

THE ACADIAN.
SEMI-MONTHLY.

DAVISON BROTHERS
PUBLISHERS & PROPRIETORS.

WOLFVILLE, KING'S CO., N. S.
TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—The ACADIAN is published on the second and fourth Friday of each month at 50cts. per Annum in advance. Single copies 2 cents.

DIDACTICS.

We have undergone so many changes of feeling in regard to this subject that we can hardly tell just how to view it.

First we viewed it as a useless innovation, a waste of money, and felt that the proper place for a chair of that kind was at the Normal School Truro. In fact we were the first paper to raise a dissenting voice, the other papers having all expressed very favorable opinions in regard to it.

Then every one started. Here was a grand opportunity to write for the press, to make a brilliant spread of themselves. Champions of the Baptist denomination, graduates of Acadia arose as one man and all said the same thing with a very slight change of language (some being more poetical than others and some having a little more sense, but not much) and one or two ideas in each showing the individuality of the writer.

Then the strangest thing of all took place. No one replied but Mr. Eaton and he, poor man was so soon trodden under foot that he faded away and left the field.

The governors have taken no public notice of it whatever, Dr. Rand has said nothing has not even taken the trouble to tell the people what Didactics means and what he is going to teach. He takes no more notice of them than if they were not in existence, and probably were the truth told that is what ails half of them. He is making preparations to come here and in all probability it will not be until he has got fairly to work that the public at large or any one else for that matter will know what Didactics is.

Now for Certainties. First the grand certainty is that Dr. Rand will come to Wolfville and take his place as Professor of Didactics. Second, that the energetic correspondents will wait in vain for an answer to their effusions. Third the general public will be greatly astonished when they get Dr. Rand's definition of Didactics. Fourth, when Dr. Rand takes his chair there will be an awful disturbance among the Baptists. We don't profess to be a prophet but just wait awhile.

GENERAL NEWS.

U. S. ELECTIONS.—Butler has been defeated in Massachusetts by from 15,000 to 20,000 and the Republicans have secured three fourths of the whole legislative machinery. Connecticut has been carried by the Democrats, New Jersey elected Abbott (democratic) governor by 25,000. The Democratic ticket is carried. New York has gone Democratic by probably 45,000 majority.

The *Mark Lane express* in its weekly report dated Oct. 30th says:—The weather has generally been fine and mild and the land is in an excellent condition for sowing. Prices are weaker. All qualities of wheat except fine are cheaper. Flour is difficult to sell and the market favors buyers. Mixed American maize is scarce and dearer. The tendency of the Flour market is downward.

On the evening of Oct. 30th a terrible explosion occurred at London near the Praid St. underground station on the Metropolitan Railway, almost simultaneously a violent explosion occurred on the underground Railway between Charing Cross and Westminster stations. The sound in both cases was like that of Artillery. Carriage lamps, windows etc. were smashed and all traffic suspended. Both explosions are matters of greatest mystery and by some are thought to be of Fenian origin.

Oh the 18th of Nov. the new Standard of time will be adopted by the railways of Canada and the United States, in accordance with the plan suggested by Prof. Abbe, of the U. S. Signal Service, and Mr. Sandford Fleming late Chief Engineer of the C. P. R.

The *London Times* in an editorial on the departure of Lord Lorne from Canada is very flattering to the Dominion. Canada's prospect is spoken of in glowing terms, the Dominion being described as loyal and law-abiding the least costly and least troublesome and yet the greatest of Briton's Colonial possessions.

Holmes and Bracken, the alleged dynamite smugglers, were brought before Judge Thompson on Tuesday last on an *Habeas corpus*. His Lordship dismissed the prisoners on that charge on the grounds of illegal remand by the Stipendiary Magistrate.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.]

To the Editor of the *Acadian*,
Sir:—

During the past few weeks several communications have appeared before the public in reference to the duties of the Municipal Council and assessors in making up the coming assessment, one writer in the *Western Chronicle* suggests that the Warden call the Council together to enact laws, and in response there appeared a long article

in the *W. C.* purporting to be instructions passed by the Municipal Council and distributed among the assessors for their information. Now it appears to me that if the writer above referred to had made himself familiar with the laws of the land and also with the power of the Municipal Council he would not have advised such a course of proceeding. The Law as placed upon our Statute Book is very plain and any man of *even ordinary* intelligence could not misunderstand it without the Councilors authorizing the expense of printing and distributing such elaborate instruction, it surely reflects no credit on the intelligence of the person so appointed when such become necessary. If a little more discretion was observed in the selection of County Officers (Assessors in particular) it would not be necessary to go to such expense to instruct them. There are plenty of good and conscientious men in the several wards who would take the trouble to qualify themselves as to their respective duties and act accordingly. The law is not so much at fault as are the men who profess to carry it out. What think you of assessors sworn to faithful discharge of their duties and who sign a certificate that according to the best of their information they have assessed all the real and personal property in their respective district, place themselves upon the assessor's book as owing from \$100 to \$200 worth, when at the same time they know themselves to have at least \$1000 worth. Could you expect fair play or justice from such? The remedy would be to appoint better men.
Ratepayer.
Nov. 1st. 1883.

ODE TO DIDACTICS
OR CHARGE OF SIXTEEN HUNDRED.

Sixty leagues, sixty leagues,
Sixty leagues onward,
Into ACADIA'S breach
Where Welton used to teach
DIDACTICS thundered.
"Forward" the PEDAGOGUE said
And the wild charge he made
For the DIDACTIC Chair
Was Sixteen Hundred.

"Forward" the Pedagogue said
"Think not that I'm dismayed
Though all the Baptists know
They're to be plundered.
They raised a hue and cry,
To know the reason why
ACADIA'S so fierce to try
How much can be squandered."

"Baptists to right of me,
Baptists to left of me,
Baptists all round me
Spit red and thundered:
Ink slingers splashed me well,
But though the college fell
Straight to the mouth of hell
DIDACTICS still must sell
For Sixteen Hundred."

"And all the Baptists say
What are Didactics pray
That there's so much to pay?
And it's much wondered
If all the Pedagogues
Are not just petty rogues
And all their Didactics
A set of scurvy tricks
To grab SIXTEEN HUNDRED.

Shakspeop.

R. PRAT

Begs to announce that his Stock
OF

CHOICE FAMILY

GROCERIES,

AND

CHINA GLASS &

EARTHENWARE,

Recently imported from

BOSTON,
MONTREAL,
ST JOHN,
& HALIFAX;

IS NOW COMPLETE.

COMPRISING

FLOUR CORNMEAL, OATMEAL,
CHOICE MOLASSES,
WATERWHITE AMERICAN OIL,
WHITE WINE & CIDER VIGAR,
SOAPS 4 to 13 cents per Bar.
TEA, 25 to 50 cents per lb.

Graham Flour, Cracked
Wheat, Buckwheat Meal,
Pickled Herring, Dry
Cod Fish, & Pollock,

Pork,

Hams, &

Rolled Bacon

AND

THE FINEST STOCK OF
Biscuits, & Confectionery
Tobacco, Pipes, Cigars,
and Smokers', Sun-
dries in Wolfville

IT IS ALSO IN

LAMPS,
DINNER SETTS,
TEA SETTS,
CHAMBER SETTS,
GLASS SETTS,
VASES CHINA TOYS,
ETC. ETC. ETC. ETC.

that I excel both in

VARIETY & QUALITY

It will pay you to give me a call
I will sell all goods at bottom prices.

R. PRAT

Wolfville, Oct. 12 1883