THE WESLEYAN.

For the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, &c.

"HOLD FAST THE FORM OF SOUND WORDS."—SCRIPTURE.

VOLUME II. HALIFAX, N. S., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1839. NUMBER 21.

Original Poetry.

STANZAS.

Without a witness? O, no, no,
  While earth and heaven [illegible],
And hope of joy and fear of woe,
  Preach to the heart of [illegible]
Not, while man feels [illegible],
  A testimony, [illegible]
That he who [illegible] in the [illegible]
  Is pure on earth as thou art pure.*

Ah! not without a witness, thou,
  In spirit of this [illegible];
Life of this life and [illegible],
  [illegible]
Burning in man's [illegible],
  The Holy One [illegible],
And [illegible],
  O, witness to our world's [illegible].

Witness that thou art [illegible],
  And warm [illegible]
That [illegible]
  For [illegible] HERE!
So shall my [illegible]
  To [illegible];
And [illegible],
  Be [illegible].

Toronto, Oct., 1839. A. J. WILLIAMSON.

Original Tale.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHS

JOHN WESLEY, M. A. [illegible] WHITEFIELD, [illegible].

(Continued from page [illegible])

JOHN WESLEY, M. A., the son of Rev. Samuel Wesley, was born about the year 1703. In those days, the children of truly pious parents received religious instruction with the same regularity that they received their daily food. Nothing was then thought worthy the name of education, which was not based on Christianity, and sanctified by the word of God and prayer. Should the reader inquire in what this consisted, he ought to be directed to the works of the Puritans and Nonconformists for information, and not to the reports of their enemies. Take, for example, the published lives of Philip and Matthew Henry. From these we learn that family religion formed an essential part of their discipline; and that they made it a matter of conscience to instruct their children and dependants in their social, moral, and religious duties. It was also their practice to set apart particular days for prayer and humiliation, in seasons of calamity; and for thanksgiving on the reception of special benefits. In those, and subsequent times, the world has made them their scorn, as fanatics; but though derided as enthusiasts, and for the uncourtly severity of their morals, yet there are periods when those, by whom the Nonconformists have been reproached, would gladly say, "May I finally be found with these good men!" In this way it was the happiness of John Wesley to be instructed, and from early life to be dedicated to the service of God. And it was the solace of his parents, that in this duty they had not laboured in vain. It would be injustice equally to the parents, and to the son, to withhold from the reader the [illegible] of his education, as they are brought down [illegible] of Mr. Calamy. [illegible] from his Mr. John Wesley to [illegible] (Continued [illegible] of his youth, and [illegible] years. [illegible] of sin, and as [illegible] would be [illegible] a school-boy. [illegible] preliminary so rather God had [illegible] only [illegible] the [illegible] of Providence that effected [illegible] the [illegible] of his soul: what was [illegible] the [illegible] on the [illegible] the Gospel: how he found himself [illegible] of divine [illegible] and [illegible]. And this [illegible] with [illegible] to the [illegible] Here, [illegible] the worth of this journal, if [illegible] found!

At the proper age, John Wesley was sent to Oxford, and became a student at New-Inn Hall, that to the service of the sanctuary he might be presented in the best state of preparation. At this period, events had led to important changes in the religious Establishment of the country. By "the *Et Cetera* Oath," and other strong measures, it was thought this might be preserved. These, however, not only defeated their own purpose, but, by reaction, led to the "solemn League and Covenant," "the Negative Oath," "the agreement of the people," and the Puritans to power. Episcopacy gave place to the Presbytery; and the Liturgy to the Directory; the modes of worship were different, and new persons were borne on to authority; but the old spirit too much prevailed. The divine right of Episcopacy had passed to the divine right of Presbytery; and the Clergy who changed not with the times, and who could not conscientiously submit to rapid legislation, were exposed to much suffering. The ascendant Clergy, "in rejecting the

* 1 John iv. 17.