

NOTICE.

THE following Lecture was delivered at a Meeting, held for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of endeavouring to raise an Endowment Fund for Acadia College. The Resolutions passed at that Meeting will be found in the Appendix.

In committing the Lecture to the Press the writer is actuated by a desire to be instrumental in guiding and combining the energies of the Baptists in these Provinces, in the prosecution of the great undertakings to which they are called. It is hoped that they will respond to the call, and assume at once their proper position. They are undoubtedly able to sustain it.

No apology is necessary for the *denominational* colouring of the Lecture. While Acadia College is open to Students of all religious persuasions, its course of instruction being entirely free from sectarian bias, in harmony with the general practice of Protestant Colleges on this Continent, no religious tests whatever being imposed, the Theological Department is avowedly Baptist in its character. It is established for the benefit of candidates for the Christian Ministry, members of Baptist churches. This consideration will account for the strain of observation and reasoning in the Lecture, on that subject. It was the Lecturer's object, as is clearly explained, to direct the attention of his brethren to the state of affairs in the religious world, with a view to point out their duty in connection with the tendencies of the age.

Protestantism is about to undergo a severe trial of its strength. In the experience of that trial, while Baptists will duly sympathize with their Protestant brethren, they will be conscious of enjoying, in virtue of their distinguishing tenets, peculiar advantages. May they have wisdom and grace to improve them!

J. M. C.