

advice, and with the consent of our friends there, began to hold meetings for prayer and other religious exercises, once or twice during every day of the week, in which he was very affectionately assisted by brother Hobb's and Mattart and others. It soon appeared that God was in the midst of them, displaying his almighty power in the awakening of thoughtless sinners, in the restoration of unhappy backsliders, and in the quickening and comforting of Christian believers. Of this work, there was no means of getting information to me, until the close of the week; of course, I had no opportunity of joining in it until the next week, having to preach at three different places on the next Sabbath. As soon as I could return from these places, I hastened to New London, and found our brethren all alive to God, the chapel, in the evening, crowded with people, and a very gracious influence pervading the assembly. Since then the good work has been going on, meetings being held, either for prayer or preaching, in different parts of the settlement almost every night. On Sunday and Monday last, I preached, administered the sacrament to about 70 persons, and received about 50 on trial. True, the weather was very unpropitious, nevertheless, the Chapel was filled. God was eminently present, and in the evening of Sunday, one individual professed to have been pardoned, and made happy in the love of God. It was one of the most blessed and profitable times to my own soul that I have experienced for many months.—Praise the Lord O my soul! O may these, who have been thus gathered to the fold of Christ, be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints! If the good Lord should permit, we intend holding a similar series of meetings in the Bedeque New Chapel, to commence on Monday next. Preparatory thereto we are now engaged in holding meetings for prayer during every evening in the course of this week. May the Great Head of the Church be pleased to crown all these meetings with the most glorious results.

I think our dear friends here will enter heartily into the spirit of these meetings, being convinced that something more than ordinary efforts is especially necessary, at this time, to raise the church from that low state of religious feeling into which it has unhappily fallen.

I should have given you earlier information of the good work which has commenced in New London, only I was desirous of waiting a short time until I could gather those who wished to unite themselves to us, into the fold of the Society.

Yours truly,
J. B. Strong.
Bedeque, P. E. I., Feb. 6, 1850.

For the Wesleyan.

Parliamentary Errors Corrected.

That the debates in our Provincial Assembly should be always devoid of sophistry were to expect more than is found to exist in other bodies similarly constituted. But when, in order to carry a favourable measure, or to give a colour of propriety to an unsound principle, there is either a display of gross ignorance, or of utter disregard to facts, it is important to guard the public against imposition by the presentation of truth. During the discussion on Tuesday last, on the Bill for Repealing the Charter for King's College, the merits of denominational Colleges and Academies were brought under consideration. Referring to some observations made by the Attorney General, Mr. Henry asserted that the success of Harvard University was to be attributed to its being based upon a sound foundation, that is, to the exclusion of religious instruction and clerical influence from its educational course.

The utter erroneousness of this statement must appear from the fact that at its original establishment that Institution was placed on a religious foundation, and is still conducted on religious principles. In support of this statement may be adduced the following extracts from the *London Encyclopedia*, which will be deemed better authority than the *ipse dixit* of the member for Sydney.

"This University, which is considered the most respectable in the United States, consists of several large, spacious, brick edifices. Harvard Hall is divided into six apartments, one appropriated for the library, two for philosophical apparatus, one for the museum, a fifth for a refectory, and the other for a Chapel." Now, it will appear to plain folks that "a Chapel" except for religious purposes, would be as useless

an apartment as "a refectory" without food, or a "library" without books.

"This University was first instituted in 1636, and was no more than an academy, the first of its kind in the New World. It was founded by the Rev. Mr. Harvard, of Cambridge, two years after, in consequence of a donation left by the Rev. Mr. Harvard, of Cambridge, town, it was named Harvard College. In its first charter was obtained from the Government of Massachusetts. The Governor, the Council, the Senate, the President of the university, and the Congregational Ministers of the several towns, are members of the University." This looks very much like a denominational religious over-sight.

In the *Wesleyan* of Dec. 29th you have given the address of Governor Briggs, of Massachusetts, delivered on the 20th of last June, on presenting to Dr. Jared Sparks the seal and keys, as President of that Institution. I beg leave to quote the following brief but telling sentences from that excellent address:

"Christianity is the only rock on which the character of man can now be built with safety. I am sure, sir, that its hopes and its principles, that its beautiful and sublime precepts, as illustrated in the wise teachings and the spotless life of its Divine author, will be leading topics of the instructions which the youth committed to your charge will daily receive from your lips."

From the appropriate reply of Dr. Sparks, I just give the following:—"When your Excellency speaks of the importance of a moral and religious education, your words must meet with a cordial response from every friend of youth, may from every friend of mankind. The principles, the vital truths, the practical rules of life, taught in the Divine Word, the doctrines and precepts of the Saviour, should be made in every institution of learning the cardinal elements from which all other instruction should spring. • • • May this religion be taught here in its purifying efficacy, left alone by those who teach and those who learn."

As reference is so frequently made by the opponents of religious education to the institutions of learning in the United States, and attempts made to create an impression that the religious element is there discarded, the people of this Province may learn from the above to what extent such references are to be relied upon. It is susceptible of clearest proof that the progress of opinion in the best educated States is decidedly in favour of religiously educated Seminaries, and time will show that the religious public of Nova Scotia are not prepared to abandon their children to visionary theorists, or to try on any extensive scale the hazardous experiment now sought to be forced upon them.

Feb. 20th, 1850. E. H. H.

Letters upon Education No. 1.

MR. EDITOR.—The educational question is assuredly one of the most important ones which can be presented to the public for consideration and settlement,—it concerns not only the improvement of the youth as individuals, but also, though more remotely, not less certainly, the advancement of the Province to honour and influence in the world. To it, then, should be given the most serious attention and the best thoughts, not only of the professed Philanthropist, Patriot and Statesman, but also of every person who has any interest in the future prosperity of Nova Scotia, and especially of every Parent throughout the length and breadth of the country. All should prepare themselves to take a part in its discussion, and each should feel some responsibility respecting its issue. It is a matter which should be kept apart from all questions of mere party, temporary, party politics, as it is above them all. Upon such a question, of every class and profession should be considered that perfect liberty to form and utter their opinions in order that truth may be ascertained and the best means employed to carry on the work.

You have, therefore, well done, Mr. Editor, to show your opinion, and to lay it open to the subject as you have done in your articles editorial recently. Indeed you would have been recent to your trust, had you in your commanding position, bearing the name of a paragon Editor, or of excited Demagogue, preserved a cowardly silence at this juncture of time.

I have been led to devote much time and thought to an examination of the subject in all its bearings, since the question about it has been my power to ensure myself against erroneous conclusions upon any debatable point, and great confidence in the correctness of my deliberately formed opinions—the results of that carefully conducted examination. Those opinions are embodied in certain propositions. I beg leave to submit to the notice of all who peruse the pages of the *Wesleyan*; and in doing so I feel, with your consent, pledged to the public that if these communications to you are so far as to justify an understating belief in the truth of the opinions expressed and embodied in the propositions of I. Proposition should be made by the Body of the Province to secure the public and religious education for every youth in the community.

II. Education to be made most deal with the

children of men" as in *rel.*, as well as intellectual, temper, and consequently proper provision should be made for the physical, moral, and intellectual training *rel.*

III. A constant practical application of the religious element in the human constitution is especially important to all the physical and moral training of the educational system, and of the higher rank, which having decided, there is nothing more than local accommodation, undertake the guardianship of those who must be removed, for the time being, from the parental roof.

IV. That in a country where different branches of the Christian Church exist, provision may be most easily, most satisfactorily, and most efficiently made to ensure a sufficient number of higher and rightly conducted educational institutions, by extending Legislative sanction and additional assistance to Denominational enterprise.

Very truly,
A. WESLEYAN.

STANDING REGULATIONS.

Correspondents must send their communications written in a legible hand, and, unless they contain the names of new subscribers, or testimonials, for *rel.*, and contract as in confidence, with their proper names and address. The Editor holds not himself responsible for the opinions of correspondents, or the prevalence of misstatements or rejecting articles offered for publication—and cannot pledge himself to return those not inserted. Communications on business, and those intended for publication, when contained in the same letter, should, if practicable, be written on different parts of the sheet, so that they may be separated when they reach us. Communications and exchanges should be addressed to the Editor, Halifax, N. S. Issued weekly, on Saturday Morning.—Terms Ten Pounds per annum, exclusive of postage, half yearly in advance.—Single Copies three pence each. The Wesleyan Ministers of the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Districts are our Agents; who will receive orders and make remittances.

THE WESLEYAN.

Halifax, Saturday Morning, February 23, 1850.

MR. HENRY'S BILL.

On Monday last, Mr. Henry's Bill for the withdrawal of the permanent Grant from Windsor College was before the House in Committee. Hon. J. W. Johnston, in order to ascertain the views of members on the subject of collegiate education, moved an amendment, that it was the duty of the Legislature to support Collegiate Education in the Province. The amendment was negatived, some members voting against it, so it was stated, not because they were opposed to the principle it avowed, considered as a distinct proposition, but on the ground of its being opposed to the resolution of Mr. Henry. The Hon. Provincial Secretary said he would propose at a future time, that a blank sum, to be hereafter filled up, should be given to the higher Institutions of learning, not as sectarian institutions, but on the ground that they were already in existence, and were giving a good education to the youth. Nothing, however, was then decided; as, on the motion of Mr. Johnston's amendment, the Committee adjourned for the purpose of referring the Hon. Attorney General and other friends of Windsor College an opportunity of advocating its claims.

The speech of the Hon. Speaker was singular in its cast. At one time, he said, if a grant were given to one of these Institutions, he would vote for extending grants to all. At another, if we understood him aright, he would allow the grant to Windsor College to remain two years and withdraw Legislative aid altogether from the other Denominational Institutions, intimating that such a course of policy would array the friends of those against King's, and then, with a good grace, the Legislature could give the long sought for grant to that College alone! We wonder that the Hon. Speaker could bring himself to shadow forth such an unscrupulous course of action to the country! His conduct in regard to the subject of education, of procedure, he would hardly withdraw the grants from all the denominational Institutions for two or three years in order by the breaking up of

these Seminaries—a result which he, good man, fondly hopes will follow the adoption of such a measure—to clear the way for the establishment of one College—that one College to be located almost anywhere else than in Halifax. What will the friends of Dalhousie say to that? Were we to say as much, we might expect a decent lecture.—But what did really appear to us the strangest thing of any that occurred in the course of the debates on Monday, was, that the Hon. G. Young affirmed his determination to support his brother's views to withdraw Legislative support from all the present Collegiate and Academic Institutions, the Speaker having expressly included *Pictou Academy* among the obnoxious Seminaries which stood in the way of his one pet College! But from all we have seen and heard, our candid conviction is, that although the Hon. George Young would rejoice if those Denominational Institutions, to whose prosperity he is outrageously inimical, were prostrated to the ground at once, he has nevertheless some schemes in his own mind by which he believes he will be able to secure a Legislative grant of two hundred or two hundred and fifty pounds for the Academy at Pictou. We wish Pictou Academy well, but we do not wish to see it flourish on the ruins of other Institutions equally deserving; and though we could not be so presumptuous as to even seem to dictate to honourable members what course they should pursue, yet we hope they will narrowly watch the movements of the said member for Pictou. Fair play, an open, honest, straightforward, English, course of proceeding, we like, when a matter so momentous as the one involved in the present discussion, is before the Legislature.

On Tuesday the debate on Mr. Henry's Bill was continued. Mr. Fulton moved an amendment, that the sum of five thousand pounds loaned to Dalhousie College should be recalled and paid into the Treasury for the general purposes of the Province. The object of the honourable gentleman was to test the sincerity of some of the members who professed an anxiety to place all on an equality by withdrawing the grant from King's. From various causes, the amendment was to fly an overwhelming majority. But this decision, it is said, does not indicate the real state of the feelings of the House respecting Dalhousie. We regret much that the Hon. Provincial Secretary attacked Mr. Fulton, charging him with being guilty of *slander*, as if Mr. Fulton had disparaged the personal characters of the gentlemen who are Governors of Dalhousie. It was the *system* of education—not the characters of the Governors—against which Mr. Fulton held up his voice. Hon. G. Young and others can call the system of religious education "vicarious"; on the ground assumed by Mr. Howe, we might with equal justice charge Mr. Young with impeaching the christian character of the Governors, Trustees, or Managers of the religiously conducted Seminaries of learning. Whatever may be said, we are confident Mr. Fulton had no such intention as the one so unfairly attributed to him.—Notwithstanding the elegant speeches of the Hon. Attorney General and others, Mr. Henry's Resolution was carried.

The opinion was more than once stated, by several members, that the Country would not sustain the demolition of Denominational Institutions for the purpose of erecting one College on the *secular* principle. In this opinion we concur. We deprecate the course which certain members appear bent on pursuing, to throw the country into a

state of wide-spread agitation on a most important subject of education, which will not be made a matter of party. If these gentlemen are determined on the country a system of education, the friends of religion cannot quietly witness such efforts opposing them with all the eloquence, all the arguments, the

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

The Hon. George Young, a man delivered themselves on a subject of a great deal of objection against religious education. A gentleman uttered strong things last year, but he was not quite, though offensive enough, occasion. The speech of the Hon. G. Young, doubtless committed to nothing but a furious tirade, a union conducted on christian principles was rotten to the core"—to the core"—so said Mr. Cre profanity of his wisdom. He be thus stigmatized before the gentleman said not. If you coarse language would make it was truly made out. His lightning, manifested for it were harmless things, albeit scorch, and blast, and demolish superstructures of learning w land. Hard things—and the cause true—may be said again which would shut out God prayers to Him for his blessing Collegiate and Academic, but slander. The fact is public tradition, that a system of education advocated without distinct christian principles. If parties system, they must expect to the fatal defects of their own expressed by Dr. Chalmers, character and influence, and on our first page, are in our more than ten hours' empty vociferation, and will carry them, and produce their effecting and unjudged in serious, manly and earnest declaration, cannot, and will the impressions which study, truth, experience, the and prayer, have enstamped the heart. It is not with mere matter of pomp and that is involved in the question on the country by the course of our Legislators, more important—something ourselves and our posterity—a purely secular, versus education. If Messrs. Young succeed in thrusting the form, they will compel the system—and they are not out influence—to array the palpably, vigorously, and against their schemes; and no Institution can succeed in position to the religious population of the Province known that King's, Academies, and others, to be the worst but an honest of the religious, a religious education of the religious population of the Province, and the Christian to make the character