

studied with the deepest interest and will, no doubt receive their hearty sympathy and support.

—It is not often that we are called upon to notice in our columns the conduct of local town elections, but the result of the civic contest in the town of Truro must be an occasion of great satisfaction to its pastors and churches. It is a victory that all lovers of sobriety will hail with delight. It only goes to show that if the Christian element in any community will combine they can do almost anything they set out to do in the way of moral reform. Now let the people of Truro take hold in the matter of choosing candidates for the local and Dominion legislatures. The country is in favor of Prohibition. Wise leaders are needed. Let the aim be the total prohibition of the liquor traffic, but if that cannot be gotten now, get the next best thing—and hold it, for an advance. The electors of Truro have set a good example, but they must not grow weary in well-doing.

—It is said that when the Christian chieftain, Khama, of South Africa, was urged to speak in the mission church at Mafeking, that he declined to do so, giving as a reason that he was no speaker. However he finally consented, and spoke in a simple and straightforward manner. Among other things he said, "I am going down to Cape Town because the High Commissioner has sent for me, I do not know what he wants, but I will obey his summons. So you must obey the words of our Master, Jesus Christ, even when we do not know what His purpose is, we must go in faith at His command." This is a lesson for us all, good now, and good ever. The simple exhortation of the African chieftain will apply to many a Christian in these provinces by the sea. May they be taken to heart.

—The communication in another column signed W. S. C. refers to the question of church union. The article speaks for itself. The reference to the Baptist position is just a little mixed. Close communion is not a Baptist tenet, but close baptism is. Pedo-baptists, as a rule make baptism a pre-requisite to the observance of the Lord's Supper—Baptists do the same. The question between us therefore is, what is Christian baptism? The other point referred to viz the public dedication of children to God, has never been seriously discussed. It is a fact, however, that a great many Baptist parents do dedicate their children to God in private, perhaps with more or less publicity. We can see no scriptural objection to any parent making this service as public as he may desire. That can be no bar to Christian union. There are Baptist bodies that should consider the question of union in order to make more effective the efforts put forth for the extension of Christ's kingdom in the earth.

### Acadia College.

A meeting of the Board of Governors of Acadia College was held at Wilfville on the 4th instant. There were three sessions. The meeting was called for the special purpose of considering the report of the President, Dr. Trotter, who for some months past has been corresponding with Mr. John D. Rockefeller, chiefly through his Secretary, Mr. Gates; and also to confer with Dr. Trotter in respect to an urgent call he had received from the First Baptist church in Dayton, Ohio. The meeting was a large one—Dr. S. H. Eaton, K. C., Dr. S. B. Kempton, Dr. E. M. Saunders, Rev. D. H. Simpson, Rev. C. H. Day, H. R. Kimmerson, M. P., Rev. A. Cohoon, Mr. N. A. Rhodes, Mr. H. H. Ayer, Mr. E. N. Whitman, Hon. T. R. Black, Mr. C. H. Starr, Dr. Trotter, Mr. C. W. Roscoe, Mr. A. S. MacDonald, E. D. King K. C., and Mr. Wm. Cummings.

So soon as the Forward Movement was completed, Dr. Trotter seeing the needs of the college, interviewed the secretary of the Baptist Education Society, and corresponded with Mr. John D. Rockefeller, jr., and with Mr. Gates, the Secretary of John D. Rockefeller, sr., all of which culminated in a request from Mr. Gates for a personal interview which was held. The extensive correspondence and the conferences held were put in their fulness and even in detail before the Governors. Dr. Trotter had given Mr. Rockefeller exhaustive statistics enabling him to judge intelligently of the financial condition and literary standing of Acadia College and its allied schools. Added to this, he had given Mr. Rockefeller facts and statistics showing him the state of the free common school system of the Maritime Provinces, their Academies and Colleges. All this information had been sifted, and in view of it, Mr. Rockefeller, through Mr. Gates, made certain intimations which were submitted to the Board and received its careful consideration. The entire day was given to this matter, and the closely related subject of the call which had been extended to Dr. Trotter to become pastor of a flourishing church in Ohio, at a salary more than double that which he receives as President of Acadia College; and a salary which he much needs to meet the necessary financial demands made upon him. The sixteen men present, most of them men of business, were of one heart and one mind.

It can perhaps safely be said that, since the founding of the college, there never was at a meeting of the Board

of Governors a heavier sense of responsibility, and a more intense desire to have the wisdom which comes from above to conduct the deliberations to the right issues. Dr. Trotter got assurances which he could not doubt, that every member of the Board was more than satisfied with his five years' work for the college, which had been faithful, wise and self-sacrificing in every department. His correspondence with Mr. Rockefeller was regarded as faultlessly prudent and effective in every respect. In the course of the general discussion it appeared that among the laymen, as well as among the ministers present there was the belief that Acadia College and its affiliated schools could and should be kept in a high state of efficiency. The discussion finally culminated in a declaration by Dr. Trotter that, in view of the feelings and high purpose of the Board, he would decline the invitation to the Ohio church; and would, with the Board and the denomination, address himself to the work of further enlarging the College and the other schools, so as to fully meet the pending and future demands of the County. Being furnished with certain decisions of the Board, Dr. Trotter will have another interview with Mr. Rockefeller's secretary, with a view to arrive at a definite understanding in respect to the conditions on which Mr. Rockefeller will make further contributions to strengthen the funds of the College. Could the entire denomination have shared in the deliberations of the Governors there would doubtless have been the same enthusiasm in the hearts of the whole body that appeared in every governor present.

After the plan for an advance has been perfected and sanctioned by Mr. Rockefeller there will be, it is safe to predict, another wave of holy zeal for Acadia, the beloved, the child of providence, sweep over the constituency that will make the raising of the amount soon to be fixed, a labor of joy and a delightful service. Every Governor spoke, some named figures others pledged themselves to do their very best, all of which will be made public as soon as arrangements are completed.

A GOVERNOR.

### From the Business Manager.

Many of our subscribers promptly responded to a recent appeal for payment of overdue subscriptions and a percentage of the agents of the paper also reported and remitted for collections made, for which we are grateful but there are yet too many apparently indifferent to their financial obligations or our requirements. We believe that if subscribers were to pay in advance or at latest within six months from date of subscription they would be doing themselves a good service. A goodly number conform to this rule and their promptness is commended but by far too many are very remiss in their obligations to the paper. A large percentage of our patrons are doubtless professing Christians some of them officials in their several churches and continued and persistent disregard of obligations is an evidence of their indifference to and disregard for the teachings of the Book that says "Owe no man anything." We speak plainly because we are satisfied that many have not given this matter consideration. The three or four years of overdue subscription amounting to a few dollars may seem an unimportant matter, but several hundred times these amounts mean much to the management of this paper. However it is not simply for the need of the money that we thus speak, it is to stimulate thought in regard to financial responsibilities as well.

The merchant, the doctor, the farm laborer or the helper in the home too often are put to inconvenience and worry on account of the non receipt of money justly due that would be paid were there more regard for the admonition to "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ." The persistent disregard of debts due, usually leads to carelessness in incurring other debts which leads to self-indulgence and thriftlessness. If living within one's means and cash payments in ordinary transactions were more proclaimed by the pulpits and better practised by the people it would do as much as any other one thing to increase our spirituality, our usefulness and our denominational prestige.

### Rev. W. E. Hall.

The funeral of the late Rev. W. E. Hall was from his residence on North Street, Halifax, on Sunday, February 1st. The exercises were in accordance with the request of the deceased. The pastor of the Tabernacle, Rev. Mr. Millington, had charge of the services; the Rev. Dr. McMillan, Presbyterian, read the Scriptures; the Rev. Richard Smith, Methodist, offered prayer. Addresses were given by the writer and Dr. Kempton, and the closing prayer was by Rev. Mr. Rees. The funeral was a large one. Mr. John Hall and his son of Middleton, came to the city to attend it. This brother John, and a sister, Mrs. David Hamilton, now residing in the United States, are the only surviving children of Henry Hall, the father of the deceased. He leaves two daughters and a son, Laurie, who is now practicing law in Liverpool, and his widow, a daughter of Mr. George Barss of New Germany.

Rev. William Edward Hall was born at Port Lorne, Annapolis County, on Nov. 16th, 1837. His father taught school for twenty years in that county. Both his parents were intelligent, devoted Christians. When William was a child, the family moved to Long Point, Kings County. This home was an ideal one. There, too, was the perfection of hospitality to which the writer can testify.

There Mr. Hall made a profession of personal religion when he was nineteen years old. Immediately after his conversion he was seized with the desire and purpose of preaching the Gospel. To fit himself for this work, he entered Horton academy in 1858, and on March 30th., 1859, preached his first sermon at Black River, a few miles distant from the academy.

I call to mind now a touching scene in the home after "Willie" had left for Horton. His mother was telling me with words and tears of her motherly care for the son, who had just started out in life. Among other things there came in an account of packing his trunk with her own hands, the prayers offered to God for his blessing and the falling of her tears upon the pieces of raiment as she placed them in the trunk. The world knows not how much the mothers have to do with the making of ministers.

In September, 1859, he began his

### FIRST YEAR IN ACADIA COLLEGE.

The summer vacation of 1860 was spent on a mission in Dalhousie East and Sherbrooke West. Here his gifts for evangelistic work, which characterized his life, became evident to the people. He entered with all his heart into a revival of religion in which a number of conversions to God occurred. His vacation on the following summer was on the same ground, and took in New Albany. The conversion and baptism of seven converts was additional evidence of the character of his preaching. In 1861 his health failed and he was obliged to discontinue his studies. This was occasioned by a cold after recovery from the measles. To all appearance he was marked as a victim of consumption. He, however, had so far recovered, as to accept an invitation to the pastorate of the New Germany church in August, 1864, where he was ordained on the 23rd of September of the same year.

The following are the names of the ministers whose benediction the young preacher received:—J. L. Read, L. B. Gates, N. Vido, preached the sermon one hour and forty minutes long. The preacher was on fire and so was the packed congregation. W. G. Parker, R. S. Martin, J. J. Skinner, F. F. Murray, S. March and W. H. Porter—six gone before and three linger.

Here he spent nine years, baptized about 100 converts and led the church in building a house of worship in New Cana. From this place he removed to St. Margaret's Bay, where he spent two and a half years, baptized about 100 converts and superintended the building of two places of worship.

On the 1st of May, 1876, he removed to Melvern Square, Annapolis county, where he remained six years and a half. While there he induced the people to build a church at Margareville, and to remove the debts on the other three houses of worship on the field. During this pastorate he

### BAPTIZED 207 CONVERTS.

From Melvern Square he moved to Bear River, Annapolis County. He remained here three years, in which time a church building was erected at Morgan Settlement and 128 members added to the church by baptism.

In December, 1885, he accepted a call to the church at Sackville, N. B. Here, too, the church was enlarged by the addition of 207 members by baptism, and a house of worship was erected at a cost of \$6,000. Mr. Hall had a strong dislike to church debts, and succeeded in keeping all in the building of which he took a leading part up to this time, free from such encumbrances.

In February, 1891, he came to the Tabernacle in Halifax, where, he found the church in a depressed state, and worshipping in the basement of the proposed new building. He had never faced work that seemed so difficult, if not impossible. But his resources were not overtaxed. Differences were reconciled, and the new church went up, at a cost of \$9,000, but much against his feelings, it became necessary to carry a debt of \$2,800. In the six years of labor at the Tabernacle, 57 united with the church by baptism.

Eight years ago it was supposed that Mr. Hall could not live more than a few months, but his exceptionally strong constitution withstood the subtle disease of diabetes which threatened at that time to cut off his life. After resigning at the Tabernacle he entered heartily into the work of collecting.

### FUNDS FOR ACADIA COLLEGE

in which he was most successful, and in connection with this work he indulged in his love of evangelistic labors. Whatever else he might do, he must urge, with that passionate earnestness, so intense in his soul, the unconverted to accept Christ as Saviour. A little more than a year ago he was partially paralyzed, and his active labors came to an end. This disease, as is its wont, depressed his uniformly cheerful spirits. The cloud did not remove from him until on the 29th ult. the immortal left the worn and emaciated body to soar into the realm of eternal day.

Mr. Hall was frank, faithful and possessed a warm, ocean-like heart, from which flowed ardent love and esteem for the thousands whose acquaintance he made in his eager, laborious life. He loved all who commended themselves to him as followers of Christ. His preaching was of the hortatory type, and in keeping with his quenchless zeal for the salvation of souls. His last words were: "He will give me peace." If I were asked to name two or three more outstanding excellencies or characteristics of Mr. Hall whom I have known since he began to preach, I would say (1) a passion for saving souls and (2) great power as a peace maker. He was mighty in peace-making. (3) Great tact and power in inducing people to build churches and parsonages. (4) Skill in administration and in building up the churches in the faith of the gospel. (5) A broad and lively interest in the work of the Lord in the whole earth.

Saving sinners and harmonizing differences have, from the first, been the two prominent features of his successful, spiritual labors.

Brother Hall was faithful, constant and successful. That is true greatness.

The Tabernacle took upon itself in a most generous manner the entire charge of the funeral, including its expense. Deacon William Davies acted as father to the family.

Mrs. Hall, her daughter, Mabel, in Toronto, and the son and other daughter have the sympathy of a host of friends.

R. M. SAUNDERS.