

people of Halifax are to be congratulated upon their present opportunity of attending the discussions and public meetings of a deliberative body in which so much ability, culture, and zeal for religion are represented. The statistical returns for the year show that the contributions of the denomination during the year for all purposes, excepting Century Fund, amounted to \$2,384,897, an increase over last year's contributions of about \$114,000. According to one statement in the Presbyterian Witness, there are 2942 congregations and stations on the roll, with a total church membership of 210,326—an increase of 106 congregations and more than 10,000 members for the year. The same paper, however, contains another statement which differs from this, and seems to imply that there has been a decrease in the membership for the year. That however we take it is not the case, as the report for the year is characterized as almost as good as the best ever presented.

—Mrs. Gladstone, the widow of England's illustrious commoner, died on Thursday of last week at the age of 88 years, having survived her husband by two years, lacking only five days. Mrs. Gladstone's maiden name was Catherine Glynn. She was the elder daughter of Sir Stephen Richard Glynn, of Hawarden Castle. It is said that when married to Mr. Gladstone, 61 years ago, she was regarded as one of the most beautiful women in England. She was a most devoted wife, and her love was fully returned. In mutual affection and happiness their marriage was an ideal one. Mrs. Gladstone watched over her husband's health with the utmost solicitude, and studied to shield him so far as possible from petty cares and vexations, and the great man eloquently acknowledged how much he owed to her. Not only by her domestic and wifely virtues, but by her endowments of brain and heart, her interest in public affairs, and especially in philanthropic enterprises, was Mrs. Gladstone fitted to be the wife of the great man whom she loved so well and in whose fame she rejoiced. It may be that England as well as England's Grand Old Man has owed more to Mrs. Gladstone than anyone has thought. Mr. Gladstone's marriage did not make him a great man. He would have been great with any kind of a wife, or without any; but with a very different kind of a wife, Mr. Gladstone might have been a very different kind of a great man.

—We find in a recent issue of the New York Outlook reference to the supposed discovery by three Professors of the University of Strassburg of a new inspired record of the life of Christ. These three professors, Jacobz, Spiegelberg and Schmidt by name, are said to have a recognized position among the leading archaeologists of Germany. They think their discovery may be none other than the lost gospel to the Egyptians. The fragment found, two pages, purports to be written by an eye-witness. It contains a prayer by Christ and an address by him to the apostles. There is also an account of the agony at Gethsemane. As only Peter, John and James were present at Gethsemane, and as we already are in possession of the gospel of John, the Strassburg scholars believe the newly found gospel to have been written either by Peter or James, inclining to the supposition that it is the work of Peter. The pages of the gospel were discovered among a batch of Egyptian papyri purchased at Cairo for the Strassburg University Library. The pages were badly torn; they have words on both sides and the writing is in Coptic, the language spoken by the Egyptians in the time of Christ and during the first centuries of the Christian era. Careful scholars will await further information before accepting the hypothesis to this fragment thus reported.

—If late reports from China are to be credited the situation at Peking and throughout the Province of Chi-Li has assumed a most serious character and the gravest apprehensions for the safety of Christian missionaries and their converts, as well as for all foreign residents, are justified. It appears, however, to be the fact that telegraph communication with Tien Tsin and Peking has been interrupted, and consequently the despatches which are being cabled from the east as to the state of affairs at the Chinese capital cannot be accepted with full credence. A despatch of Saturday's date from Hong Kong stated that all the Peking legations had been destroyed, and that the German minister, Baron Von Kettler had been killed. This is probably a fabrication. But from all that is known of the situation, with the evident indisposition of the Chinese Government to take vigorous measures against the Boxers, it is much to be feared that the foreign police force which, by the joint action of the European powers, has been sent into the country, will not be able to check the outbreak of fanaticism. Even if this force should succeed in restoring order, the question of dealing with the difficulties in a permanent way would not be easy of solution, and altogether it must be recognized that with the rivalries and jealousies existing between Russia and Japan, and with the interests of the European nations and the United States to be safeguarded, the situation in the East affords cause for the gravest concern.

—The well known Bishop Tucker of Uganda gives an account of an incident in which he was personally concerned and which illustrates the differ-

ence in character and influence of the Christian missionary in Africa and certain other men who are in the country for far different purposes, than those which actuate the missionary. During a long journey the Bishop learned that a German trader was sending out an expedition to capture some pigmies of the great forest and exhibit them at the Paris exhibition. Subsequently he heard of a trader in pigmies in Mengo. He immediately organized an expedition and interviewed a Christian Ugandan. The head man of the German caravan learned of this, and when Bishop Tucker's expedition arrived in the forest, the Germans were there ahead of them. The Germans beat their drums and after a while a few little people of shy appearance came out to partake of a feast which had been made for them. When they did so, 17 of them were seized by the German trader, and the march to Mengo began. On the way nine of the pigmies escaped. They were pursued and recaptured by the Bishop, who then took them as evidence to the British Commissioner, Sir Henry Johnson. The result was that the pigmies were released and sent home, while the German trader was arrested and when the mail left he was awaiting trial. In writing of the affair, Bishop Tucker says he never heard of anything more like slave trading

### A Note From Dr. Trotter.

Will you permit me, Mr. Editor, to say to prospective students and others, that I am leaving today for the west, to be absent for perhaps two months. After a few days in Toronto and other places in Ontario visiting relatives, I hope to be present as a representative of the Board of Governors at the National Baptist Convention at Winnipeg, in the early days of July. Having gone so far west, I hope thereafter to gratify a cherished desire by spending a few weeks in the farther west, getting some acquaintance at first hand with that new and wonderful country stretching from Winnipeg to the coast, into which increasing numbers of our young people ought to go to find their life-service. The summer's experience should fit me to be helpful to the young people in respect to this matter.

During my absence, correspondence addressed to me at Wolfville will be opened, and either sent on to me or passed into the hands of some professor to be answered. Professor E. W. Sawyer will have charge of the calendars for the summer. Some representative of the college will be present at each of the associations, prepared to make public representations on behalf of the college, and to furnish private information to all who may wish conversation. I expect to be at home (D. V.) by the middle of August.

Wolfville, June 15th.

T. TROTTER.

### Acadia Seminary.

The annual re-union of the Alumnae Association was held Monday evening, June 4th, in Alumni Hall of Acadia Seminary. A large number of former graduates and students were present and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The president, Mrs. Ralph Eaton, gave the annual address which was elevating and helpful. We hope to have the pleasure of reading it from these columns. A thoughtful paper on "Industrial Education," written by Mrs. Hilda Christie of River Hebert was read by Miss Emily Christie '99. A piano solo by Miss Ida Jones, and a vocal solo by Miss Agnes Johnson, were much enjoyed. A cleverly written historical poem on The Founding of Acadia was given by Miss Grace Patriquin '96. Principal McDonald and Vice Principal Miss Johnson were welcomed by the president on behalf of the Association and responded in words of appreciation. After the serving of refreshments and a renewal of former friendships, the roll of classes was called and responses were given by Mrs. Joseph Kempton, class of '62; Miss Graham Whidden, class of '80; Miss Ida Jones, '82; Mrs. Brough, '83; Miss Mildred McLean, '89; Miss Clara Cohoon, '95; Miss Minnie Payzant, '96; Miss Mabel Wortman, '97; Miss Ethel Emmerson, '99; Miss Emily Christie, 1900. We are glad to welcome to our Society the eighteen graduates who go out this year from the Seminary with so much promise. Miss Cohoon intimated that the class of '95 had contributed \$25 to make Miss Jackson a life member of the Association. Mrs. Chubbuck announced that the sum of \$60 had been donated by Amherst friends in memory of the late Adelaide McCully to be used in furnishing a hospital in connection with Acadia Seminary to be known as the "Adelaide Hospital." These loving friends have but carried out the wishes of the departed one whose life was so largely spent in sweet ministrations. For two consecutive years Mrs. Ralph Eaton has brought to the Association valuable donations for Acadia Seminary, which she has collected from friends. This year she has raised the large sum of \$450.00 which she has presented to the Seminary as a memorial to her departed friend and fellow student, Mrs. Helen Read Taylor. This generous amount was largely given by Mrs. Taylor's relatives in Amherst and vicinity including Mrs. Amelia Black, Mrs. Farrington, Premier Emmerson, Mrs. A. R. Emmerson, Miss E. L. Read, Mrs. Christie, Mrs. Bates, Miss Seaman,

Messrs. B. and H. Read and friends scattered over both provinces, also a cheque for \$100 from Mrs. McClelan, wife of Lieut. Governor McClelan of New Brunswick. Helen was a sunbeam, brightening and cheering where ever she went, thus the memorial which is to be used for putting the electric lights into the Seminary, has a beautiful significance. The Association rose and expressed its appreciation of these gifts by giving the Chautauqua salute.

On Tuesday afternoon the annual business meeting was held in a class-room of the Seminary. The treasurer's report showed that only forty-one out of our large membership, have sent in their annual fee. Will members please note that Miss Mabel Wortman, Wolfville, N. S., was appointed treasurer for this year, and will be glad to receive any contributions. According to request, Mrs. Tufts, Mrs. Bret Black and Miss Ida Jones, were appointed to represent the Association on the board of examiners of Acadia Seminary. After the transaction of other business the following officers were elected for the year just begun: President, Mrs. Walter Higgins; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. Burpee Wallace; 2nd Vice-president, Miss Lena Benjamin; Secretary, Miss Grace Reynolds; Treasurer, Miss Mabel Wortman. We hope to see a larger number of members present at the business meeting next year.

H. B.

### The Winnipeg Convention.

There is a small error in the announcement of entertainment for Congress at Winnipeg. Would you kindly say that we propose to entertain all ministers and their wives, and after that it is "first come, first served." We are counting on 150 ministers and wives. It would mean very much to us in a bad way if few should come. We are looking for a large gathering. Will not all the churches send their pastors? Or give them a part of the cost and say "go."

Bro. Parker of Temple church, Yarmouth, writes me: "Our B. Y. P. U. has just surprised me with an offer of \$50 toward expenses if I will attend Convention at Winnipeg, and I think of doing so." Of course do so, and we will care for you freely when you get here and meet us at train when you arrive. Let me say to other B. Y. P. U's. "Go thou and do likewise."

Thanking you in anticipation for your space, I am yours in hope of seeing you in Winnipeg July 6th, Brother Editor.

W. C. VINCENT.

Send names to W. A. McIntyre for entertainment.

### Letter From Singing Evangelist MacLean.

As I have just completed the season of evangelistic work, perhaps a few words through the columns of your paper may be of interest to the readers.

I opened the season in Boston, Mass., Oct. 1st, singing in Boston, Cambridge, and Haverhill, until the middle of November. I then spent six weeks with Rev. B. H. Nobles, of Sussex, N. B., laboring in Moncton, McAdam Junction, and Sussex. The Lord blessed our labors in all the above mentioned places, and many we trust were saved. During the month of January I assisted Evangelist Davidson in a union movement in the city of Gloucester, Mass., where we had a remarkable work of grace, some four hundred having professed conversion. Rev. Dr. Wilkins, pastor of the Baptist church, wrote me afterward that he was to receive 75 into the membership of his church as a result of the work. I next came to Canso, N. S., to assist Pastor Beals. I found Bro. Beals a very delightful man to labor with, he and his efficient corps of workers were ready to enter heartily into the work. The meetings there proved very helpful to the church. I next went to assist my brother at North Sydney, C. B. I was not a stranger in that place as this made the third time I had assisted in special meetings in that town. I much enjoyed working with the kind, warm-hearted, Scotch people of that flourishing town. The meetings were among the most helpful and profitable of the whole season's work. Many were reached by the power of the gospel in those meetings, and I was glad to note in the columns of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, that a goodly number have obeyed their Lord in baptism and united with his church.

I next went to Isaac's Harbor and Goldboro, to assist Pastors Lawson and Rutledge. These pastors are deservedly beloved by their people, and I predict a bright future for those churches under their wise leadership. The people of those communities I found among the most appreciative and responsive people it has ever been my privilege to sing the gospel to. The work on both sides of the Harbor was blessed of God to the salvation of many souls and the reclaiming of wanderers.

My closing engagement was with the First church of Montreal, assisting Pastor Gordon. Pastor Gordon with his usual push, zeal, earnestness, and wise leadership, is making his work tell, and his influence felt in that church and city. Congregations that formerly numbered less than one hundred now number about four hundred. The three weeks of meetings proved very helpful to the church, and eternity alone will reveal the real results.

I received many pressing calls from the churches during the season, but I regretted being unable to accept them owing to previous engagements.

Churches, Associations or Conventions needing the services of an experienced Gospel soloist and choir leader, I will be very glad to correspond with. My address will be, Victoria Cross, Kings Co., Prince Edward Island.

HUGH A. MACLEAN.