MESSIGER and VISITOR
Representation
There point within being deep that the common limits of t

What Is the Matter?

On any subject it is always easy to ask questions, on many subjects it is often the essence of difficulty to answer them. But the wisdom of asking, although a solving of the problem seems quite impossible, cannot be questioned. If the But the wisdom of saking, although as olving of the problem seems quite impossible, cannot be questioned. If the theme is of weighty importance, the well directed inquiry attracts attention from every quarter, and resulting investigations unually occasion material advance in the right direction. A recent leader in the Missingua and Visitors took notice of the sombre fact than the tanglieb prosperity of our denomination in these Maritime Provinces is far distant from what it ought to be. Judged by data at hand, this observation is still well founded. A true gage of our position would seem to be in the sulpher of additions to our membership and the auccess we are able to exhibit in retaining in good standing those whose names are already upon our church books. Everybody knows the story told by these removedees, but faithful books. Everybody knows the story told by these remorseless, but faithful reporters. We might gain a thimble full of cold comfort by reflecting that others are doing no better and very likely not as well. But this is not a fair way to face the matter. If our denominational fortress has the strength we claim for it, bright results should be immeasurably greater than anything in recent experience. "Paul may plant and Apollon may water, but God must give the increase." Still, who would doubt if Paul plants as God commands, and Apollon waters according, to divine instruction, that our loving Father. will not in any case fail to give the golden harvest. Consequently, as our affairs are not in exactly the most proper shape, we are forced to admit something is not as it should be. From our point of view, we can only look for this out of the-way-sim within our own boundaries. If we do as we should others cannot prevent our success. When we are thoroughly equipped with the proper weapons and robust spiritual health, every blow we strike for Jesus must reach a true mark and effect something against the power of iniquity. As our gospel battering rams do not seem to be making the fragments fly from the citadel of sin in the happy fashion we should like to behold, what is the matter in thousands of heart must be a pressing question.

Among Baptista an inquiry of this sort is never kept secret. We are not inclined to do things, in a corner. When the movement is slow or in the wrong direction, we do not heisitate to say so, and we are all interested to discover and remove the trouble, and though we often work with brave independence of one books. Everybody knows the story told by these removaless, but faithful reporters. We might gain a thimble ful of cold comfort by reflecting that others

and we are all interested to discover and remove the trouble, and though we often work with brave independence of one work with brave independence of one another, our conclusions are likely to display the most perfect harmony. It could not be otherwise while we rely on Inspiration that never fails or varies. One reply to our question which the writer cannot help hearing, must have suggested itself to many an anxious pastor and carnest layman.

All will agree that in under the carnet with the carnet layman.

suggested itself to many an anxious pastor and earnest layman. All will agree that an understanding we ought to be men. We should avail ourselves of every means to obtain true knowledge. At present the wide, extended facilities for meeting the best thoughts of the best thinkers, open the way to a rich mine of intellectual treasure, that gives us new values and stimulates the present development of our inborn abilities. It is an encouraging fact that young and old are very generally improving these priceless opportunities. But while we avail ourselves of every possible channel for genuine eduis the 2100 locary which will compare the case posture good return. It is no more morn thing for an ere of coinna to place the control of the rally improving these priceless opportunities. But while we sail ourselves of
every possible channel for genuine education, we must not forget that the headwaters from which all the streams of Christian power descend, are not located in any
product of the human brain. That in
which we are trusting is supernatural,
and in itself purely spiritual. Its possession, however, is only proven by practical
effect upon the details of ordinary existence. The sad proof is too clear that
that fundamental element in our religiious work frequently occupies so small a
place as to be well nigh invisible. At the
same time we have to see a growing tendency of the times which comes very
near a purpose to deify the human intellect, and this may cause many to forget
that the disciple's sole reliance should
be the indwelling of the Holy Spiris.
This supreme strength is a force we can
neither analyse or estimate. Therefore
we cannot effect it by the instrumentality of schools directed by human instructors. "The wind bloweth where it listeth field of actual mental development, and at the same time keep before us the truth that when the all impelling vitality of the Spirit is not present, and exercises a controlling influence, all this counts for nothing. The most terrible deception is that which counter-feits a grand virtue. There is nothing more absolutely free from the ele-ments of, holy strength than that imita-tion of the shadow of Christianity, which is best called machine religion. Without, it archibits a full stock of form and con-

ply the black chamber of utter selfishness. Where the Comforter does not sustain and guide, intellectual seal in church work is pretty sure to lead in that direction. No doubt this swamp of desolation is many leaques from any Baptist ground. Still, if anybody sets his face in a wrong way, he is on the fund of danger. With growing time human situation undergoes the changes of enlargement, culture and readjustement. But both grace and the means of grace are unchangeable. If we succeed to day we must trust in the identical method whose application by the first evangulists were the visitories that cetablished the foundation of Christianity. The underlying principle of this divincly appointed course is neafest. foundation of Christianity. The under-lying principle of this divinely appointed ocurse is perfectly brought before us in the words of Zachariah, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." Tusket, April 7.

Seminary Library and Maseum.

n this good movement. A number useful books have been donated by Joh March, Esq., and a variety of stere copic views and of minerals have becomtributed by Mrs. W. J. Stewart. locument belonging to the reign

Ordination.

A council called by the Baptist church, Tancock, Lunenburg Co., N. S., to take into consideration the advisibility of ordaining Bro. Asaph Whitman to the work of the gospel, ministry, met at Tancock, Aprils 9, at 2.30 p. m. The following named churches were represented: Mahone Bay—Rev. J. Williams; lat Margaret's Bay—Rev. Thos. McDonald; Wes Jeddore—Rev. B. U. Hatfield, Des. Jossiah Mitchell; Chester—Des. Jos. Besanson, Bro. Chas. Smith; Halifax North—Bro. W. J. Gates; New Ross—Des. Jos. Lants, Bro. Geo. Miester: Lunenburg Towns. Bro. Geo. Miester; Lunenburg Town— Rev. J. S. Brown, J. Dimock Spidle, lic.;

etc.

Bro. Whitman was then called upon to give his experience, call to ministry, views respecting dectrine and church polity, etc. After a somewhat prolonged and searching examination of the candiviews respecting dectrine and church polity, etc. After a somewhat prolonged and searching examination of the candidate on these points, it was unanimously resolved "that the conucil proceed with the ordination of Bro. A. Whitman," and that the following be the programme of service: Opening prayer, Rev. J. Williams; reading hymn and Seriptures, J. D. Spidle, lic., sermon, Rev. J. S. Reswen, Ordaining prayer, Rev. J. S. Reswen, ordaining prayer, Rev. J. S. Reswen, ordaining prayer, Rev. T. Mc. McDonald charge to church, Bro. Charles Smith, charge to candidate, Rev. Geo. Taylor, hand of fellowship, Rev. B. U. Hastfield. Adjourned with prayer by Rev. T. Mc. Donald to meet at 7.30 p. m.

At the named hour a large sudlence gathered and the above programme was carried into effect, and the exercises of the day were brought to a close, Rev. A. Whitman pronouncing the benediction. The outlook at Tancook is very cheering. Several are awaiting bagtism, and we trust the united efforts of paster and church will be owned and richly blessed to the conversion of sinners and honor of Christ.

J. S. Baows.

Lunenburg, N. S., Aprill 1.

Lunenburg, N. S., April 1.

ANAPOLS COUNTY MINISTERIAL CONTROLOGY

ANAPOLS COUNTY MINISTERIAL CONTROLOGY

Experiment of the control of the co

A special meeting of the state and the state was held on the Sist uit.

REFORM

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APRILI

THE TREASUR

onvention year, and a last needed to pay the q ill then fall due, but ho with an overdrawn trea

it with an overdrawn trea student with the has now come begin to make arrange young men who want to sion work this summer. Its the names of about f studying for the ministry schools, besides those settle this spring. I pres of these young men want for the Master this summ largest number that we have the summer of the summe

for our future missionar from the ranks of these y concerns our churches, must come the pastors the

Seminary Library and Rasoum.

We are making an effort to secure suitable material for a library and a museum as the Seminary at 8th Martins. These equipments are greatly needed, and we are persuaded that the many friends of the institution will eheerfully aid us in our undertaking. Books, mineral and botanical specimens, curiosity, etc., will be thankfully received from any who may favor us with such emirphologous care to cash donations for the samp object will do just as well.

In the closets and garrets of many homes are stowed sway not a few interesting and useful articles which might be made of great practical value in the way of illustrating the studies in which our classes are enjaged. Such articles would in this way become carefully preserved, and would be objects of interest to visitors as well as to students.

Several friends have made a beginning in this good movement. A number of useful books have been donated by John

conviluted by Mrs. W. J. Stewart. A document belonging to the reign of George III. has been given us by David Vaughan, Eaq., of St. Martins.

We hope to receive similar gifts from many friends who have it in their bearts to do some favor for the Seminary.

W. H. Warren.

St. Martins, April 10.

Ordination.

Rev.-J. S. Brown, J. Dimook Spidle, Ile.;
Tancook.—Amos Stevens, church clerk;
Dea. Joshus Mason, Dea. Alex. Wilson,
Dea. Joshus Mason, Dea. Alex. Wilson,
Bros. Wan. Stevens, A. Cross, N.-Chandler, B. Hiesler, Chas. Cross.
Rev. Geo. Taylor, recently of Chester,
and Bro. Wilson, of Tancook, were, on
motion, invited to seats in the council.
Rev. J. Williams was appointed moderator, and J. S. Brown, secretary. The
clerk of the church then proceeded to
inform the brethren of the steps taken
by the church in calling Bro. Whitman
to the pastorate, the reason for ordination, and the provision made for salary,
etc.

groups of churches cover whose pastors are overweighted the work that needs to be diverged to the beautiful to relieve your pasts its Board and the you please do take up this nand senid in your reque Don't wait for your pasto it. Mention it to him. able to place ten men in the senior of the work of

I mean by these, fields the adean support them park Now to these we as if you can by all means, a all we can to help you, then don't say if we can't ed man. we won't have to our young men. You will as long as they are with y if you send at once you advantage of a choice.

Now let us show our grater giving us so many promein for the work of the ning them all at work.

Religious Inte

Oak Bay, Charlotte Co.
I baptized two at the Ro
last Sabbath one was rec
Oak Bay church by letter,
baptized at the Ledge,
graciously bleasing us in t
April 1

April II.

Woossrock, N. B.—We

rrespondent, that unicetings are being held n
angelical churches of t
setings which have be
a beginning of the year
teresting character.