

christian, no connexional essential to buy it. They have resources which God furnishes, and their work, in the face of the sun, in every clime, no human, nor satanic power can demolish : assuredly it cannot be stopped by the impotent art of Shying.

Toronto, June 1, 1861.

SCENERY IN THE WEST INDIES.

BY THE REV. WM. ENGLISH,

Sixteen years a Resident in the West Indies.

To an individual born and brought up beneath the leaden skies of these advanced latitudes, there is something romantic and unreal, partaking of the imaginative and poetical, in those descriptions which travellers from the "sunny regions of the South" have given us of the beauty, the grandeur, the sublimity, the almost paradisiacal gorgeousness of those portions of this fair earth. Nevertheless every actual observer readily confesses that the reality far surpasses the representation. Nature there surrounds herself with a beauty and a loveliness, with a majesty and a grandeur defying the power of language to portray, and outstripping the fantasies of imagination itself. To be suddenly transplanted from these comparatively tame and matter-of-fact regions to one of the West India Islands, —Jamaica or Barbadoes for instance, as in these days of railroads and steamships may be done in a few days ; such a complete contrast would be exhibited in every object, scene, manner, and custom brought under the cognizance of our senses as might awaken the suspicion that we had entered upon a new world, and were traversing a planet more fair and beautiful than the one on which we first began to exist. No chilling blasts or wintry storms there disturb and mar the harmony of nature. Stern winter, with his breath of penetrating cold, his mantle of snow, and touch that turns everything into ice, abstains from visiting those regions of loveliness, driven back by the stern mutterings of the distant hurricane, acting as their ever vigilant sentinel or chivalrously respecting the bewitching scenery of their lands. The orb of day there not only gives light, but fills the entire hemisphere with *an ocean of glory*, imparting a life-like appearance, and a bold prominency to the objects of nature ; and gilding them with hues of delicate beauty, or gorgeous loveliness. The climate of the West Indies, though too tropical to be healthy to a new comer, is most delicious and tempting : a perpetual spring reigns, snow never falls, the sky is of the deepest azure, the seas are pure and transparent, teem-