

COMMUNICATIONS.

To Whom it may Concern.

To the Editor of THE BEE. DEAR SIR.—In glancing over the issue of the 19th inst. of Perth's greatest paper—THE BEE—I was surprised to see that the name of the writer of that wonderful account of the "Early history and growth of Monkton," which appeared in the Pioneer Number, has been sorely wounded by my daring to criticise his work. In conversation with the editor of THE BEE I merely mentioned that Messrs. Gill and Elmacott were the first settlers on the Elk con. of Elma and that the grist mill in Atwood [Monkton] is the place you mentioned to us where the mill was erected in '76, and after making note of your statement we read it in your hearing and you confirmed it and requested us to publish it.—ED.] was built in '76 instead of '67 as in the Pioneer Number, not expecting that the editor would drag my name before the public so conspicuously. Was my "ignorance" displayed in these statements I leave it to the public (who are acquainted with the facts and are the best qualified to judge) to decide. If the author in question will call at my place any time at his convenience I will present him with one of those large cabbages which after eating will assist him to furnish the public with further literature of the same stamp of his Monkton, Vanderbilt, Rothchild production—flavoring largely of gass.

C. HELLER.

THE 'VARSITY QUESTION.

To the Editor of THE BEE. DEAR SIR.—Every reader of Macaulay's famous review of Dr. Nares' "Burleigh and his Times" will remember these words: "We cannot sum up the merits of the stupendous mass of paper which lies before us better than by saying that it consists of about 2,000 closely printed quarto pages, that it occupies 1,500 inches cubic measure, and that it weighs 60 lbs. avoird." Such a book might before the Deluge have been considered as light reading by Hippa and Shalmu. But unhappily the life of man is now threescore years and ten; and we cannot but think it somewhat unfair in Dr. Nares to demand from us so large a portion of so short an existence." What would Macaulay have said of Mr. Knox's five columns, the subject matter of which being of little interest to the general reader? Little did I dream that my "phenomenal," "statistical," "astounding," "misleading," "not authentic" letter would produce such "terrible onslaught." I never prided myself upon my literary attainments, but after reading Mr. Knox's report I am forced to believe that I have mistaken my calling. Mr. Editor, I dislike very much to discuss this question in the public press. I called for an explanation of Mr. Knox's statements. I supposed his figures to be correct for University College; at once saw that he underrated McGill, and on consulting a calendar his suspicions were confirmed. Evidently Mr. Knox knows but little about McGill. His figures are based on the report of a casual visitor. Now which are we to believe, McGill calendar, or this visitor? My figures were given for McGill alone—not for the affiliated theological colleges. Mr. Knox will kindly bear this fact in mind. Again I repeat that the School of Practical Science has not 264 students. The medical students, University College students attending lectures there are all embraced in 264 [Min. of Ed. Report]. Must we reckon them twice? Again, I must inform Mr. Knox that the number of students at Victoria in '89—excluding medicals—is 231 [Victoria College calendar '90-'91]. Besides Victoria has 72 medicals in Toronto. Recall his authorities for Victoria's estimates. Which are we to believe, Mr. Editor? Again, Mr. Knox wishes me to keep to the main point, while he himself wanders off into side issues. To say the least, it was very indiscreet to make assertions as to the superiority of one university over another. Who are the proper judges in such a case? Quebec favors McGill, Ontario Toronto, &c. I grant that Toronto's Arts department is larger than McGill's, but are we to infer from this fact that the course of instruction in the former is superior? In some subjects McGill is ahead, in others Toronto. As far as equipment is concerned, McGill stands unrivalled in Canada. I grant also that the great majority of teachers in Ontario are graduates of Toronto University, but of what of those in Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia? Besides, as a matter of fact, most of the Arts graduates of McGill take up professions other than that of teaching. Then as to that Natural Science graduate of Toronto, who received \$1,000, I may say that the position was offered to a McGill graduate first of all, then months after, to that Toronto man. For an instance of Mr. Knox's "good authority" who tells him that "the Arts graduates of McGill number between 20 and 30 per annum," I give the report of McGill calendar 1889 which says 41. In conclusion, I ask you again, Mr. Editor, are then his statements correct?

Wm. Lochhead. Galt, Dec. 20, 1890.

FAITH.

Written for THE BEE. Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace whereby we receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is freely offered to us in the Gospel. By faith all things are possible. "If ye have faith and doubt not ye shall not only do this which is done to this fig tree, but also if you shall say to this mountain be thou removed and be thou cast into the sea it shall be done; and all things whatsoever you shall ask in prayer believing ye shall receive."—John 21:21. Is not this a grand promise? Let us

then pray for more faith, then we will see how far off we are following Christ. If we had more implicit confidence in God we would be able to do more towards helping forward the happy period when all shall know Him. Observe Christ's conduct when in this world, how impossible it seemed for Him to perform any great work where there was lack of faith. Matt. 13:58: "And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief. Peter walked on the water to go to Jesus, but as soon as he began to doubt he immediately began to sink, whereupon Jesus rebuked him saying, "O thou of little faith wherefore didst thou doubt?" Have any of us got as strong faith as Peter? yet Christ called it little. To have this faith we must have a knowledge of Christ. How are we to receive this knowledge? By the study of His life as it is revealed to us in the New Testament. By obeying His commands. To know Him is to love Him, and to love Him is to obey Him.

PHINEAS PRIEST. Elma, Dec. 22, 1890.

Bornholm.

A very successful examination was held in S. S. No. 10 last Friday afternoon. A large number of visitors were present showing the intense interest which the people of this neighborhood take in education. Mr. Purdon, teacher of No. 4, examined four classes and found them well up to the standard which their work required. Miss Lawson, teacher of No. 7, was equally satisfied with the three classes given to her charge. The teacher, Miss Richmond, taught the remaining classes. The spelling match was a point of great interest, in which Misses Minnie Osborn and Bertha Hollatz, both on the same side, stood last. When the lesson work was finished a number of the gentlemen present delivered short addresses in which they all expressed themselves highly pleased with the standing of the school.

Brussels.

Rev. A. H. McKibbin was in town Tuesday. Mrs. Butler, of Paisley, is visiting Miss L. O'Connor. Mr. and Mrs. Adam Reid, of Bluevale, were visiting in town Tuesday. Geo. Currie and wife, of Atwood, visited Miss Roddick last Sunday. Misses Ella and Carrie Love, of Harriston, are visiting their sister, Mrs. A. Wilson. Geo. Love and wife, of Harriston, spent Xmas at their daughter's, Mrs. Alex. Wilson. Quite a number of our young people took in the church opening in Bluevale last Thursday. Mr. Ford, of Guelph, was visiting his sister, Mrs. John McKenzie, and returned home last week. Rev. W. E. Kerr arrived home from Montreal Wesleyan College last Tuesday to spend his Xmas holidays. Revs. Thomas and Geo. Jackson, of the London Conference, were in town Monday attending the funeral of their mother. The cantata, "Bells of Xmas," in the Methodist church Monday evening, was a success as far as the children doing their part well, but too many parents were absent. Last Monday Miss L. Hamby and Miss K. Richardson left our town, we are sorry to lose these two young ladies, but wish them success where they go. Miss Hamby takes a position in Wyoming school, Miss Richardson intends attending the Strathroy Collegiate Institute to study for a higher certificate.

Grey.

Another wedding will take place in Grey before long. Mrs. Thos. Stokes, we are glad to hear in improving in health. C. Bowerman's examination was held on Tuesday, Dec. 23rd. School examinations and literary meetings come thick and fast. Fenton Hartley, of Bluevale, is engaged as teacher in No. 4, Grey, for 1891. Wm. Beharriell's auction sale of farm stock went high, Geo. Kirkby wielded the hammer. The electric light in Brussels seems to be a grand help for the people who do business during the evening. Thos. T. McLaughlin has put in a grain chopper at Jamestown and will rush business during the winter. The annual meeting of the Morris and Grey cheese factory will be held in the Council Chamber, Brussels, on Saturday, 27th inst., commencing at 9 o'clock. A large attendance of those interested requested. Wm. Crooks and wife, of Toronto, are visiting at his father's, on the 8th con. They came on Monday of last week. We are sorry to hear that Mr. Crooks' health is not good and he hopes that his visit to this locality will be productive of good and aid in building up his constitution. G. Perrie, who lately challenged all comers in Canada for an all-round wrestling match, met with a bad accident at Dorel-ester Station on Wednesday, Dec. 10th, while practising with some local sports. It seems Messrs. Perrie and Richardson were getting in training form for their engagements; the former having had a hold with Alvey St. Clair, whom he threw easily, but on the second throw he threw easily, but on giving a quick move to break a lock they both came to the floor, and even then did not realize that his leg was broken. Some of the on-lookers supposed from the distinct sound that St. Clair got a broken rib, and he really imagined such was the case, as he was examining both sides to see if any bones were broken. In a few minutes Perrie found out that it was the front bone of his leg, half way between the foot and the knee. It was purely accidental. A doctor set the bone.

Additional Local Items.

OWING to Christmas falling on Thursday we go to press a day later this week, so that our readers will get THE BEE on Saturday instead of Friday.

PRESENTATION.—The pupils of Andrew Tennant's Sabbath School class, Baptist church, presented him with a nice present as a slight token of their appreciation of his services as their teacher. Following is the address, together with Mr. Tennant's reply: DEAR TEACHER:—We herewith present you with this little present for your kind services as our Sabbath School teacher. You have labored zealously for our spiritual good, and we hope that you will long be spared to teach our class and otherwise labor for the Master. From your class: Ella Holmes, Maria Nichol, Edith Hope, Bee Dunn, Maud Hastings, Annie M. Rozel, and a friend. DEAR SCHOLARS:—You have taken me by surprise in presenting me with this beautiful present, and I feel it my duty to acknowledge and thank you for it. I assure you it will be a pleasure for me to remain as your teacher in the future. Your punctual attendance and close attention to the lesson have been a source of encouragement to me and it gives me joy to learn that my feeble efforts to teach you the Word of Life have been beneficial. In conclusion, I trust that as you grow older in years you may continue to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, and that you may be, under God's blessing, instrumental in winning souls for Christ. Your Teacher, A. TENNANT.

ATWOOD, Dec. 16, 1890. ORANGE BLOSSOMS.—Atwood society circles are being deprived of not a few most valued members of late, and as the "doubling up" process continues as brisk during the next few weeks as in the past it will be a difficult matter to gather together a sufficient number of young people for an evening's social enjoyment. The latest to leave the noble army of benefactors is John Rogers, our popular hardware merchant, who thought it "not good to be alone" and, acting upon his convictions, stole the heart of one of Atwood's fairest daughters, Miss Maggie E. Pelton, daughter of Lemuel Pelton. The wedding ceremony was solemnized by Rev. A. Henderson, M. A., at the residence of the bride's parents, on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th, in the presence of a large company of relatives and friends of the contracting parties. At 6 o'clock the bride took her place in the drawing room, followed by the groom, and in a few minutes later the officiating minister pronounced them man and wife, sealing the life long contract with the sacred injunction, "What God hath joined together let not man put asunder." The bride was beautifully attired in a neat fitting cream cashmere, with quitted silk front and Queen Ann collar. The costume was very becoming and much admired by critics of fashion. The young couple departed from the prevailing custom of having supporters—bridesmaid and groomsmen—which departure is quite in harmony with many of the most fashionable weddings in the cities. At 7 o'clock the company sat down to the bridal feast, which was befitting the occasion in every respect. Of course the participants did ample justice to the spread, and many well-wishes and God-speeds were showered upon the newly made couple. The mazy dance was enjoyed by the young and gay until the dawn of morn. We voice the sentiment of the community in wishing the young couple a long, happy and useful life.

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Jan. 5th, 1891

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