

fore you. The time in which your minds are partially enlightened and enabled to see more or less, the vanity and emptiness of all earthly things—in which your hearts are almost persuaded to seek for better treasures.

"This is 'the accepted time'—it is your time, you shall be accepted now, if you return to your God and Saviour. Why will you not return now? There are many barriers in the way of our return, you say; we will wait till God's time come, when He removes our difficulties, then we will return. God has not left you in ignorance in respect to his time. He has told you that his time is 'to-day.' If you would ever return to God, return 'to-day.' Now I would beseech you in the name of the Lord Jesus, to think in this word 'to-day.' Let it unceasingly ring in your ears, bearing with it the authority of God, to 'repent and believe the Gospel 'to-day.'—Let it arrest and captivate your consciences and your hearts, till you are not only almost but altogether persuaded to come to him who 'loved us and gave himself for us,'—till you are brought to look to him whom you have pierced—Come and cry to-day unto God, 'We have sinned'—'we have destroyed ourselves, but in thee is our help found.'—Thou art our Father and preserver.—Thou art our Saviour and our life—take away all iniquity and receive us graciously."

Say now "I will arise and go to my Father," &c. Are you decided now, to be no longer at variance with the Holy Spirit? Do you say "I will awake now—I will cast off the works of darkness, I will put on the armour of light—I will put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and walk in him. I will walk as one of the children of the light and of the day, and make provision for the world to come." The moment in which you have decided this matter will be eternally remembered. It gave joy in heaven. It is the beginning of time with you; the beginning of life. You have chosen the good part. You are become one of the disciples of a young disciple. All the disciples of Jesus are beautiful and comely, but the sincere young disciples are, methinks, more comely than others. Their love is so intense, their consciences so tender, their affections so lively, and their desires so strong, that they become such beautiful and shining ones.

Your time on earth is very short. The Lord will not leave you long here. The time of your pilgrimage and warfare here is but a small moment. It will pass with the swiftness of the eagle. Improve it. The work which the Lord has given you to do is sufficient to fill up every inch of your time. It is in the service of your Lord Jesus you are, and he has given you an example how to improve your time. He employed every moment of his time in his Father's work. Let us follow his example. Let us work diligently, earnestly and heartily during our short day. Let us labour for the Lord's sake, not in order that we may be saved, but because he has saved us. Let us improve our time to the honour and glory of the Lord Jesus, because we love him who loved us and saved us, by giving himself for us. Let our thought, our word and our actions, be worthy of our Lord and Master, of our hopes and our inheritance. Your time is measured, Your moments are all numbered. Eternal results are inseparably attached to every moment of your time. It is given you to run a race and you must run all your time. It is given you to fight the good fight. Your time is the most precious talent committed to your care. And O, see that you make the best use of it. Is it a season of comparative peace with you?—Take heed to use it well that you may grow in grace and gather strength for the time to come. Is it a time of trial with you? A time of storms and darkness and perplexities? then muster all your strength, your season of trial will not last long. See that you stand during the present moment, and you will soon win the victory. Is it an hour of refreshing and spiritual enjoyment with you? in which you have got very near the fountain of life,

in which you "Cry Abba, Father," O see that you "hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of your hope, firm unto the end." Are you to die young, then use well your moments, to prepare to meet the Bridegroom and to take your Crown. Are you to live to old age? then, know assuredly that, your usefulness, your happiness, your peace and joy, your honour and glory, as a Christian depend upon your improvement of your present moments. Have you any moments which you think that you may spare? If you think so, it is because, you have not fully understood, how completely your Lord Jesus would have every part of the work committed to your care, finished. Have you faithfully discharged your various duties? have you redeemed the time? Oh! is it possible to persuade you to do this, and convince you of the importance and the preciousness of your present moments? Is it possible to impress your mind with the unspeakable value of your uncertain days on earth? while millions of your fellow-pilgrims are deceived in this matter, and never take heed that their time runs, till it is all past. And when time with them is no more, they awake out of their bewitching dreams and begin to cry, O, how carelessly we have spent our days on earth! O, for a few days more to prepare to meet with God! Will you differ from the thousands about you? Will you say, whatever others may do, I will endeavour to "redeem my time?" Or will you continue to dream away your life, and be found on your death-bed lamenting that your days are past, that your life is lost and that your soul is required of you in an unprepared state? A youth full of the hopes and buoyancy peculiar to his age, called upon me lately, after his arrival in this country, with a view of improving his fortune. He removed to the neighbouring district, where he was taken ill. I called on him and understood that his sickness was unto death. I spoke to him of the God he was about to meet in judgment and the eternity upon which he was about to enter. "Am I thus to be cut off," he lamented, "I am not prepared to die—I lived so carelessly. I feel my hardness and impenitence. Will God have mercy on me?" And he died. We could give you many instances, of the frailty of man's life, and the uncertainty of his time, if necessary. Let it suffice to know that to-day is your time, to make your peace with God and to lay up treasures in heaven. See that you wait not for a more convenient season to attend to these matters which concern your temporal and everlasting happiness. Will the accepted time wait for the unrepentant sinner? Will death delay his coming because you delay to prepare to meet him? Will the Bridegroom tarry because the believer is inclined to sleep? All of us will soon hear the cry, "the Bridegroom is come, go ye forth to meet him." "Awake" then.—"What meanest thou, O sleeper? Awake and call upon thy God." May the Lord awake you and keep you awake till the hour of his coming.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA.—Extract of a letter (Dec. 11, 1851,) from Rev. J. Walker of Newton Stewart, Deputy of the Free Church of Scotland, supplying St. John's Church, Quebec.

I have now had ten weeks of observation and experience of the state of the Free Church in this city and neighbourhood. The congregation has been vacant more than three years. It has never either been very large, or in any sense influential. The people have been isolated from all others of their church, no ministerial charge being no nearer than Montreal, which is one hundred and eighty miles distant. They have not enjoyed the services of a stated pastor for any length of time together.

The old church is now completely filled, and it is not too much to say, that new life and vigour are manifestly arising among us. In addition to this, the new Church is rapidly progressing. The exterior is all but finished, and it promises to be, though not large, one of the meet

handsome in Canada. I am not without hope that the wealthy and liberal friends of the Church here will be induced to open it entirely free of debt. Should things go on with their present spirit, I feel quite assured that it will be filled in every pew from the day of its opening. In respect to Quebec as a field of labour, I am very deeply impressed with the conviction that there is not a more important one in Canada, East or West. When one thinks of the vast population of Romanists around it—of the large number of stations, such as Leeds, Sylvester, Inverness, Three Rivers, Metis, &c., all of which, at no distant day, ought to have a regular ministry, but at present have none—of the fact that this place is now the seat of government, and will continue to be so, at least for some few years—of the likelihood of railway communication being opened between this and Halifax at no distant day—and of the fact that Quebec is necessary to be the head quarters of all our operations for a vast outlying country in the Townships—it is easy to see that one can scarcely over-estimate its importance.—H. & F. Miss. Record.

THE LATE JAMES RAMSAY ORR, ESQ. MONTREAL.

When going to press we received a supplement to the *Montreal Witness*, announcing that this estimable gentleman and devoted christian, had gone to his reward. We cannot do more at present than give the notice from the *Witness*. The address of his pastor, the Rev. D. Fraser, of Coit Street Church, delivered at the funeral, (one of the largest ever seen in Montreal) will appear in our next:

On Tuesday, the 16th March, the gentleman above named departed this life, after a career of usefulness which has seldom been equalled, and perhaps never surpassed in Canada. For nearly twenty years, Mr. Orr carried on extensive mercantile transactions in this city, with unblemished integrity, remarkable ability and universal respect; and yet all the while was as laborious and useful in every religious and benevolent cause that claimed his aid, as if he had no other business to occupy his attention. His habits of industry and method, in fact, enabled him to do in his own person the work of two first class men, viz. an accomplished man of business, and an energetic and persevering philanthropist; and all this, with a bodily frame never very strong, and latterly very feeble. Nor did he confine his exertions and means to every legitimate call that came upon him—he actually devised new ways of doing good, and called forth the energies and means of others to co-operate with his own. To such a character as this, we would earnestly ask the attention of young men, and especially young merchants, as a model worthy of close imitation. Never hurried, he went from one thing to another with method, punctuality, and a clear judgment, that accomplished results which less gifted men could scarcely understand. He was always active, and all that he did told with effect. Merchants knew him for an able, diligent, and successful man of business, as well as a decidedly religious man, and therefore cannot excuse themselves for neglecting vital religion on the plea that it is incompatible with the claims of business. Mr. Orr was emphatically a christian merchant, and it was, doubtless, in his prayerful Christian spirit that the secret of his great ability and usefulness lay.

Viewed as a religious man, Mr. Orr was a promoter, and, probably, at one time or other, an active manager of all our religious societies, but the Bible Society, of which he was for many years Recording Secretary, the French Canadian Missionary Society, of which he was from the beginning one of the most active and liberal managers, and the late Mr. Osgood's efforts for the religious instruction of seamen, immigrants, and