

contrary, will always seem less deep than it is, both from the well-known law of refraction, and also because it is so thoroughly penetrated by the sight. Men fancy that an idea must have been always obvious to every one, when they find it so plainly presented to the mind, that every one can easily take it in. An explanation that is perfectly clear, satisfactory, and simple, often causes the unreflecting to forget that they had needed any explanation at all."—*Whately*.

WHOM TO THANK.

A lady applied to Richard Reynolds of Bristol, on behalf of an orphan. After he had given liberally, she said, "When he is old enough, I will teach him to name and thank his benefactor." "Stop" said the good man; "you mistake; we do not thank the clouds for the rain; teach him to look higher, and thank Him who giveth both the cloud and the rain."—*Juvenile Magazine*.

THE HAPPINESS OF CHRISTIAN BENEFICENCE.

"I feel it to be indeed a pleasure and privilege to talk to my sick comrades and fellow-sinners of Jesus; and I am sure that they who never visit the suffering and dying, deprive themselves of the deepest happiness this life affords."—*Hedley Vicars*

The Governmental desecration of the Sabbath by means of music in the public parks and squares of London has been discontinued. This concession to public Christian sentiment, by the first Minister of the Crown, was tardily and ungracefully granted. However the act has erased a foul blot from the national escutcheon of Britain, and sheds the light of hope on her future. The godless will profane the Lord's day, despite human efforts to the contrary, but woe to that land where legislators encourage and facilitate such desecration. It may be that fools will dance, but it is disgraceful and unendurable that Government should provide and pay the piper.

The annual meetings of the great religious and benevolent societies in the mother country have lately been held. And it is gratifying to know that the tide of benevolence has neither been rolled back nor arrested by the war recently terminated. "The Bible Society reports an increase of £4000. The Church Missionary Society an increase of £2000. The Wesleyan Missionary Society an increase of £2000. While the income of the London Missionary Society has advanced £22,000 during the last year."

OBITUARY.

On the 30th ult. the Rev. Mr. Lowden, minister of the U. P. Congregation in New Glasgow, C. E., died suddenly after a short illness at Claremont, Pickering, where he preached on the preceding Sabbath. Mr. Lowden was universally esteemed by his brethren, and much beloved by his congregation.

His Family are thus, in the Providence of God, left in somewhat destitute circumstances; and the Synod wisely resolved, at its late session, to commend them to the Christian sympathy and liberality of all the congregations under its charge, several of which have already cheerfully and earnestly responded, and it is to be hoped that none will neglect to do so soon, in order that the widow and the fatherless, in this case, may meanwhile be suitably provided for.

A more extended notice of this mournful event may be expected next month.

** We regret that owing to the non-arrival of our usual missionary intelligence from Britain, we are unable to give any news this month under that head. We trust, however, our readers will feel sufficient interest in perusing the full report of the late meeting of our Synod, and other articles in the present No. to compensate for the want.

We would particularly call the attention of our readers to the "Summary of Principles" recently issued by the Synod of the Church at Home, and to the advertisement relative thereto, which will be found on the Cover.