

deemed necessary. To conclude in the words of Dr. Macknight: "Through the whole of their histories, they have not pronounced one encomium upon Jesus or upon any of his friends; nor thrown out one reflection upon any of his enemies, although much of both kinds might have been, and no doubt would have been done by them, had they been governed by a spirit of imposture or enthusiasm. Christ's life is not praised by them, his death is not lamented, his friends are not commended, his enemies are not reproached; but every thing is told naked and unadorned, just as it happened, and all who read are left to judge and make reflections for themselves.—So deeply are they impressed with the dignity and importance of their subject."

LETTERS TO A YOUNGER BROTHER.

No. 1.

Saint John, N. B., March 1, 1847.

MY DEAR BROTHER DANIEL.—The very deep interest ever taken by me in your happiness, prompts me thus publicly to address you. I offer no other apology. So many cares and duties press upon me that I cannot spare time to elaborate a private letter. Thousands will read this, and those that may follow. I have no advice or instruction to tender to your acceptance which I would be unwilling the world should hear. Many other young men in your circumstances may have access to the pages of our publication. I pray Heaven that they too may be instructed and benefitted.

Believe me, my brother, I have for years anxiously prayed that you may be extensively useful. I can hope for no direct real usefulness unless it is based on goodness. With the light of the Gospel and God's holy word beaming upon you, I can call nothing good that does not aim at a conformity to the Divine will. My efforts, then, have just this one object—to exhibit facts, arguments, and motives, which shall be the means of bringing you to an entire consecration of all your powers to the honor and glory of your Creator.

I hear very favorable reports of your success as a student. Your rapid progress up the hill of science is to all your friends a cause of rejoicing; but my cup of joy will not be unmixed until I have the most undoubted assurance that all you have, all you are, and all you hope for, is to be laid upon the altar of primitive christianity. Indeed I have heard very favorable reports of the religious state of your mind; and strong intimations that you had really surrendered your affections to Him who is worthy of the supreme adoration of all hearts. But with me, my brother, there is a very great difference between modern fashionable conversions—mere outside polite-religion—and the new heart, the new life, the sanctification of the spirit—the soul and the body—required by the gospel. This state of the mind and the affections as far exceeds that, as the teaching of the Divine Spirit does that of mortal man.

Of so much greater importance do I esteem genuine devotion, springing from ardent love to God, than any other qualification, that it would give me greater joy to be assured that you were its real possessor than to