

The Christian Visitor.

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 12, 1860.

REMARKABLE RELIGIOUS MOVEMENTS IN TURKEY AND RUSSIA.

Encouragement to Christian effort for the immediate subjection of the world to Christ are multiplying on all hands, and the demands for consecration on the part of the church to the great work of preaching the gospel to every creature are increasing daily. God by his wonder working dispensations is rapidly preparing the way for the free circulation of his word among nations hitherto inaccessible to the heralds of salvation. A late number of the *New York Independent* furnishes startling information in regard to new developments in Turkey and in Russia, which cannot but inspire every Christian heart with stronger faith in his God and with a more fervent desire to pray and toil for the universal spread of the Redeemer's Kingdom. It says:—

The number of the *Missionary Herald* for April contains reports of two matters which cannot fail to arrest the serious and thoughtful attention, and to awaken the gratitude, of all who love our Lord Jesus Christ, and who desire the advancement of his kingdom in the world. The first of these is the development among Mohammedans in Turkey of an altogether new religious spirit, connected with and radiating in a new series of views concerning Christ the Holy Spirit, and the Divine authority of the Scriptures, a development which has not come in consequence of the increased circulation of the Scriptures in the Turkish language, but has arisen independently of this through the reverent and religious study of the Koran on the part of an aged Mussulman teacher and his disciples, accompanied with sincere prayer for the blessing of God. About twenty thousand it is said, of those heretofore zealous Mohammedans, have thus become convinced of the Divine character and authority of Christ, and have been led into cordial and sympathetic relations with the Protestant missionaries and their converts. Of course it is not possible as yet to predict to what issues this movement shall proceed; but it seems manifestly thus far to be a direct and self-demonstrating work of God, and the signs of it are full of brightest promise. The wise and honored Christian ministers laboring in Turkey are with reason greatly exhilarated by it, and can only exclaim: "This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes."

The other matter of a kindred character, if it be not of a still greater importance, is the ascertained existence in Russia of a Million of essentially Protestant Christians, whose very name and distinctive existence have been heretofore unknown to the world. It seems that ninety years ago two servants; a man and his wife accompanied a Russian Ambassador to England, and while residing there became Christians; and that on returning to Russia they left his service, and devoted themselves as they were able to disseminating among their acquaintances and countrymen the new and quickening principles they had learned; that thus there came gradually to be multitudes convinced of the new faith, and zealous in its behalf; and that while many of these have been banished to Siberia, and many more have been established by the Government under the Caucasus, to be there a living barrier against the Circassians, great numbers have remained scattered in different parts of Russia, and are still there dissenting from the Greek Church, essentially Protestant and evangelical in their faith, and while needing further instruction in the Scriptures very capable of receiving and very ready to welcome this. Here again, therefore, the indications look most bright and prophetic; and a way seems almost miraculously prepared for the wide and effectual preaching of the Gospel among a people peculiarly set apart and trained to receive it, and after they have received it to impart it to others.

NOVEL READING.

The present age is distinguished for its novel reading propensities. Novels alike adapted to the high and the low, the moral and the profane, the refined and the vulgar, are being scattered by millions of copies broadcast over the world; and wherever they go their tendency is to unduly excite the imagination, blemish the moral sense, vitiate the taste, and corrupt the morals. Dr. Ray, in giving a report of the Butler Hospital for the insane, (Providence, R. I.) furnishes information which we shall all do well to ponder with serious apprehension of the danger to which our rising youth are exposed from this trashy reading so much in vogue at the present time.—He says: "Never before did so large a proportion of the current literature consist of works of imagination and never before did they, as a class, display so much ability and artistic skill. Much of the literary talent of the time has been turned into this channel. Many a genius who in a former period would have expended his powers in producing an epic poem, or a ponderous history, now peddles for honest and immortal fame in a series of novels. Although no doubt some of the richest and ripest talent of the age has been devoted to this class of productions, yet it is very evident that, with the increase of demand and supply, there has been a corresponding facility of production. What was once the result of an arduous effort on the part of some veteran, like Johnson or Fielding, is now accomplished with the utmost ease and rapidity by the humblest members of the craft of authorship. Young women, hardly arrived at the age of legal majority, put out books that sell by thousands; and a host of besotted, male and female, whom no man can number, contribute to swell the steadily increasing flood that issues from the press.

"The above facts indicate another fact, viz.: that novels are now read by every description of persons, and by many who read nothing else. The high and the low, the rich and the poor, the learned and the unlearned, the old and the young men and women, boys and girls, yield alike to the fascination—some, for the sake of amusement, and the desire of a new sensation; some, from curiosity to see for themselves what has excited so strongly the interest of others; and a few, for the commendable purpose of becoming acquainted with every form of intellectual manifestation. The records of every popular public library will show, I apprehend, that of the books most called for within a given period, more than half are novels.

"The effect of this kind of reading on the mental health is what we have to consider in the present inquiry. Of course it varies with the character of each individual mind, and with the circumstances that accompany it. Generally speaking, however, there can be no question that excessive indulgence in novel reading necessarily enervates the mind, and diminishes its power of endurance. In other departments of literature, such as biography and history, the mental powers are more or less exercised by the ideas which they convey. Facts are stored up in the memory; hints are obtained for the further pursuit of knowledge; judgments are formed respecting character, and actions; original thoughts are elicited; a spirit of investigation is excited; and, more than all, life is viewed as it really has been and must be lived. A mind thus furnished and disciplined is provided with a fund of reserved power to fall back upon when assailed by adverse forces, which all of us, in some

shape or other, at some time or other, must expect to encounter.

In novel reading, on the contrary, the mind passively contemplates the scenes that are brought before it, and which, being chiefly addressed to the passions and emotions, naturally please, without the necessity of effort or preparation. Of late years, a class of books has arisen, the sole object of which is to stir the feelings, not by ingenious plots: not by touching the finer chords of the heart, and skillfully unfolding the springs of action; but by arousing our sympathies for unadorned, unsophisticated goodness, truth, and beauty, for that would assimilate them to the immortal productions of Shakespeare and Scott; but by coarse exaggerations of every sentiment, by investing every scene in glaring colors, and, in short, by every possible form of unnatural excitement. In all this there is little or no addition to one's stock of knowledge; no element of mental strength is evolved, and no one is better prepared by it for encountering the stern realities of life. The sickly sentimentality which craves this kind of stimulus is as different from the sensibility of a well-ordered mind, as the crimson flush of disease from the ruddy glow of high health.

A mind that seeks its nutriment chiefly in books of this description is closed against the genial influences that flow from real joy and sorrow, and from all the beauty and heroism of common life. A refined selfishness is apt to prevail over every better feeling; and when the evil day comes, the higher sentiments which bind us to our fellow-men by all the ties of benevolence, and justice, and veneration, furnish no support nor consolation. Let me not be misunderstood. I do not say that no one can read a novel without endangering the health of his mind; for, under certain qualifications, nothing could be farther from producing such a result than this kind of recreation. Who can number the hours of discomfort and sorrow which have been relieved of half their burden by the delightful fictions of Scott? The specific doctrine I would inculcate is, that the excessive indulgence in novel reading, which is a characteristic of our times, is chargeable with many of the mental irregularities that prevail among us in a degree unknown at any former period.

"The views here given concerning the effect of certain kinds of reading on the health of the brain may not be readily accepted by those (and they constitute the larger part of mankind) who are unable or unwilling to perceive any relation of cause and effect between things apparently so remote from one another. Because the mischief does not follow, fully formed and developed, on the first application of the noxious agent, the latter is supposed to have had nothing to do with producing it. Such reasoning receives no support from our knowledge of the animal economy. We might as well say that dyspepsia always originates in a particular surfeit, or even frequent excess, and that a man who has the habit of eating or drinking something which, taken occasionally, may be borne with impunity. The evil is no less real, and no less serious, because it requires a certain amount of accumulation to render it visible. Here, too, the remedy is higher culture and worthier aims; and though slow in its operation, we may be sure it is the only one which will bring relief.

HINTS TO PASTORS AND CHURCHES.

A recent number of the *New York Chronicle* has some excellent thoughts on this subject which we commend to the prayerful consideration of our ministers and churches:—

Stated monthly meetings for business in a Church often prove a snare to its members. The feeling is, that we have come here to do something, and it would be a shame to have nothing to do. And hence, subjects for discussion are called upon which had better not be touched, and which are used in a way to create division rather than mutual edification. Measures of discipline which should be prosecuted in private are hastily introduced to produce dissatisfaction on the part of those whose conduct is called in question, and to distance the hope of reclaiming them to a better and holier life. Committees are appointed to wait on delinquents who would be far more effectually reclaimed by the incidental hints of the pastor, or the affectionate entreaties and rebukes of the older brethren acting for themselves and not by the appointment of the Church. The publicity given to a brother's faults, by bringing him before the business of meeting takes from him one of the motives to amendment—the preservation of his good name; and it not unfrequently happens that such meetings act as a sort of provocation to certain indiscreet and invidious members to make assaults upon those whom they dislike, by at once detailing to the Church their faults with a view to inflicting upon them the mortification of being disciplined. Thus the Church meeting is used as a means of private revenge. Never was rule founded in greater wisdom than that which assigns to the best and most spiritual Christians the work of discipline. "Brethren, if any man be overtaken with a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one with the spirit of meekness, considering thyself lest thou also be tempted."

The topics introduced into these business meetings, merely to have something to do and to talk about, often have respect to rules of order, to questions of finance which can only be settled by committees, or to matters which are calculated to minister contention rather than godly edification in love. Any trifling matter which is scarcely worthy of the dignity of a grave discussion, is seized upon by prying querulous persons as a pretext for doing something, and is used as an apple of discord among the brethren. There are always subjects which are best regulated by being left alone, and in reference to which "the strength" of the Church "is to sit still," as the prophet directs. These are brought forward to fill up the time of the stated meeting for business, to the great detriment of the body. The more they are talked over the worse they become. In the government of the Church, as in the government of a kingdom, there are always interests which are jeopardized by being made subjects of public discussion. And there is always danger from regular monthly Church meetings that these will be prematurely introduced.

Besides, to convert a religious meeting to a debating club, is in the highest degree pernicious. It sours the feelings of all who are present, and they go away dissatisfied with each other and with themselves. A social meeting to debate points of Scripture doctrine, or interpretation, rather than for prayer and speaking the truth in love, savors of any thing rather than piety and spiritual edification. It becomes an arena for pride of opinion, captiousness in argument and angry competition in debate. Each strives to get the better of the other, and as to any spiritual good to accrue from such a meeting, those composing it might just as well come together as a boxing or wrestling club, or for other feats of physical strength and agility. And if such be the effect of debating doctrine and interpretation, what shall be said of discussions which have respect to personal character or to questions of Church discipline and order? These discussions are quite sure to enlist partisan feeling, some taking one side and some the other, both arguing with might and main to carry their point, and thus the Church becomes a scene of scandal and vituperation. A Church that embarks in such modes of advancing religion in a community does more to damage than to promote the cause. "The beginning of strife is as when one letteth out water; therefore leave off contention before it be meddled with."

We do not say that all stated business meetings lead to these disagreeable consequences, but only that they do in many cases, as the sad history of our churches abundantly proves. Unhappy, in-

deed, is the case of that people with whom discussion and contention are allowed to take the place of devotion and exhortation. To prevent these evils Church meetings should only be held when important questions are to be decided, and these questions should be carefully prepared before hand, clearly stated at the time, and thus presented in an intelligent judgment on the subject. And if after all these precautions there is still a difference of judgment, it will be wise to defer the decision till some future occasion. It is never wise precipitately to override the views of a strong minority. Better do nothing than by doing alienate brotherly confidence. In cases where persons are to be received into, or excluded from the Church, it is better not to act against the strong feelings, even of a small minority.

Now, it will be found that the worst divisions in our Churches come from disregarding the principles here laid down. Too many church meetings are held, too much debate indulged in, too much haste is evinced in disposing of cases, and too much determination exist among the parties to carry each its own point without duly deferring to the feelings of others. No law of the New Testament is more necessary to the peace of the Churches than this:—"Yes, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility."

C. H. SPURGEON IN PARIS.

M. Prevost Paradol, an eminent French scholar, though not an avowed Protestant, speaks in the following eulogistic terms of Mr. Spurgeon's recent visit to Paris. He says:—

Mr. Spurgeon has spoken; the indefatigable apostle has passed three days amongst us, and has preached five times without any one being able to remark in his privileged nature the least trace of fatigue. And yet we do not think that any orator could throw more of humility into his speech, or deliver himself with more ease to his audience. Without declaiming or becoming too much excited, Mr. Spurgeon is animated and interesting from one end of his discourses to the other. His subject is often a common one, and its development is foreseen; but that which is neither common nor foreseen, that which one cannot understand before having heard Mr. Spurgeon, is the persuasive, familiar, and yet commanding manner which draws on its auditor and conducts him, without fatigue, through that long chain of recitals, images, exhortations, and prayers, of which Mr. Spurgeon, with so much art, composes the rich and solid tissue of his discourses. But why speak of art with reference to the most natural, and we would willingly say, the most inspired orator we have ever had the pleasure of hearing? Never has any one spoken with less apparent preparation, or previous study been less felt, and yet what hearer of Mr. Spurgeon has remarked, we do not say the least indistinctness, but the least feebleness or the least hesitation, in the perpetual flow of his simple and forcible eloquence? One listens with security to that powerful and sympathetic voice which never falls too low, or is raised too high, and which, during whole hours, filled with its even flood the vaults of the church. The man who has received all these gifts, and who makes so generous use of them, is not yet twenty-five years of age. It is impossible to look at this energetic and loyal character without reading in it the conviction, the courage, and the genuine happiness of doing good. It is true he has the happiness of addressing a people who do not think themselves obliged, in order to be liberal, to be unjust towards religion; but, after all, Mr. Spurgeon owes to himself alone the considerable and salutary influence he has acquired, yet no one would suspect him of being proud of it. Truly, and without affectation, he ascribes it all to God. It seems to us that all religious differences ought to lose themselves in rendering justice to such apostles. As for us, who have seen in this eloquent and benevolent young man one of the happiest examples of what can, in these modern times, promote Christianity and liberty, we have felt it a great honor and pleasure to shake hands with him.

WHAT ONE CHRISTIAN LADY CAN DO.

A correspondent to the *New York Independent*, gives the following account of the commencement of the "Great Awakening" in Ireland. God is a sovereign and works by such means as seemeth good in his sight. How he abases human pride in the prosecution of his vast design. Whoever, high or low, minister or layman, male or female, that sows to the Spirit, shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. Christian sisters read the following and double your diligence in seeking to win souls to Jesus:

An English lady, a member of a Baptist church in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, had it upon her heart that God required her to make special effort for the salvation of souls. After anxious thought and earnest prayer, with the concurrence of her husband, she determined on a course of household visiting, for religious conversation with persons of her own sex.

This lady visits a village in the north of Ireland, remarkable for its destitution of spiritual life, notorious for the drunkenness and irreligion of the bulk of its inhabitants. In conversation with a young woman of good character and religious seriousness, this lady urges the great question of spiritual conversion and personal salvation in Christ.

A young man who had called for the purpose of carrying on a disputation on some doctrinal point, is solemnly appealed to on the same subject. He goes away with an arrow fastened in his conscience. He becomes anxious about his soul; obtains peace in Christ; rejoices in God his Saviour; seeks to convert and save a companion, and is successful in the effort. These two young men immediately go to work, warning and exhorting others; many are arrested and led to cry for mercy and seek salvation through faith in Christ and earnest prayer to God. Meetings are held for prayer and exhortation; the work goes on propagating and reproducing itself from house to house, and from village to village, and this is the origin of a movement that has quickened every section of the church—silenced infidels; astonished worldly politicians and wise men of every grade; changed multitudes of ungodly men, and is already spoken of throughout the world. "God's plan still appears to be to choose the things that are weak to confound the mighty." "that no flesh should glory in his presence."

The children of the Baptist Sabbath School, Portland gave a concert of sacred music in the Mechanics' Institute on Thursday evening last. Mrs. Dr. Black presided at the Melodeon, and sang a beautiful air, but we were too far away to hear the words. The children displayed great taste and precision, singing the pieces in good time and with good effect. The performance reflects great credit on their teacher, Mr. Vincent. We are pleased to hear that at the request of a number of admiring friends a repetition of the concert may be looked for at an early day.

THE GENESSEE FARMER.—The April number of this well known journal is on our table—filled, as usual, with valuable information to every one interested in agriculture or horticulture. No farmer or fruit grower should be without it. It is only fifty cents a year. Published by JOSEPH HARRIS, Rochester, N. Y.

THE GOOD WORK PROGRESSING.

Frequent conversions are still taking place in connexion with Germain and Brussels Street Churches. Rev. I. E. Bill baptized 7 candidates last Sabbath, and both Pastors expect to baptize next Sabbath. Brother Clay baptized two, and we are informed that the state of religious feeling in Carleton is very encouraging. How encouraging to labor when the seed of the gospel sown takes instant root in human hearts, producing to the praise of God its legitimate fruit. O for more of the Spirit's power to draw reluctant hearts!

The *Quarterly Review*, in an article entitled "Annals and Anecdotes of Life Insurance," informs us that there is a "Society for Assurance against Purgatory," which, for three pence per week, undertakes to have the required number of masses duly celebrated after the decease of the insured!

The Boston *Courier* reports that a sermon on Universalism, preached in Tremont Temple, by Elder Jacob Knapp, on the 30th March, was so denunciatory as to excite the disapprobation of his audience. At the close of his address he called upon all who were convinced by his remarks to manifest it by rising, and about one half of the audience rose up. He then asked a gentleman to pray, prefacing the request with observations that still more excited the feelings of his hearers. During the prayer there was murmuring of disapproval; and at the close outbursts of indignation. A noisy discussion followed, which the Superintendent ended by turning off the gas.

Correspondence.

We promised further particulars in reference to the work of God in Restigouche. The following from the pen of our esteemed Brother Wallace will deeply interest our readers:

For the Visitor.

Revival in Restigouche—Organization of a Baptist Church.—The Miramichi Field.

Dear Brother,—I returned last Friday from Restigouche, whither I had gone, by urgent request, to aid in promoting the gracious revival in progress there. I spent about one week there, and was permitted to witness a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The Revival commenced under very peculiar circumstances. A large number of young people had assembled at a private house to spend the night in dancing and revelry. The mistress of the house was at the time under deep concern of mind about her soul. Her husband was favorable to the frolic. Matters went on in the usual way until one of the young men discovered a loaf of the New Testament on the floor. He picked it up, and the first words that caught his eye were, "And they shall go away in everlasting punishment." This solemn passage was as a quiver from the Almighty. It sank deep into his heart. He was struck down under a sense of his guilt. From that moment the dancing ceased. Others were affected, and the remainder of the night was spent in weeping and crying to God for mercy. Thus commenced one of the most remarkable and powerful Revivals I have ever witnessed. This work of grace seems in some measure to resemble the great revival in Ireland. There have been several cases come under my notice that are very similar to the cases of "striking down" of which we have recently read so much. The cases of conviction and conversion however, are ordinarily much as we have been accustomed to witness in revivals in this country. There have been some seven or eight persons, to my knowledge, who have been affected in this extraordinary way. Their physical powers were perfectly prostrated, and they remained so for several hours; their minds in the meanwhile being unusually active, and exercised by the most intense feelings of repentance.

Large numbers have already found peace in believing in Jesus, and many more are still in trouble about their souls. The work is becoming very general. All classes and ages are affected more or less, although the young people seem to be sharing most largely in the divine blessing.

The labours of Bro. W. A. Crandal, a young Baptist Minister, grandson of the late Rev. Joseph Crandal, have evidently been, in some measure, instrumental in causing this gracious work. Although the mass of the people are Presbyterians, he has been preaching amongst them with remarkable acceptance. Some of the young converts have been heard praising God for sending a pious minister amongst them. He has now his heart and hands full of work, and I trust he will have the sympathies and prayers of our churches throughout the Province.

On Wednesday last it was our delightful privilege to baptize five rejoicing converts in the lovely waters of the Bay Chaleur. At the close of the baptism we repaired to Brother Piper's, and proceeded to organize nine brethren and sisters into a Baptist Church. An appropriate sermon was preached on the occasion by the writer. Brother William Pride was unanimously chosen Deacon, and Brother Asahel Wells Clerk. After a suitable charge to the newly formed Church had been given we separated to meet again in the evening, when two others gave evidence of conversion and requested baptism. On Thursday morning we baptized and added to the Church four rejoicing converts. One of these was my own sister in the flesh, the subject of many prayers. After delivering a farewell address I proceeded homewards. This Church has been organized under very favourable circumstances. The officers are greatly beloved and respected, and the members pious, intelligent and united, and there are encouraging prospects of a large addition.

My recent visit to Restigouche has been to myself exceedingly interesting. I never understood so well what it is to have one's soul filled with joy and peace as during this visit. May the gracious work nightly extend!

In the Miramichi field we are getting along much as usual. There are some hopeful indications. I have baptized two in this field since our last report. Others are on the eve of coming forward. Yesterday was a blessed day to us. The Lord's supper was administered at Little South West. We had a melting time. We propose to hold some special meetings in Newcastle this week. We are doing the best we can. Pray for us! This must suffice for my Quarterly Report.

Yours in Christ, ISA. WALLACE.

NEWCASTLE, Mir., April 9th, 1860.

For the Christian Visitor.

HALIFAX, Nova Scotia.

To the Editor of the *Christian Visitor*:—DEAR SIR,—I was desirous of mailing a copy of the enclosed circular to all those, who having attended Acadia College, or the Academy at Fredericton are entitled in their own right to become members of the "Associated Alumni of Acadia College," but only having the address of a limited number I determined on requesting you to give the circular publicity through the columns of your valuable paper, as by that means it will probably meet the eye of the larger proportion of those for whom it is intended, and I trust that all such will deem themselves personally addressed and act accordingly.

Well aware, Mr. Editor, of the deep interest you have ever taken in Acadia College and in Education generally, I feel assured that you will not only advocate in your paper the objects contemplated by the Society, but will bring to bear in its behalf such other influence as your position may enable you to command.

Acadia College belongs equally to, and rests for its support on the united sympathy and exertions of its friends in both Provinces and if the Society receive, as I doubt not will, the generous countenance of not only those who have studied at either the College, or the Academy at Fredericton, but of the friends of those institutions generally, it will prove a powerful auxiliary in aid of the funds of the College, and by the encouragement it will afford to the students at Fredericton Academy, tend to cement together in still stronger bonds the Baptists of both these Provinces and render their denominational interests yet more identical.

The act of Incorporation for the Society is in progress through our Legislature, and the Committee contemplate inviting the Rev. Dr. Pryor, of Cambridge to inaugurate the Society by delivering before it an oration on the day previous to the college anniversary at Horton in June next, at which they will be most happy to see you, Mr. Editor, and as many of their other friends as can make it convenient to attend.

Again, commending the Society to your care, Believe me, very truly yours,

JAMES W. JOHNSTON, Junr., Chairman.

HALIFAX, January, 1860.

DEAR SIR,—On the 20th day of December last, a number of the Alumni, and other friends of Acadia College, met in the College Library at Wolfville, and formed a Society called "THE ASSOCIATED ALUMNI OF ACADIA COLLEGE," in aid of the Institutions at Horton, to be composed of all who had studied either at the College or the Academy in Horton or Fredericton. The term of Membership was fixed at an Annual payment of 20s., or a donation at any other time of £25, to constitute a life Membership. All other friends of the institution, or of education generally, upon being ballotted for, may become Members, on the above terms.

At that meeting, a Committee was appointed, composed of the following five gentlemen, namely, James W. Johnston, Junr., Rev. Dr. Cramp, Rev. S. W. DeBlois, Rev. David Freeman, and Alfred Chipman, Esq., charged with the duty of obtaining from the Legislature, an Act of Incorporation—of preparing a constitution and by-laws, and of corresponding with, and obtaining the co-operation of the Alumni of Acadia College—and the students of the two Academies as far as practicable.

As Chairman of that Committee I have now the pleasure of addressing you, and I feel assured that I have but to name the object proposed to be accomplished by the Society, to awaken your sympathy, arouse your energies, and secure your active assistance on behalf of our Alma Mater.

Various untoward circumstances have of late combined to place the College in a situation of temporary difficulty, and to render it expedient to adopt measures to secure its efficiency as a seminary of learning, and to aid in placing it beyond the risk of financial embarrassment.

This is the object sought to be achieved by the Society, and with that view it is contemplated to found and sustain, either wholly or in conjunction with the Governors,—Professors,—and to assist the students, by the bestowal of scholarships or pecuniary donations, either at the discretion of the professors, or as the reward of superior attainments tested by an examination—and by awarding prizes for excellence in particular departments of learning, to stimulate the industry and excite a noble rivalry among the students at the College, and scholars at the two Academies. Societies such as this, and with similar objects, are attached to most of the Institutions of learning in the neighbouring States, while in our own Province, King's College has its Society composed of its Alumni and friends, whose associated efforts have largely contributed to the prosperity of that Institution. And I trust that the united efforts of the Alumni and friends of Acadia College, will ere long place our Institution on that flourishing basis, so essential to its efficiency and prosperity, and so loudly demanded by the growing educational wants of the Province; and so to be desired by all those who, having received within its halls the educational training to which, it may be, they are indebted for their success in life, cannot now, for their credit's sake, feel indifferent to the rank this institution is to take amongst similar Seminaries of learning in the Province.

It is proposed to apply to the Legislature, about to meet, for an Act of Incorporation, and as soon as the Committee have the Constitution and By-Laws in a sufficient state of forwardness, the Members of the Society, together with those who shall, in the meantime, signify their intention of joining—will be convened to assist in passing them, and in inaugurating the Society. It is also intended to have a public meeting of the Society annually, at the College Anniversary, on which occasion a public oration will be delivered, and other measures adopted to render the Society popular, and its meetings attractive, and it is hoped that the Society will be in a state of sufficient forwardness by the month of June next, to render such a public meeting prudent and desirable.

In the meantime, we earnestly solicit your sympathy and co-operation with the work we have in hand, and trust that you will as promptly as possible authorize us to enrol your name either as an Annual or a Life-Member of the Society, and will also furnish us with the names of persons in your locality, eligible for Membership in their own right, who are willing to join,—and of those you may enlist in our cause to be ballotted for at our next meeting.

You can either address myself in Halifax, or any other member of the Committee in Wolfville, and your subscription may either be remitted forthwith, or paid in at the meeting to be held in Wolfville next June, as you prefer.

Dear Sir, remember the King's business requires haste.

I am, on behalf of the Committee,

Very truly yours,

J. W. JOHNSTON, Junr., Chairman.

To give place to Bro. Wallace's interesting communication from Restigouche, we are obliged to let other correspondence lay over till next week.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE EDINBURGH REVIEW for January, received from the American Publishers, Messrs. Leonard Scott & Co., through J. & A. McMillan, contains some very able articles on the following subjects:

1. Mortality in Trades and Professions; 2. Rawlinson's Herodotus; 3. Rogers on the Coal Fields of North America and Great Britain; 4. Lord Elgin's Mission to China and Japan; 5. Allison's History of Europe; 6. Acclimatization of Animals; 7. Progress of Legal Reform; 8. Souvenirs and Correspondence of Madame Recamier; 9. British Taxation; 10. Lord Macaulay.

The articles on the above-named subjects will be perused with more than ordinary interest.

THE LONDON QUARTERLY REVIEW for January has also been received from the same publishers. The table of contents is as follows:—

1. The Three Colonies of Australia; 2. Cotton Spinning Machines and their Inventors; 3. China and the War; 4. The Roman Wall; 5. Religious Revivals; 6. Life and Works of Cowper; 7. Reform Schemes.

THE NORTH BRITISH REVIEW for February is one of the best numbers of this excellent publication which we have perused for some time.—The articles are entitled:—

1. Saloon life—Madame Recamier; 2. Coast Defences and Rifle Corps; 3. Erasmus as a Satirist; 4. The Silence of Scripture; 5. Austria; 6. Form and Colour; 7. Wesleyan Methodism; 8. Ceylon and the Shinghalese; 9. Professor George Wilson; 10. Fossil Footprints; 11. Recent Publications.

The article entitled the "Silence of Scripture," and that on Wesleyan Methodism, will be read with much interest by every devout mind. BLACKWOOD for February and March have also been received. These numbers are filled with attractive articles on a variety of subjects, and are replete with interesting and valuable information, such as have rendered this Magazine a favourite among every class of readers.

The price of subscription for these standard publications is placed at so low a rate that they are within the reach of every lover of literature, and no man can be fully "posted up" in literary, scientific, and the general events of the day, without reading these excellent periodicals, which reflect the opinions of the most enlightened men of the age.—*New Brunswick.*

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The whole tonnage now on the stocks in our shipyards amounts to 22,350. Of these Gass, Stewart & Co. have on 2,300 tons, F. & J. Ruddick have a ship finished of 8,300 tons, and 1,100 tons unfinished, McLachlan & Stackhouse 2,050, John McDonald 1,350 tons, D. & G. Roberts 1,600, Thos. Hilyard, 1800, Thos. E. Millidge, 1200, Geo. King 1,100, A. McDonald 1,100, Jas. Nevins 1,250, McMoran & Dunn 1,100, A. Anderson 1,650, B. Lawton 1,000, Wm. Vail (St. Martins) 1,100, J. H. Moran (do.) 300, W. P. Flewelling 350, G. F. Thompson 300. The men employed in F. & J. Ruddick's yard number eighty; in Thos. Hilyard's, sixty; in McMoran & Dunn's, fifty; and fifty in A. McDonald's. Mr. Jas. Nevins has thirty men; and in several other yards are about twenty. We have not yet ascertained the number employed by McLachlan & Stackhouse, or those in the yards at St. Martins.—*Courier.*

CARLETON WATER COMMISSIONERS.—The bill to vest the appointment of these Commissioners in the Common Council, has passed the Legislative Council. It provides for three Commissioners, the Chairman is to have salary of £200 per annum, and the others to be paid 10s. per day when employed. There are several candidates already in the field for the office of Chairman.—*ib.*

At a meeting of the Common Council, held yesterday, Messrs. Ketchum, Harding, and Dr. H. Peters were appointed Water Commissioners for Carleton.

The Royal Mail steamship *Canadien*, arrived here about one o'clock yesterday; discharged 200 tons of British goods; took in a cargo of deals, and was ready for sea last night. The despatch which has been given to this line of steamers has astonished some out-siders, but any one conversant with the facilities of the port can readily understand it.—*New Brunswick.*

FIRE.—On Tuesday night, a fire broke out in a house owned by Mr. Davidson, at Little River, which was destroyed.

On Wednesday night, a fire broke out in Portland, which destroyed a building, said to be in Sheriff street.—*ib.*

SMALL POX.—Number of cases reported at Board of Health Office for week ending April 9—Fifteen. Number of deaths—One.

J. ANSLEY, Clerk.

A SCOTCH CLERGYMAN LOST IN THE HUNGARIAN.—Among those who perished in the Hungarian war was the Rev. James Stuart, a young divine of great ability and promise, whose untimely demise is much lamented.—He was son of Mr. Lewis Stuart, commission merchant in Glasgow.

THE NEW JUDGE.—It is rumoured that Mr. Lush, Q. C., will be the new judge in the room of the late Baron Watson. The newly-appointed Solicitor-General (Sir W. Atherton) will, it is understood, continue to hold his office.—*Globe.*

The Halifax Journal is urging upon the Government of Nova Scotia the propriety of having the census of the Province taken next year. It says that persons competent to form an estimate believe that the population of Halifax alone is 40,000, and of the whole Province, including Cape Breton at least 500,000 souls.

The National Convention of the Young Men's Christian Association takes place at New Orleans on the 11th of April next. Five hundred delegates are expected to attend. The City Hotel there has been engaged for delegates until they go to private houses, and the establishment engages to entertain twenty five delegates free during the session.

The quiet town of Concord, Mass., was a scene of intense excitement Tuesday night, which was occasioned by an attempt of United States officers to forcibly arrest Mr. F. B. Sanborn, and take him to Washington to answer for contempt, in refusing to obey the summons to appear before the Harper's Ferry Investigating Committee. He was seized and handc