

INTRODUCTION.

THE third number of the UPPER CANADA CHRISTIAN ALMANAC is presented to the public, having the same object as the preceding numbers, namely,—the combination of some matter which may be “profitable for instruction in righteousness,” with the usual and essential contents of an Almanac.

To the reflecting Christian, who only regards *time* as the preparatory state to *eternity*, every thing connected with the lapse of the former will remind him of his concern with the latter: And thus the first appearance of any Almanac for a new year, though with no professed religious character, will to the religiously disposed mind suggest matter of serious meditation. It seems, as it were, to say, “Another year, with all its circumstances of daily and weekly interest, is gone, and is swallowed up in the ocean of past ages: *I* note the rising and setting sun for the days of the coming year, as my predecessor did for that which is just past; ere long *my* tale will be told, another year will be ended, and *I* too shall become the by-word for whatever is most useless. But cast aside and forgotten as we all are in our turn, we shall be records against many careless souls, that they were at least *annually* warned of the continual progress of time, and the necessity of preparing for eternity.”

It is justly observed by the Christian poet, that “we take no note of time but from its loss;” and nothing is more common than to hear exclamations of surprise at the quickness with which different portions of time pass away, and periodical seasons recur. But how seldom is ye “note” we thus take any thing beyond a passing exclamation; how seldom do we so note the past as to make better use of the future.

Perhaps, Reader, you yourself in purchasing this Almanac, may have made the remark, “it seems but the other day since I was buying last year’s Almanac.” Do not however be content to dismiss the subject from your thoughts so briefly; but set yourself seriously to measure this seemingly short interval, by what you have done in it. Since that time, what progress have you made in religion, what growth in grace? What efforts have you made to conquer your besetting sin? to mortify carnal desires? to subdue un-christian tempers? to cherish holy affections? What have you done to relieve the wants, spiritual and temporal, of your neighbour? What pains have you taken to supply the destitute with the word of God, and other religious books? What have