting of the Pastors and Brethren, throughout the Province, should be held in Saint John forthwith, to take this matter together with the general interest of the Paper, into due consideration.

The action of the Association at Sackville has placed the Committee in a position in which they find themselves unprepared to go on with the improvements and enlargement of the Visitor, unless some new arrangements in reference to meeting the expenses be made without delay.

The Committee, therefore, urgently request the Churches to send their Pastors, or such Brethren as they may choose, to represent their wishes, at a Meeting to be held in the Vestry of the Baptist Chapel, Brussels Street, St. John, on the evening of the 27th October. Those who have the interest of the Paper at heart should be willing to make a sacrifice to come. By order of the Committee, Oct. 14th, 1852. J. F. MARSTERS, Secy.

Rev. Samuel Robinson has left the city this morning, for Canisling, Margerville, &c., on the Endowment Agency for Acadia.

Received for the Visitor by Mr. J. Marsters, Sept. 26, Cash 20s. from Mr. J. S. Colpitts; Do. 11th Oct. 10s.

ESSAY ON MIND.

[CONTINUED.]

Nor in the Vegetable world is there less proof of adaptation in the great variety of flowers, seeds, leaves, stalks, bark, and roots, to the respective elements, soils, temperature, and the seasons in which they appear. Thus the gum and scales which protect the embryo bud in cold weather—the covering of the tender and fructiferous parts in the centre of the bud, in strong cases to shelter and protect them—the downward position of many flowers during the time that they are realizing their perfect size, and their self-erection when arrived at maturity—the help of the integuments and oils in preserving seeds from decay—the manner in which seeds of various kinds are dispersed, by floating in the air, and by their rounded form, which rolls away—the formation, too, of the fir cone, so as to remain in an erect position when it falls—the explosion by which some seeds are thrown to a considerable distance—the tendrils of many plants with weak stems—the parasitical plants as lichens, adapted to derive nourishment solely from the atmosphere, and living merely by the sun's light, pure air, and slight moisture—and the water plants, requiring no soil—the *vallisneria spiralis*, uniting its roots to the bottom of rivers by means of 'elastic spiral stalks which extend or contract as the water rises or falls'—and the wonderful care of nature in generating, protecting, and perfecting the seed of the autumnal crocus—*colchicum autumnale*. And we may here remark how admirably the inanimate world is adapted to the system and organization of man and all other animate beings. We find in some portions of the globe a high atmospheric pressure, and, that there the richness and fertility of the soil, renders less muscular exertion necessary in tilling and cultivating it—the earth yields her many stores unbidden—man has his immediate wants ready supplied—less trouble is required in providing raiment and habitations—and the soil, too, is so adapted as to yield farinaceous food and vegetables, suited to the constitution of the inhabitants. On the contrary, in mountainous countries and in colder latitudes, the piercing winds in frost-bound regions, make more bodily labour requisite to keep men healthy and to circulate the blood, and the dry, wild, and barren state of the earth, there affords a wide field for industrious exercise; and the means of acquiring the necessaries of life—our food, our clothes, our raiment—being difficult, there are many more powerful calls upon us for enduring toil. There, too, the earth is comparatively suited only for pasture, and ill adapted to tillage—animal food, of a stimulating nature, is principally requisite, and we there find herds of animals and fowls of all sorts to satisfy the craving appetite of man, and to engage him in the labour of the chase. In the arctic regions no farinaceous food arrives at maturity; the Greenlander relishes nothing so much as the gross fat of the whale, seal, or walrus, and 'a tallow candle and a draught of train oil are regarded as dainties,' while all farinaceous food is rejected with evident symptoms of dislike; the hot plains of Hindoostan, on the contrary, produce rice and vegetables in abundance, but are not adapted to any extensive rearing of sheep or animals, and the inhabitants are alone healthy when they abstain from animal diet. The lichens and mosses growing on lofty mountains supply the animals there with food, and we have seen how necessary it is for the existence of man that such animals should remain in these wilder regions.

Wherever the mind wanders in the works of nature, whatever be the variety in climate, or fertility of soil—in the scorching and arid plains of Africa, or in the icy wilds of the Esquimaux tribes—we shall find that the peculiarities of every locality are admirably adapted to the animals there found, and that if such animals were to be removed to other opposite regions, their want of reciprocal relation to each other would be fully shown in the fatal effects. And although these observations may appear trite, worn out, and known to all in the abstract, still we may remember that our familiarity with great truths is often the cause of our failing justly to appreciate them, and, to review the general invitations to study held out, is the surest way to secure their acceptance. We may pause awhile, too, in admiration of the relation of animate and inanimate nature to the elements, if they may be so called, air and water, not omitting the beautiful operations in the economy of nature, so daily going on by the agency of light and heat; the component parts of our