

honor the Lord by seeking to solve the impossible problem of the exact time of his coming, or by neglecting our duties, to go forth to meet him, whenever there is a cry of "lo here!" or "lo there!" and someone shall declare to us that the time of his coming is at hand. The faithful and wise servant will be found, when the Master comes, ministering to the needs of his Lord's household in the place which the Lord had appointed him. Ascension robes, it is to be hoped, have gone permanently out of fashion. The Christian woman in the kitchen in her calico gown, and the Christian man in the field or shop, in his shirt sleeves, are quite appropriately dressed to receive the Lord when he comes. He will be pleased if his servants are found each in his proper place and with an honest heart, doing his own work.

Over against the joy and reward of the faithful servant who waits in hope for the coming of his Lord is set the case of a wicked servant who takes advantage of his Lord's tarrying to indulge his baser appetites and to play the tyrant over his fellow servants. His folly brings its penalty. There is nothing surer than that the Lord will come, and to all who do not love his appearing that day will come as a thief in the night, and as a day of judgment and calamity. All the joy and the blessing possible to men are connected with Christ's kingdom. The portion of the hypocrites involves weeping and gnashing of teeth.

### The Progress and Prospects of the Forward Movement.

The eagerness of many whom I meet, and who doubtless represent many whom I do not meet, to know of the progress and prospects of the Movement, is my apology for the following paragraphs, which must suffice till after the Anniversary.

The progress made is very encouraging. We set out to raise \$75,000. First we have Mr. Rockefeller's written pledge for \$15,000. A conditional pledge, it is true, but just as sure to us as if it were unconditional, for with the blessing of God the condition is going to be fulfilled. Then, towards the \$60,000 balance, we have received pledges for \$30,000 more. Now, considering that the times are hard, that so far the work has been confined to the individual efforts of the president, that only six months of the year are gone, and that half of the time during those months the president has been at Wolfville attending to his administrative duties, the result should surely inspire thankfulness and confidence.

But what of the prospects? Some people will say that the load is only half way up the hill, and that the second half of the ascent will be far harder than the first. I would rather represent the fact by saying that the ascent has been made, that the crest of the hill been reached, and that what is left to us is the descent on the other side—an easier road than the road travelled. Easier, because the temper of the people has been tested and we now know that it is with the movement; easier, because everybody is coming to believe that the task will be accomplished; easier, because from the beginning of June on, a dozen workers will be in the field instead of one.

The portion of the field which has been worked has been thoroughly worked, leaving nothing over, but the following places are the only places in the provinces which have contributed towards the \$30,000 already raised: Amherst, Truro, Halifax, Dartmouth, Yarmouth, Bear River, Hantsport, Bridgetown, Bridgewater, Mahone Bay, New Germany, Falmouth, Moncton, Fredericton, Woodstock, and Brussels and Germain Street churches, St. John. It will be seen that we have exhausted the fuller sources of supply, but we have yet a hundred communities to visit, some of which are well-to-do, and all of which can make a substantial contribution, and with the band of workers I have alluded to there can be no question as to the issue.

Wolfville will be invited to declare its purposes towards the Movement before the Anniversary. We are hopeful that its declaration will be a heartening one. The professors and some of the ministers will be helpers during the summer. Our excellent brother, the Rev. W. E. Hall, has already entered the field. Let the spirit of helpfulness and hopefulness prevail, and the consummation will be reached, to our joy, and God's praise. Wolfville, May 6. T. TROTTER.

### The N. B. Branch of the Alumni Society.

Rev. M. C. Higgins, of Carleton, St. John, has been appointed Secretary-Treasurer of the New Brunswick branch of the Acadia Alumni Society, succeeding Rev. E. E. Daley, who resigned on account of his removal from the city. As the time of the yearly meeting of the Society is drawing very near, it is desired that payments of yearly dues and of subscriptions to the Alumni professorship be made to Mr. Higgins as soon as possible.

### Alumni Nominations.

The attention of the Alumni is again called to the matter of nominations to the Board of Governors. On March 1 last over three hundred notices and nomination blanks were mailed to members of the Association. So far only eighteen replies have been received. The time for filing these nominations expires on the 20th inst. The final nominations of the Association will be fixed by ballot at the annual meeting, but Alumni should understand that this ballot will be confined to the names placed in nomination before the 20th inst. In view of these facts each alumnus should see that his choice is placed in nomination, and further that his nomination is filed with the Secretary at once. For the information of those making nominations is appended a list of the Governors whose term of office expires this year. The first two named were Alumni nominees. Rev. T. A. Higgins, D. D.; Rev. J. W. Manning, B. A.; Hon. J. W. Johnstone, D. C. L.; Rev. E. J. Grant; Rev. G. J. C. White, B. A.; Harris H. Crosby, Esq.; Rev. E. M. Saunders, D. D.; Hon. T. R. Black, M. P. P. AVARD V. PIVRO, Sec'y-Treas. Alumni. Wolfville, May 7.

### From Halifax.

Halifax, as is well known, was fixed as the place for the Provincial Exhibition. Last year the grounds were prepared and the buildings erected. The Evangelical Alliance, which has a keen interest in public morals, learned that it was contemplated to make the "Speed course" of the exhibition grounds a course for horse racing. A deputation was sent to the government and the exhibition committee. In this way it was learned that the driveway on the grounds was to be used only for testing the speed of horses during the exhibitions, and for exhibiting other animals. Indeed the law passed by the Legislature specified this restriction.

But during the last session of the legislature, it is said, it was intended to repeal the clause of the Act confining the "Speed course" to mere exhibition purposes, and to allow the track to be leased to clubs for horse racing at any time in the season for such sports. Whether any members of the legislature intended to repeal this clause or not, it is difficult to say; but it is certain that many of them did not have any such purpose. As a matter of fact the clause was not repealed. It stands on the Statute book today. Another clause in no way connected with this part of the law, is the one which was repealed.

The exhibition committee, however, has leased the speed track for horse racing to Mr. Slipp. The government is represented on this committee. The Evangelical Alliance has again taken the matter up, and intend to use their influence to keep the government, first, from setting the law at defiance, and secondly, from using public grounds which they hold in trust for the immoral practice of racing horses.

The whole province is interested in this matter. It belongs to all the people. The money of all the people has been used to purchase the grounds, and erect the buildings. There is a feeling of indignation among Christians at this high handed course of breaking law and of using the money of the members of Christian churches in the land for the demoralizing business of horse racing. The agitation has commenced. Reporter will inform the readers of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR from time to time in regard to its progress and results.

Dalhousie College held its closing exercises in Music Hall on the 26th of April. More interest is taken than formerly in these services. The Hall was well filled. The Scotch custom of having a good deal of racket on such occasions has prevailed in the past. The only exception was the year in which George Munro, Dalhousie's great benefactor, died. His death occurred about the time the College closed its year's work. It is needless to say that the students are the performers. They never went to greater extremes than on the last occasion. The public is interested in the matter. The custom so far is confined to Dalhousie; but it may like other naughty student habits spread to other Colleges. There was evident dissatisfaction among the professor. At the last meeting. Professor McGregor would not give an address he had prepared for the occasion. He contented himself by "protesting against the rowdy element among the students having charge of the anniversary exercises." When the President, Dr. Forrest, was making the prayer at the opening of the services, some of the students called out "cut it short John" and used other irreverent language. Hens and pigeons were thrown into the congregation from the first gallery, whistles blown and other instruments employed to help on the din and confusion. It is likely that next year measures will be taken to moderate these disgraceful accompaniments of Dalhousie's Anniversaries. No one would deny students the luxury of some hilarity at the close of the year's study; but decency has bounds. The University has had a prosperous year. The members graduating in arts, law and medicine were larger than usual. Rev. Mr. Armitage, Rector of St. Paul's, gave a very interesting and sympathetic address. A few evenings later the Theological College at Pine Hill held its closing service in St. Matthews church. The number of regular students enrolled was 45, one less than last year. The service was

largely attended. Rev. Dr. Pollock presided. There were two general students and seven graduates. Six of them have the degree of B. A. and one M. A.

The missionary spirit prevails in the college. Two of the graduates, joined by a former graduate, go to the Foreign field. The students have undertaken to support one of these missionaries. This is the evidence of the deep interest of the students in Foreign Missions.

The Rev. G. A. Lawson is greatly encouraged in his work. The Sunday evening services are largely attended. The attendance at the Sunday School has greatly increased during the last few months.

The Rev. J. P. Robinson has engaged the Mayor, Alexander Stevens, to entertain Dr. Lorimer while he stays in Halifax. Men of note, such as General Montgomery Moore, are to patronize the lecture. It will be held in Orpheus Hall. Mr. Robinson has displayed great zeal in securing this treat for Halifax. Dr. Lorimer promises to refer to the improved feelings existing in the United States toward Great Britain. Rev. P. S. McGregor will arrive in Halifax on the 5th; and after meeting the committee appointed to manage the county mission, will at once enter upon his work. Rev. E. M. Saunders is engaged to preach at North Sydney on the 8th and 15th. Mr. M. A. McLean, who graduated at Rochester, is expected to arrive so as to occupy this pulpit on the 22nd. He will remain a month at least, perhaps all summer, perhaps he has been called of the Lord to be the successor of Rev. D. G. McDonald. If so, it is to be hoped it will be revealed to the church, and that the call may be confirmed by that body.

Dr. Trotter has engaged the Rev. W. E. Hall to lend him a hand in the work of the forward movement fund. No better assistant could be found.

The Foreign Missionary societies of Halifax and Dartmouth have united in inviting Pundita Ramabai to come to Halifax and give a lecture. It will, no doubt, prove very stimulating to the missionary spirit to hear a lecture from this distinguished lady of the Orient. She is an authority on Hinduism, and has a world-wide reputation as a reformer, especially among the down-trodden women of the East. REPORTER.

### Book Notices.

The Student's Standard Dictionary, Abridged from Funk and Wagnalls Standard Dictionary of the English Language, by James C. Fernald, Editor; Francis A. March, LL. D., Consulting Editor, assisted by five Associate Editors. Funk and Wagnalls Company, New York.

The acknowledged high excellence of the Standard Dictionary in its larger form will have served to create favorable expectations concerning the abridged form of the work, now issued as a "Students Edition," and from such examination as we have been able to give the latter, we feel sure those expectations will not be disappointed. By using a very excellent quality of thin paper, the publishers have been enabled to include the definitions of over 60,000 words and phrases in an octavo volume of about two inches in thickness and at the same time to use type of the same size as that of the complete edition. In addition to the definitions of words and phrases, the book contains an appendix of Proper Names, Foreign Phrases, Faulty Diction, Disputed Pronunciations, &c., &c. It has also 1,225 pictorial illustrations—a feature of interest and value. In the preparation of the present work the 300,000 words and phrases of the Standard Dictionary have been carefully reviewed with the purpose of retaining all that are likely to be met with in a somewhat extended course of English reading or study. This abridged edition, while retaining the characteristic excellence of the Standard Dictionary, is designed to supply a dictionary of convenient size and at moderate cost especially for the use of students. This design we take it has been well realized, and students in school or college will find their needs met in a highly satisfactory manner. But the book will equally well meet the needs of the office and the family. Its convenient size invites frequent reference to its pages, and while it will always be desirable for the advanced student or scholar to have the encyclopedic information of the Unbridged Standard within reach, yet it is probable that almost everyone who uses a dictionary will find himself consulting the Students' Edition ten times to once he will go to the larger book. The Editors and Publishers are to be warmly congratulated in the manner in which they have supplied the needs of readers and students in respect to an English Dictionary. The two editions taken together leave scarcely anything to be desired.

John Thomas, First Baptist Missionary to Bengal, 1757-1801. By Rev. Arthur C. Chute, B. D. Halifax, N. S.: Baptist Book and Tract Society.

This very interesting and well-written biography of a man who "helped, more than is generally recognized, in paving the way for the success which attended the devoted and varied labors of . . . Carey, Marshman and Ward," appeared some five years ago and was duly noticed and commended in these columns. We are pleased to see that the publishers have now issued a paper-covered edition of this excellent little book which should find a place in every Baptist home. Price, cloth 25c., paper 15c.

Loyalty to Christ should stand first in Christian thought and life. Everything else should be adjusted and controlled by that. Test your relation to church, society, state, business, everything by that.