

ed, it is doubtless our duty to labour sincerely and heartily to make it successful, if possible, in all respects.

This, however, does not involve as a necessity that we must be voluntarily blind to the true character of the measure. Was it the best thing for the Maritime Provinces? and is not what is best for every important locality eventually the best for the whole?

We rejoice, indeed, whenever individuals of large means give largely for good objects; and we say therefore, "God prosper you," to the brother in Ontario who is giving so largely towards the advance of Ministerial Education. We have not been thus favored in the Maritime Provinces. Have we not, however, been more highly favored in that "the many" of small means have done largely for the promotion of this same end—Ministerial Education?

They have not, indeed, as yet endowed a Theological Chair; but have they not done in effect much more than this in a manifest progress toward it?

Consider what they were in respect of education in 1830; and what they are to-day in every point of desirable advancement, with, as we trust, no lessening of earnest piety.

It was a far more unlikely thing in 1830 that they should establish and maintain Horton Academy and eventually Acadia College, than that in 1884 they should maintain a Theological Professorship in their own College.

So exceedingly great is the difference in the comparative ability of the people on those two occasions, the past of 1830, and the present of 1884, that no language but the strongest superlatives can express it.

The Baptists of Nova Scotia in 1830 were very few in number; without any rich men among them; without organization; with no schools of their own; and with no educated men, until those joined them who proposed the founding of Horton Academy; and not one educated minister previous to that proposition unless occasionally imported from abroad. To some it might have seemed almost madness to hope that so small and uneducated a body, possessed of but narrow means, would successfully maintain first a school and eventually a College of their own; and yet it was done.

But look at their present condition; how almost infinitely changed. Stand under the eaves of the fine

buildings on College Hill at Wolfville, that seem to rejoice against the destructive fire that made way for them, and ask yourself, if, with that evidence of nerve and purpose, it was a fair comment on Baptist pluck and vigor in these sea-girt provinces to banish a thousand miles away, to avoid the maintenance of a system of Theology, a cultivated Hebrew scholar, himself the outgrowth amongst us of Baptist energy and monied effort? For his personal study and expenditure, great as they must have been, are marked exponents, nevertheless, of the vigor and expenditure of Provincial Baptists in the cause of Education, civil and theological, that grew up in our population together with the first foundation of Horton Academy. The conduct of our people at that time at once marked and augmented their own enterprise and vigor, which would perhaps never have come into existence if some rich man had built up for them and maintained their institutions of learning.

A Baptist Theological school connected with the Toronto University, if continuing to be conducted, in the mercy of God, as I trust it will, by men of decided and simple piety, will be an honor to our name and people, and of special benefit to the Baptists of Ontario, in which I hope we shall be unselfish enough to rejoice; but I hold it to be impossible, in the nature of things, that it can have the same influence and effect on our people in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward's Island, that might have been reasonably hoped for from a good Theological School in Acadia College.

This is not idle declamation. There are well known principles of the human mind which explain and prove the statements here made. Men are seldom "what they seem," but it is a rule that does not so often fail that they are usually found to be in great measure "as they act."

Let our people aim by all means at all good objects to the extent of their ability, and pray earnestly for the Divine blessing on their works; but let them also pay money as well as devote time and effort in their promotion; and they will have a much healthier and more real interest in those objects, than if they only talked about them, although they might even seem to pray that God would bless them.

The present writer is not in these remarks overlooking the fact that the question of a Theological