

but some of them were mighty preachers ; and it was difficult to make the people see that an educated ministry was essential to the work and success of the denomination. Money enough could not be raised among the people to establish an institution ; and the new body had no favour at court, nor in the parliament of the country. In this condition of things, we can imagine how earnestly these men went to God in prayer, and sought from him a solution of this difficult problem. While this deep anxiety was pressing upon the hearts of the Fathers in the ministry, and upon the hearts of the laymen who stood on an equality with their pastors, God, in His providence, was preparing answers to their prayers, in raising up men to carry forward the work in which they had been for many years engaged with all their hearts.

When Mr. Manning and the other Fathers throughout the Province learned that, among the number of those who had embraced Baptist principles in Halifax, there were men of talent and scholarship, they were not slow to discern the will and purpose of God ; they regarded the movement as an indication that God was about to answer their prayers, and establish Institutions of Learning for Higher Education among the Baptists of these Provinces. Mr. Manning, many years afterwards, when reviewing the providences of God, said, I wrote to one of these brethren in Halifax in the autumn of 1827, and called his attention to the fact that God had converted the church and congregation at Granville Street, among other things, for the purpose of using them as His agents to found an Institution to which the youth of the land, especially young men studying for the ministry, might resort to receive training for their life-work. These brethren did not shrink from their responsibilities. Rev. Alexis Caswell, Deacons J. W. Nutting, and Lewis Johnston, and Brother E. A. Crawley—now Dr. Crawley—were