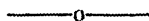


ded in these Provinces, no one will doubt, and this work appears fitted to accomplish the end it has in view. It is well conducted and well got up. The outside of any terrestrial object, and more particularly a look is something, as we may understand by the case of the French lady, who could not say her prayers comfortably but out of a gilt missal. It contains solid information, and does not pander to the love of intellectual trash or sentimental froth. It gleans from good fields, and while the matter is plentiful, its quality is safe and wholesome.

One reflection we cannot help making with reference to such periodicals, peculiar to the present day. When we read them, we are obliged to open our eyes to the painful reflection, that we are woefully ignorant of education, and that there is such an apparent advancement upon the views entertained by our poor blind predecessors, that we wonder how we ourselves have got our education, or whether we have any at all. What with Normal schools and model schools, new grammars, new arithmetics, mental and systematic, new sciences and tiny abridgements for the use of infant philosophers, in which the sour plums of hard study are beautifully sugared, music for the children, arm-chairs for the little ladies and gentlemen, the abolition of the old regime of the dreaded "tawse," or the hard rulers that used to add a bump or two to our arænological developments, sweet-honed penury from the teachers, and very old-fashioned talk from the children, we are fain to envy our juniors their entrance into the world of more blissful days, and we wonder into what prodigies they shall expand, and what end of a world it will be when they grow up to men and women. Prejudiced as we may be in favor of rougher modes of tuition, we are not fools enough to suppose that no changes are wholesome. We are certainly in favor of advancement, and we would much rather a good many mistakes in any cause than stagnation. We have some scruples about the assessment plan, but until we have thoroughly examined the subject, we will admit great educational authorities to be better judges, and wish the editor of this paper as much success in his zeal and industry deserve.



BARNEY'S RIVER CONGREGATION.

It is understood that this congregation has determined upon the erection of a new and a central church. As there was a little difference of opinion about the site, the congregation referred the matter to the arbitration of the Revs. Dr. McGillivray, Allan Pollok, and John McKay, Esq. A meeting was accordingly held on Monday, 4th February, in order to make a final decision on the matter, when without the aid of much arbitration on the part of these gentlemen, and with remarkable unanimity on the part of the people, it was decided that the most eligible site would be that of the

present Upper Church. It says much for the good sense of the people, that they have come to this harmonious resolution, as site-disputes in church-building, are often not only troublesome, but mischievous. We understand also, that £300 were subscribed on the same day, which, if true, is a very fair beginning, giving us the assurance, that instead of the old church which we faithfully described in the last number of this paper, and which so curiously represents an unknown architectural age, we shall behold an edifice compactly built together, on which the eye can rest with pleasure, and the mind dwell with satisfaction. When such is the case, we believe that, humanly speaking, the Barney's River Congregation shall rise in prosperity. When they can unite, when they can be visibly one, worshipping sabbath after sabbath in the same church, we feel assured that their success shall be twofold. Their devotional life as a worshipping people shall receive an impulse, their church-going habits improve, their ordinances be more impressive, their minister more stimulated and encouraged, their finances in a better state from the regular collections of a larger mass of people, and their contributions to the general objects of the church more liberal, while less burdensome to themselves.

As to the procuring for this good purpose of money,—the services of church-building as well as of war, we venture a remark. It does not follow that, because a congregation is a country congregation, they are therefore poor and inadequate to such undertakings. By the blessing of God upon the exertions of our people, our finest churches adorn country settlements. What city-people have to pay for with money—people in the country can execute without money. The materials of town-comfort and support, flow from the country. It has been said that, as a general rule, people in town make far more numerous and real sacrifices for religion than people in the country. A merchant with heavy responsibilities to be met with, and a tradesman living upon his daily labor, which he must pursue steadily from early dawn to a late hour, have many temptations to be stingy to the cause of God. But they are on the contrary often very liberal. They are within the reach of the tide of liberality, of business and of enterprise, and they give more freely, trusting to the power and goodness of the Lord to make up the deficiency. And do they suffer by it? This is so far from being the case, that a man's liberality to the gospel is a sure test of his success in business and the fullness of his domestic joy and welfare—it is an infallible signal by which all may know how he rides out the storm.

Are we wrong in supposing that the people in the country are often more fearful? We long to be convinced to the certainty. Let them then convince us and others by their noble exertions and manly christian deeds. A country congregation can themselves build a church in a great measure. If they have not in these times much money, they have skillful