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All letters on business to be addressed to Mr. A. Cosgrove, St. John, N. B.

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### Christian Watchman.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., DEC. 11, 1861.

### Acadia College.

The friends of education in the Lower Provinces will all be deeply gratified to learn of the continued success of Acadia College. For that Institution we can safely claim a support beyond the bounds of any one denomination. The extent of its course, the liberality of its system, and the number and character of its Professors, entitle it to a yet greater increase of students.

The choice of Dr. Pryor for the Alumni Professorship will not fail to increase the reputation of the College. The important chair of metaphysics and Belles Letters will be filled by one who is every way competent to discharge the duties of that office, and the well known character and ability of that gentleman will be a guarantee of greater efficiency.

The prospects of the Institution are very encouraging. The standard of admission will be raised and the entire curriculum of study advanced to an equality with that of the New England Colleges.

Acadia College has not yet received from this province that share of support which its people are both able and willing to bestow. This does not arise perhaps from any lack of generosity or intelligence, but from the fact that its claims have not yet been fully and earnestly placed before them. We should like to see a strong and united effort made in its favor; agents should be sent around to all the churches, and vigorous and well sustained exertions put forth both by the pulpit and the press. Were this done the result would more than repay the labor. We have already done our utmost in these columns to further the interests of that College which we believe to be one of the most efficient in these Lower Provinces, and no lack of zeal in this respect shall ever be seen in the Watchman, yet we feel that our humble efforts would be far more successful if they were seconded in the manner above mentioned.

We learn that a catalogue will soon be issued containing complete information on all subjects connected with the College. This should be put forth without delay and circulated everywhere, for, since we have a worthy object of support, we every possible way to advance its claims in every feasible way.

### Provincial Education.

This subject is one which must ere long force itself upon the attention of our legislature. It seems to us that the education now furnished, if it does not cost more than it is worth, costs far more than would suffice to provide a better article. We want a system which will do justice to all, and bring education within the reach of all. The following article from the *Albion* indicates the evil of the present system, and points out the course which must be pursued.

"The question of Education in the Province of New Brunswick, is one which must be thoroughly discussed. At present the schools are in a very unsatisfactory state. Practically poorer districts are deprived of means of education, and denominational grants are not meted out with any fairness. The quality of the instruction in many of the seminaries is not satisfactory; and there are matters connected with the training school which would need reform. We believe that the whole subject of Education requires revision. In any satisfactory adjustment the poor should have means of Education, sectarian grants should be abolished, a general system adopted, and proper training school for teachers established. It will never do to have the funds of the province wasted in raising denominational schools, seminaries or mere 'pious' schools of learning, where Education in a peculiar faith may cost the province enormous sums annually. We would go for a clear separation of all the grants now made to denominational institutions, leaving such as we want to teach the youth their peculiar theological notions, and to pay for their whistles. This might be a difficult matter to accom-

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### Letter from A. R. B. Crawley.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE BRUSSELS' STREET JUVENILE BAPTIST MISSION SOCIETY.

HENTHADA, British Barmah, Aug. 6th, '61.  
MY DEAR BROTHER, - My letter to you of December last has come back in the columns of the "Baptist and Visitor" and I feel comforted when I see the wide interval between that date and my present. But you must kindly let the manifold ordinary - and since thereof free - extraordinary demands upon my time plead my excuse.

In my previous letter I gave you some account of Moung Yan Bin, your native preacher, his location, etc. He spent two months at the village of Yuay doung whither I sent him as before mentioned upon the application for a preacher made by the people of the village. During the two months he preached daily from house to house, and held a regular Sabbath service which was punctually attended by the few who professed to be inquirers. It soon became evident however that in coming to ask for an assistant to live at their village, the people had a vague idea that I would help them in their frequently recurring difficulties, on account of the relations of many of them being mixed up with those who lived by robbery and who are fugitives from justice. And finding that they had nothing to expect from me they soon ceased to show any interest in the preacher and his teachings. Leaving therefore a number of tracts and books with the one man who really does seem to be truly desirous of becoming a Christian, Moung Yan Bin removed to his former station, Taing-daw, where he continues to labor, daily winning more and more the respect of the heathen by his faithful, humble, affectionate efforts to awaken their slumbering souls and lead them to believe in Him who is able to save. I recently spent a fortnight with him on a missionary tour, and was delighted to perceive how much he had improved in ability to preach Christ to his countrymen. His quickness to comprehend the truth, and his earnestness, patience and humility in presenting it to others made him peculiarly fitted for the work. Let your prayers not be wanting that his labours may be richly blessed in the salvation of many of the poor heathen.

Death has come once more among us and taken this time one of the choicest spirits of our little church, Na-king, a young woman, the wife of whose character as a Christian, wife and mother, was only good and that continually, upon all the other female members of the church.

My work continues much as usual, Zayat preaching still at home here in the town, with frequent itinerations among the hundreds of villages scattered all over this district. A fine substantial Zayat, or as it would be called in New Brunswick, meeting house has just been completed being situated near the one great Bazaar which is the "Change" of Henthada - there is no lack of hearers all day long. The Zayat is constantly occupied by myself, or one of the native preachers, and as we frequently meet traders whom business has brought there from different parts of the country - some even from near the borders of China, and as they always take away tracts and books, you will see that the influence of Zayat preaching is not confined to the place in which the Zayat may happen to be situated. Indeed it often happens that we hear of good being effected in places most remote from the centre, while we are mourning over the apparently unpromising state of things immediately about us. In my former letter I mentioned that the five deprived us of our Globe and Planetarium. These are so indispensable towards enabling the assistants to gain a correct idea of the form of the Earth, and of the Solar System generally, that we are exceedingly anxious to have them replaced. It would seem to imply ingratitude for what you have already so kindly done, to ask you if you could obtain these for us, but I make the intimation so that in case there should be any one among you willing to help us in this way, he may know what our wants are. Hoping to hear from you soon again, I remain,

Yours faithfully, ARTHUR R. B. CRAWLEY.

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### From Bermuda.

Another insult to the British Flag.

The Halifax Express of last Friday Evening has the following:-  
The Steamer Delta arrived here yesterday morning from St. Thomas and Bermuda.  
H. M. S. Nile arrived at Bermuda on the 26th inst. after a passage of four days.  
We are indebted to a gentleman in this city for the subjoined extract from a private letter, received by the above Steamer from Bermuda:-  
"The Mexican difficulty is settled. They have submitted to the terms of the allies; but the preparations still go on. Six hundred marines are coming out in the Sanpaul. It is difficult to know if the Mexicans are sincere in their submission. The preparations here are not, however, delayed.  
"The gun-boat Landrell, brought the news to the Admiral - on her way here she was stopped by an American corvette, who fired a shot across her bows, (the usual course to bring a vessel to anchor.) The Nile, Mercury, and Diadem, suffered severely from a gale on their way here."  
In commenting upon the above the Express says:-  
"We have seen no reference to this outrage in the Bermuda papers, and as they are published weekly, accounts for this, as the letter is dated after the latest paper received here by the Merlin. But we fear the facts are too true. The Landrell carries 5 guns - is a screw steam gun vessel, of 80 horse power, and commanded by Thos. H. Martin."

### The Expedition to Mexico and the Blockade.

HOW THE EXPEDITION MAY AFFECT OUR BLOCKADE.  
[From the London Shipping Gazette, Nov. 18.]  
The expeditionary force which will shortly be assembled in Mexican waters, under the flags of England, France and Spain, has naturally attracted great attention, especially in the Northern States, and has furnished the occasion for speculations and surmises which have found expression in language by no means complimentary to the Powers engaged. The British contingent amounts already to 850 guns, 10,000 seamen and marines. The Spanish Admiral, Rubaleaba, commands twelve steamers, mounting 300 guns, and the French Admiral, Julien de Gravere, probably a squadron of ten sail and 310 guns. The assemblage of this force in the Gulf of Mexico, while the Federal Government is labouring to effect a blockade, the inefficiency of which has been demonstrated in numerous instances, and the recognition of which is solely due to the courtesy of the maritime States of Europe, is not an agreeable subject of contemplation for the Cabinet of Washington, or their supporters in the press. It has been designated as a movement unbecoming, "and justly open to suspicion." "We are free," says the New York Herald, "to conjecture that these superfluous, heavily armed squadrons of Spain, England and France have other objects in view than the settlement of their outstanding accounts with Mexico, and the protection of their commerce against our rebel privateers, and against the accidents of our Southern blockade." It was not to be supposed that this Mexican expedition could have been organized and set on foot without exciting the suspicions of the North, and yet there is no prospect whatever that the triple alliance just concluded will be directed towards an interference between the American belligerents. If France or England, or both Powers combined, have determined on raising the Southern blockade, they need only have united their forces on the West India stations, and ordered them upon the service. It was surely not necessary to take the roundabout course of concluding a convention with Spain, and enlisting the aid of that country in an undertaking in which she could have no direct concern. The closing of the Southern ports is of so great consequence to Spain. Her commerce is but slightly affected by the blockade, and the Cabinet of Madrid would most assuredly never incur the cost and trouble of equipping an expedition to give a coloring to the designs of France and England. The Mexican expedition is obviously not directed against the Southern blockade, though we can understand why the Northern press should assert that it is. If the blockade was really efficient, if the Federal Government had at their command a force sufficient to open the Southern ports, or even to coerce the Federal Government into a respect for the obligations imposed by the laws of maritime warfare. It is quite possible for the Cabinet of Washington to commit the Northern States to a collision with this country. The decision of the Northern Prize Courts, the imprisonment of British subjects on frivolous and groundless pretences, but above all, the constant threat of an invasion of Canada, may induce the British Government to take a very prompt and resolute course for the protection of British interests in the Northern continent. But without some such provocation we are quite satisfied no "action will be taken by our government in reference to the existing struggle, nor would any such action be sanctioned by the British public. The New York Herald, and the other journals who think it necessary to stimulate the Northern feeling against this country, may spare the threats of the country of England and her Confederates," of which they are so lavish. If England or France, separate or united, find it necessary to take steps to uphold their interests in the West, they will do so notwithstanding the warning, that when "the Southern rebellion is suppressed, and an end will be put in a brief campaign to British dominion in the North, or to Spanish intervention in the South." This however, is perfectly consistent with the incoherent presence of the combined fleets in the Gulf of Mexico, and with the solution of the question to which the expeditionary force is subordinate. That question has nothing whatever to do with the existing troubles in the States; and the Powers engaged, especially England and France, are superior to making it the pretence for the assembling of a force with another and a very different object.

### UNITED STATES.

The Secretary of War in his report has recommended the dismemberment of Eastern Virginia, and the parceling out of its territory among the States of Western Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. He says:-

"The geographical position of the metropolitan of the nation, menaced by the rebels, and required to be defended by thousands of our troops, induces me to suggest for consideration the propriety and expediency of a reconstruction of the boundaries of the States of Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. Wisdom and true statesmanship would dictate that the seat of the national government, for all time to come, should be placed beyond reasonable danger of seizure by enemies within, as well as from capture by foes from without. By agreement between the States of Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania, and by Michigan and Ohio, and by Missouri and Iowa, their boundaries could be so changed as to render the capital more remote than at present from the influence of State governments which have arrayed themselves in rebellion against the federal authority. To this end, the limits of Virginia might be so altered as to make her boundaries consist of the Blue Ridge and the east and Pennsylvania on the north, leaving her on the south and west as at present. By this arrangement two counties of Maryland (Alleghany and Washington) would be transferred to the State of Pennsylvania, and the portion of Virginia which lies between the Blue Ridge and Chesapeake Bay could then be added to Maryland, while that portion of the peninsula between the east and Pennsylvania and the Atlantic, now jointly held by Maryland and Virginia, could be incorporated into the State of Delaware. A reference to the map will show that these three great natural boundaries, which for all time to come, would serve to mark the limits of these States. To make the protection of the capital more complete, and to prevent the loss of territory which Maryland would receive in the arrangement proposed, it would be necessary that that State should consent to modify her constitution so as to admit of her representation to her white population."

### THE BANQUET TO CAPTAIN WILKES.

The banquet was given to Captain Wilkes and the officers of the San Jacinto 26 1/2 Nov., at the Revere House, which is attended by about one hundred and fifty guests.  
Among the invited guests were the Governor, Chief Justice Bigelow, the Commodore of the station, Mayor Wightman and a number of distinguished citizens and strangers.  
Hon. T. Wiley Edmunds presided. After the cloth was removed he made a welcome speech to the distinguished guest, which was loudly applauded.  
Captain Wilkes, on rising to respond, was received with tremendous applause, the company rising and giving him three times three cheers, which were warmly responded to by the guests.  
Captain Wilkes thanked the company for the kind reception they had accorded him, and for their endorsement of his acts. He spoke for a few minutes, giving a rapid and compendious account of the capture of the San Jacinto in pursuit of the privateer Sumter after her arrival at the West Indies, which was ended by the capture of the rebel emissaries, Siddell and Mason. Captain Wilkes remarked that he would have suffered the rebel commissioners to depart their way if they could have shown a pass from the general government.  
He also said, I should have felt justified in setting the Trent free, but I concluded to allow the vessels to proceed, and to receive in return my men of a prize worth \$150,000; and I take pride and pleasure in saying that there was not a man on board the San Jacinto who said I did not do right.  
Governor Andrew, on being introduced, said he rejoiced to present on an occasion like this for the purpose of paying the utmost honor to the illustrious commander who was the guest of the evening. Though he had been during the past two weeks a resident in the State of Massachusetts, he had performed the most illustrious service that has been rendered since the war began. It had happened to him (Governor Andrew) to be present on official business at the War Department when the telegraphic dispatch announcing the capture of the two rebel officers was received. He thought it but courteous that the Secretary of War should lead in the cheers which followed; but he begged to assure the company he was not behind the second man to raise his voice in loud acclaim; and he had the satisfaction of knowing at a very early hour that the territory of Massachusetts would have the opportunity of furnishing a prison to these illustrious prisoners of war.  
The Governor then read a telegram from the Secretary of War, which was received with great applause.  
Lieutenant Fairfax, in rising to respond, was received with hardly less consideration than his commander. The Lieutenant spoke at some length, giving some of the incidents attending the cruise, and the part he took in the capture of the rebel emissaries. Although he was a Southern man he knew of but one flag in America, and that was the glorious Stars and Stripes. - [N. Y. Herald.]

### REPORT OF SECRETARY OF WAR.

BOSTON, Dec. 5th.  
Report of Secretary of War gives number of Federal troops now in the field at six hundred and sixty-one thousand.  
The most important proposition before Congress, is relative to confiscation of slaves of rebel owners, and has hardly been then being announced as the last alternative.  
Next a proposition to alter geographical lines of Virginia, Maryland and Delaware; to strengthen Washington, as the Capital; also a military railroad connecting by railroads of North Carolina with Tennessee and Kentucky. Rebel reports say Planters are burning stores of Cotton and Rice in South Carolina to prevent their falling into hands of Federalists.  
WASHINGTON, 6th. - General Banks reported to Headquarters yesterday, that one of his regiments had shelled and dispersed a band of Rebels passing westward.  
Documents from State Department disclose the important fact that our Government now occupies the same position it held in reference to Foreign Governments as at the beginning of the rebellion.  
Says of England and the continent, or at least rather the reverse.  
France is not cordial, but less offensive than England.  
Russia friendly, but anxious that the War should end.  
Italy disposed to follow the lead of England at a respectful distance. The Pope as good as Christian on the side of law and order.

### ARRIVAL OF GOLD.

It doubts exists on the minds of any of our readers hereabouts, about the productiveness of the gold-fields of Wine Harbor and Sherbrooke, we presume they will be removed, when we inform them that three gentlemen arrived in this city from these mines yesterday, the first, Mr. Cumming had about £70 worth of gold - the second, Mr. Hewitt, had five pounds weight - and the third, Mr. Hattie, had about nine and a half pounds weight of the precious metal. We presume the whole lot will be on exhibition, - the first lot was shown immediately after its arrival, and from the intelligence received, we believe the discoveries in those districts will prove rich, yet discovered in the Province. - Halifax Sun.

### TANGIER'S CAVE.

A cave capable of "dining twelve men" has been discovered in Strawberry Hill, far underground, in the Truro Company's Tunnel. A new Company from Pughwash has commenced operations within a week or two. - The diggers number about 160. - Halifax Witness.

### PAISEWORTHY CONDUCT.

The Bark Mary Leonard, of Vermont, N. S., arrived here last week from Dublin, after a very stormy passage. Captain Kirk, being being a few days out of Port, was obliged to return to Port; whereupon the mate, Mr. William Robertson, son of the owner, and only twenty years of age, took charge of the vessel and brought her safely to this Port; which certainly reflects a high degree of credit on so young a sailor. - New Brunswick.

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