

[FOR THE BEE]

MR DAWSON,

ENCLOSED is the extract from a sermon preached by the Rev. E. A. Crawley, Minister of the 3d Halifax Baptist congregation, on occasion of the decease of the Reverend JOHN McLEAN, A. M., Minister of the Presbyterian church of Nova Scotia, for the insertion of which in your columns I spoke to you some time ago. It was intended to be transmitted to you much sooner, but the No. of the *Christian Messenger* from which it is copied, was unhappily mislaid; and though frequently and diligently searched for, could not be found until yesterday. As the subject of it was highly esteemed wherever he was known, the subjoined extract will be read with great interest. The spirit of affection and Christian liberality which it breathes, presents the author of it in a very pleasing and amiable aspect. May such instances of brotherly kindness between leading men of different denominations be multiplied a hundred fold.

Pictou, October 14th, 1837.

PHILO.

[EXTRACT.]

\*\*\*\*\* Our christian friends, when they forsake this scene for their heavenly rest, leave us a precious legacy in the recollection of that holy example which embodied in their own persons the sentiment of the text, "mark the perfect man and behold the upright for the end of that man is peace." The important truth that they alone find peace who follow Christ, becomes more impressive when thus taken in connection with some individual whose memory we honor; when we thus fasten our eye, as it were, on the very person at whom the finger of God's word seems to point, while it directs us to *mark the man*; and when, too, we can do this with the advantage of that greater candor with which most men are disposed to judge of the character of those who are now departed, and whose interests can no longer class with those of the sons of earth.

Thus, then, dear brethren, let us endeavour to profit by the decease of that amiable and excellent person whose entrance, as we humbly trust, into that rest which remaineth for the people of God has called for the present address.

It is hardly necessary that I should detain you with a mere narration of the circumstances of his early career; suffice it to say, that, a native of this country, he received his education at one of our principal institutions of learning; that having entered on the arduous work of the ministry of the gospel, he was settled for some years as pastor of a church in New Brunswick, where he secured the devoted attachment of the people, by his piety and ability in the discharge of his duty. Here, however, the seeds of that disorder were sown which finally removed him from all mortal scenes. Unable to prosecute his public labors, he came to this town, where he was well known and highly respected as an instructor of youth; but finding, at length, this occupation too severe for his wasting health, he retired to Pictou, where, in the midst of his early friends, after a protracted illness, he breathed forth his soul in peace.

There were two features in Mr McLean's character, which, soon after my acquaintance with him, arrested my attention. His marked humility and his liberal spirit. His humility was particularly pleasing. It was obviously the result of pious principle, of piety that consisted not in a mere attention to external forms, nor yet in a mere speculative acquaintance with the doctrines of the gospel, but in the deep and sincere feelings of the heart. In many conversations which I have enjoyed with my departed friend, this was quite apparent. Of himself and of his hopes for eternity, he would sometimes speak with a humility almost bordering on timidity, while at the same time his glowing countenance and heaving bosom told how deeply the subject of religion possessed his soul.

Of his liberality of sentiment I need hardly inform

this congregation, many of whom must be aware of a fact which of itself sufficiently speaks a mind free from the prejudices of party. I allude to his almost stated attendance on the public worship of this Church. Differing from us only in some external ceremonies, in all matters which respected vital religion he heartily concurred, and did not hesitate, therefore, to regard us as his brethren, and occasionally as his strength enabled him to address us from this pulpit. Would that such examples of Christian charity and disinterestedness were commonly imitated!

But I am detaining you too long from testimony derived from other sources that the end of this good man was the peace of our text. "During his residence in Pictou," writes one of his ministering brethren who attended him in his last sickness, "I had frequent opportunities to see him, converse, and pray with him. Mr McLean was uniformly ready, so long as he was able, to converse on religious subjects, which he did with a high degree of the feeling of the true christian. On such topics his mind evidently delighted to dwell. And while other matters gave him but little concern, especially towards the close of his life, on religion his soul rested with peculiar satisfaction. He was constantly calm, collected, resigned; approving, not only that all the divine procedure was in perfect rectitude, but that it was so especially in application to himself. On this he dwelt much. Not the slightest murmur or fretfulness was ever known to drop from him. His faith was evidently sincere, constant, most humble, and directed wholly to the merits of the Redeemer. His piety, therefore, while genuine, was also quite unostentatious; and while there was a constancy and firmness of every christian affection, there was a most amiable modesty throughout. I have every reason to believe that he was visited by those real but calm consolations of the Spirit of God, the true foundation of which, he had often and ably illustrated to others. This I sometimes took occasion to observe to him, as what I hoped was the case, to which with the greatest modesty he assented. I can justly say that I never saw what I would call the "uniform serenity of religion," more strikingly exemplified.

A near connection of Mr McLean writes to a friend as follows, "when he would observe me standing weeping by his bed, the only words, frequently, that he was able to say were 'Commit your way to God;' he would clasp his poor withered hands, and fervently and faithfully, I have no doubt, though silently, commit us to the care of that unchangeable God, and faithful Saviour, who was then cheering his own soul with the prospect of entering into the joy of his Lord." "Throughout his illness" writes the same friend another time, "he was quite resigned and cheerful, though not able to talk much; and all along, the spirit of a sound mind seemed to call forth heart-felt gratitude." But, I especially prize a short remark made by Mr McLean in a letter to myself, written during his last illness, and which as the letter was chiefly on business, seems the more strikingly to mark the readiness with which his mind constantly turned to the soul's affairs, and the strength with which he grasped his hope. Having in a few words adverted to the poor state of his health, he adds "but I am the greater part of my time in bed; still I would not exchange conditions with the gayest and richest and greatest of earth!"

How solemnly impressed, dear brethren, is such a declaration from a dying man, and one whose whole course through life, as in the present instance, has given unquestioned evidence of sincerity. It seems almost like a voice from the unseen world echoing back the important decision of our text "mark the perfect man and behold the upright for the end of that man is peace."

Brethren! shall we lose the benefit of our friend's example, the legacy of his good name, his humility, his faith, his quiet, christian, peaceful end, confirming the truth of God's word, and unveiling to us that peace

which a future world will fully reveal as the portion of the believer in Christ? Shall we not hearken to the voices of the departed, multiplying as they are around us, and henceforth live as those who believed the solemn decisions of Eternal Truth? How soon shall each of us be in that situation in which we shall know without a shadow of doubt, that it is only the perfect and upright man, the man who has repented of his sin and cast himself by faith on God's mercy in Christ, of whom it can truly be said, "his end is peace." A solemn, awful certainty of the fact will then dispel those vain delusive dreams which so often alas induce men to set up the ever changing uncertainties of human feeling and human opinion against the most solemn disclosures of the word of God.

## REMOVAL.

PETER BROWN,

TAILOR,

BEGS leave to notify his friends and the public, that he has removed to the shop next door to Mr Robert Dawson, and directly opposite to Messrs J. & W. Joes, where by strict attention to business he hopes still to merit that liberal patronage he has always received since his commencing business.

ALWAYS KEPT ON HAND,

BEST SUPERFINE, WEST OF ENGLAND BROAD CLOTHS,

Kerseymeres, Pilot Cloths, Buckskins, Petershams, SILK AND COTTON VELVETS,

Excellent Assortment of Silk, and Silk & Wolven Valentias,

MOZELLE AND OTHER KINDS OF VESTINGS.

All kinds of Trimmings, &c. &c. &c.

ALSO:

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF READY-MADE CLOTHING,

Suitable for the Season;

All of which he will warrant to be of the best workmanship and material, and will be sold at the following very reduced prices, for cash only, viz.

Great Coats	from 11 to 15 dollars.
Cloaks,	" 6 " 8 1-2 "
Frock Coats	" 12 " 16 "
Dress do.	" 10 " 15 "
Short do.	" 8 " 11 "
Jackets	" 6 " 8 "
100 prs trowsers	" 2 " 8 "
120 assorted vests	" 1 1-2 " 4 "
Twilled flannel drawers	1 "

India Rubber Clothing, &c. &c. &c.

Pictou, October 4. if

CO LET.

THAT part of the Subscriber's House at present occupied by his own family.

ALSO.

His new Shop in the stone building adjoining Mr Robson's. Entry at the first November next.

R. DAWSON.

August 27th, 1837.

CARD.

Mr JAMES FOGO, Attorney at Law, has opened office in Mr Robert Dawson's new stone building, opposite the establishment of Messrs Ross & Primrose, where he will be prepared to transact business in the various branches of his profession.

Entrance to the office, by the Western end of the Building.

May 3<sup>rd</sup>st

if

ALEX. McPHAIL,

BEGS respectfully to intimate to the inhabitants of Pictou, that he has

OPENED SHOP,

next door to Mr. James Dawson's Book-store,

Where he offers for sale, an assortment of

GOODS,

Suitable for the season.

Pictou, June 21, 1837.