

governors. I write this in the light of twenty years acquaintance with that gentleman. But a flood of sympathy, not the sympathy referred to by Dr. Sawyer, for the moment blurred his vision in his irresponsible relation to the subject, and hence the apparent recommendation of his letter. This is not the sympathy with the college to which Dr. Sawyer refers. It is a sympathy that will follow truth and right - that will be led by them. This is not the first time we have had freaks of zeal and passion in which the element of knowledge and sound thinking has been notably absent. There was for instance the Halifax university scare. It will not soon be forgotten how the pent-up violence of that agitation went off through the safety valve of a resolution to raise \$100,000 additional endowment for the college. Some of those into whose faces the present storm of blind passion beats uncomfortably, acted as turnkeys to Aeolus on that occasion. The result of all this is I suppose helpful in the education of the passions. People are taught to subordinate their feelings to their judgment. From the prejudices lately exhibited therefore a good result may come. Out of this experience some persons will in future take pains to know whether they are carried at the pleasure of the wild winds, or whether they are guided by a helm grasped by the right hand of intelligence. A drop of common sense is worth a Niagara of feeling and passion.

The intelligent sympathy of the denomination as a whole is loyal and trustful. It will not volunteer to excite the public by circulars, by writings, true and untrue, scrupulous and unscrupulous. It will regard with complacency and trust the deliberate action of lawfully constituted and honorable bodies.

#### ANONYMOUS WRITERS AND THEIR ANIMUS.

A few active persons, four of whom, I have been credibly informed, are Episcopalians, by writings "anonymous and otherwise" have, through resorting to political device and trickery succeeded in disturbing the public mind to some extent; but they have taken charge of the loyal sympathy and intelligence of the Baptists of these maritime provinces. When our delegates and representative men shall have met in convention, it will then be seen whether a few enthusiastic churchwardens combined with some flammable material found among Baptists are the

real governors of our college and the leaders in our educational work.

Our large deliberative assembly has had experience. Measures cannot be carried by passion, they must stand or fall on their own merits.

Ostensibly the doings of the governing bodies of the college have been attacked; but covertly and otherwise some of the writers have been acting the ignoble part of detractors. Under some circumstances this conduct should be characterized; but as these innuendoes and utterances are not, as I suppose, believed even by their authors, they might be passed over in silence. Stripped of their guise and laid bare, they seem to be to this effect—that Dr. Rand was about to be ignominiously dismissed from his place as chief superintendent of education in New Brunswick; that he was about to be exhibited to the public as a cast-off and worn out man; that he inveigled certain pliable persons into collusion with himself and secured a refuge in Acadia college, and that the best interests of that institution were prostituted to this end. The only serious phase that I can see in this subject is the baseness of the spirits in which it was begotten. It seems to be a fact that certain persons have made themselves ridiculous in stating these absurdities of a man who has had twenty years of successful public labor, of a man who can point to two systems of public education superintended by himself from their inception to their full development, and through years of successful operation, of a gentleman and scholar who has a wide reputation for honor, talent, and executive ability, of a christian man who for twenty years has given his hand, head and heart to the religious enterprises of the body to which he belongs, of a man now ripe in manhood, unimpaired in physical and mental strength, and rich in experience and desirous of laboring in the midst of his old friends. If there were any persons so destitute of common sense and common honesty as to credit for a moment these ridiculous insinuations it might be necessary to refer to them seriously; but as no one gives them credence, they may be left to recoil upon their authors, who in their sober moments will wish to bury in oblivion their malicious attempts at detraction. No one, I trust, will ever be so cruel as to torment the inventors by dragging these viperous follies to the light of day.