

Till the glad proclamation  
From pole to pole resound,  
Of mercy and salvation  
Wherever man is found. J. G.  
*Cape Breton, December, 1866.*  
—Colonial Standard.

### MISCELLANY.

#### CHILDREN, LOOK OUT FOR TRAPS.

In my youthful days there was, at one time, strange work going on in our pantry. Not a bit of chicken or pie-crust could be left there without a part of it disappearing. The milk was drank, the cheese got less, and the very candles that hung up in bunches under the lower shelf, wasted gradually away.

It was very soon found out which way these things went, for one morning when Betty opened the pantry-door, a big, bouncing rat jumped down from behind the oatmeal jar upon Betty's foot, making the girl set up a loud squeal. No sooner was this known than the rat-trap was brought out of the stable and set in the pantry, baited with a piece of fat bacon, and that night the big bouncing rat was caught.

But why am I telling you of this affair? why, just that I may be the better able to explain to you what sad mistakes are made in the world. The rat went to eat the bacon to satisfy his hunger, but what a terrible mistake he made of it; he hardly touched it with his whiskers before he was caught.

Instead of the rat prolonging his life by satisfying his hunger, he lost it. Be on your guard, then, for there are many traps in the world beside rat-traps; and if you run into any of them you will not have so good an excuse as the poor rat, who only meant to satisfy his hunger.

The rat knew no better; but you are taught to know good from evil, and indeed it is that you may know it still better than you do, that I have undertaken to point out to you so many mistakes.

Those who fear God, read his holy Word, and attend to the warning voice of conscience, do not fall into half the mistakes that others do; but as we all carry about us an evil nature, a heart ever ready to commit sin, leading us into mistakes of all kinds, so have we continual need to seek God's grace in the prevailing name of his Son, that wisdom and strength may be given us to discern and resist temptation.

Whatever idle tales may be told you by the thoughtless and the wicked, and however much they may boast of their enjoyments, one thing is certain: none can be at ease but those who keep from evil. If then you would really enjoy your sports, if you would trundle your hoop and toss your ball, dress your doll and skip your rope with a truly light and happy heart, you must fear God and keep his commandments.

#### LO! GOD IS HERE.

He who is not with God already, no path of space find the least approach; vain would you lend him the wing of an angel, or the speed of light; in vain plant him there, on this side of death; or that; in the outer darkness still, having the blindness which would leave him pitch-dark, though, like the angel of the Apocalypse, he were standing in the sun. But cease vain travels, and remaining with him upon this weary earth, let him submerge himself in the depths of his own wonder and let him feel the touch of sorrow, or the tears of contrition, or the toils of duty open the hidden springs of his affections; and the distance, infinite, wholly disappears; and he finds the patriarch, that though the stone of the pillow and the earth his bed, he is yet in the very house of God and at the gate of glory.

#### RIGHTS OF MINISTERS.

Many seem to act as though ministers were of an inferior class of persons and had no rights. This, however, does not make it so. To the contrary, no community can well do without them, and they should be respected and rewarded accordingly. In speaking of this subject, *Hall's Journal of Health* makes the following remarks:—

The clergy of this country are the light in it; they are the light of the world, the salt of the earth; for literary acquirements, for mental culture, for purity of morals, for blameless lives, they have not their equals in any class of civilized society, and who would not devote their whole time to the acquisition of books, essays, sermons, and discourses for the instruction of the masses, encourage them and persuading them to a life of industry and thrift; warning them against whatever may deceive the head, corrupt the heart, debase the intellect, destroy the character, and eventually ruin both body and soul; devoting themselves singly to these things, while others apply all their talents, and energies toward making themselves, their children and their families comfortable and happy, it is a very small number that these last shall amply support the first through whose influence, example, and advice their possessions are secured to them, their rights, liberties, and lives are preserved intact, day and night for years together, from the depredations of thieves and burglars, from lawless, murderous men; for no man would thought can be so blind as not to see that if the Bible teachings were to cease, the Sabbath abolished, the whole foundation of society would be upturned; anarchy would ensue, and our streets run in human blood. Revolutionary France proved all this, and who does not know, that where there is no preaching, and no Sabbath, there is drunkenness and profanity, prostitution, and every other evil.