TEXTS AND THOUGHTS FOR EVERY DAY.

FEBRUARY 11.—SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY.

1. When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof and did eat. Gen. iii. 6.

How easily does the faithless heart believe whatever it desires! And these are the temptations which prevailed on her to offend Him, to whom she owed all things! She sought food which she might have obtained abundantly elsewhere Her eye was pleased with the object which tempted her. She desired to gratify her curiosity and to be raised above the condition in which her Benefactor had placed her. Lord, teach me to be satisfied with that which thou permittest and appointest, and to seek such knowledge and elevation as though teachest me to desire.

2. And gave also unto her husband with her and he did eat. Gen. iii. 6.

Was it that the first pleasure of the fruit, before reflection, was great, and she desired her husband to share it? or that she felt alarm after eating it, and desired the support of having a companion in what she had done? or merely that it is natural to man to seek companionship in every thing? Be it as it may, the first consequence of transgression was that she in turn became a tempter. And this is the ordinary consequence now; and how often have my words or evil desires or evil example led others into sin! O gracious Lord, forgive me and deliver them.

FEBRUARY 12.

1. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. Gen iii. 7.

Shame is the fruit of sin. It is the gracious warning of God, who makes uneasiness attend sin, to deter us from pursuing it further. In Adam and Eve it led to a mysterious feeling by which God shewed that they were become sources of evil to their children and to all who should spring from them; so that the continuance of the race of mankind is the perpetual propagation of evil. Lord, help me to avoid sin, that I may be free from shame: and help me to feel in shame thy warning voice, and to give earnest heed to it.

2. It shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. Gen. iii. 15.

Thus does the Lord foretel, so long before, the conflict between Christ and Satan, and its effects. Satan was to be permitted to injure Jesus and his followers; but Jesus was to destroy totally and for ever the power of Satan over those who followed him. His head, the seat of life and energy, was to be crushed. We see this work begun. By the atonement and resurrection of Christ the great blow was struck; and Jesus has been driving Satan back step by step ever since. O Lord, hasten the complete victory; and make me worthy to have a share in carrying on the warfare.

FEBRUARY 13.

1. Thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. Gen. iii. 16.

This is a portion of the punishment of the woman. The sex cannot emancipate themselves from the inherent desire, and thus subject themselves to frail and erring beings, who work them much sorrow. But, by the gracious goodness of God, this very appointment, if cheerfully accepted and submitted to, becomes the cause of much and abiding joy, through the power of godly discipline. May marriage then become a blessing to all women who enter into that condition. May husbands fear lest their power become a curse instead of a blessing.

2. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, lest thou return to the ground. Gen. iii. 19.

This was the special punishment of the man, that he should labour for his subsistence and that of those who depend on him. But that which was imposed as a punishment, may by our improvement of it become the greatest benefit. Labour gives health to the body and cheerfulness and vigour to the mind; and it procures all the comforts and refinements of life. Let me be thankful to Him who has changed a curse into a blessing. Let me cheerfully take that portion of labour which God has allotted to me, and study to perform it faithfully.

FEBRUARY 14.

1. And God looked upon the earth and behold it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. Gen. vi. 12.

This was the natural consequence of the first transgression. This was the unavoidable result, when man, not only weak but inheriting a tendency to evil, was left to work out his own carnal will. This exhibited to the angels the great work to be done, the rescuing man from the consequences of his own freewill, without taking from him that freewill. This prepared their minds to desire to look into the dispensation that followed. Glory be to Thee, O Lord, who out of so much evil hast brought so much good.

2. In hunger and thirst, in fastings often. 2 Cor. xi. 27.

Here is a manifest distinction between involuntary hunger and thirst and voluntary fastings. These latter were the means by which the holy apostle kept under his body and brought it into subjection to the spirit; that so, instead of ministering to evil, it might be the handmaid of the soul to every good work. And if this was necessary for him, how much more necessary for me! Lord, enable me to use such abstinence, according to the appointments of thy church, that my flesh may be subdued to the spirit.

FEBRUARY 15.

1. If I must needs glory, I wil glory of the things which concern my infirmities. 2 Cor. xi. 30.

Not that the apostle gloried in his infirmities themselves, but in the mercy and goodness of God in connexion with them;—in aiding him when other help failed and in helping him to do what without divine help he might not have done. And this ground of boasting he took, that he might not boast in himself but in God, whose strength is made perfect in our weakness. Grant me, O Lord, to glory only in Thee.

2. Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to others in parables. Luke viii. 10.

Thus God leads men on from one degree of knowledge to another, and treats them according to the use they make of the knowledge he imparts. To the ignorant he speaks in such language as may lead them to inquire and search more deeply; for as yet they are not prepared to value aright the deep things of God. When they become in earnest to learn, he opens the meaning of that which before was hidden. Nay he reveals things which shall always exercise the faith and understanding, and yet shall in part remain hidden. Give me, O Lord, the hearing ear and the understanding heart.

FEBRUARY 16.

1. They that hear; then cometh the devil and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. Luke viii. 12.

But how can he so easily accomplish this? Because they have already given him too ready access to their hearts, and have been led by him. Because they have not heard the word with earnest and attentive minds, and have set no value on it; so that they have had no hold on it. It has been in their memories, but not in their hearts. May I never allow the tempter to come and go in my heart at his pleasure. May I hear the word of God with earnestness, and hold fast what I hear.

2. They which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root. Luke viii. 13.

There are some in whom the word of God takes hold of the imagination and feelings, but does not stir the conscience, nor move the will, nor reach the conduct. But this word is given that we may not only hear it but do it; and, if applied rightly, it will immediately lead us to resist some evil or practice some good: and then it takes root in the soul, and cannot easily be removed. May I cause the divine word to become rooted in my heart by reducing it immediately to practice.

FEBRUARY 17.

1. They which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life. Luke viii. 14.

After the word of God has taken root and struck deeply and sent up the blade of good desires, good resolutions, and plans of good and efforts after good,—it has to contend with opposite influences. Our duties lie amongst the things of this world, and this may lead to our being swallowed up in its cares, or eager after riches, or devoted to pleasures of this life; and thus faith is quenched. Lord, help me always to live as seeing Him who is invisible.

2. They which, in an honest and good heart, having heard the word of God, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience. Luke viii. 15.

This honest and good heart is the gift of God; yet it is not given to all, but to those who receive the influences of the Holy Spirit, and act according to them;—who resist the devil, who treasure up the word of God, who cherish desires and resolutions and efforts for good, who use holy ordinances as means of good, who resist the influence of the world. Give me, O Lord, this spirit abundantly, that I may have the honest and good heart. J. B.

Miscellaneous.

SEEK GRACE, NOT ECSTACY.

Think not that all is lost, when thy heart is not elevated with that sensible fervour which thou art always coveting. These raptures are allowed thee as sweet foretastes of heavenly bliss, but thou art yet too carnal to be capable of their constant enjoyment.—Seek then growth in grace, rather than flights of ecstacy. While thou art in war, expect not the rest of peace; while combatting, expect the feelings of combat. Thy principal concern and business is, to struggle against the motions of fallen nature, and the suggestions of fallen spirits; and if thou doest this with faithful perseverance, thou wilt give true proof of that Christian fortitude which will be distinguished with the crown of victory.—*The Calendar Hart.*

The devil's aim is to strike every man with Spiritual Blindness. The eagle, before he sitteth himself upon the heart, rolleth himself in the sand, and then he flieth at the stag's head, and by fluttering his wings, fills his eyes so that he can see nothing, and so strikes him with his talons where he listeth. Now the sand and the dust, with which the devil fills his wings, are earthly desires, and sensual pleasures, wherewith after he has put out the eyes of carnal man, he dealeth with him at pleasure."—*The Calendar Hart.*

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Drawing—{ Landscape	Mr. Warren—Mr. Weigall.
English Language & Literature	Mr. Plumptre.
French	Mr. Brasseur.
Geography	Mr. Nicolay.
German	Dr. Bernays—Dr. Fischel.
Harmony and Musical Composition	Mr. Bennett—Dr. Steggall
History—Ancient, English, and Modern	Mr. Nicolay—Mr Brewer.
Italian	Mr. Lacaita—St. Biaggi.
Latin	Mr Plumptre—Mr. Biggs,
Method in Learning & Teaching	Mr. Johns.
Natural Philosy & Astronomy	Mr. Cock.
Philosophy—Moral and Mental	
Reading	Mr. Nicolay.
Divinity and Church History	Mr. Trench—Mr. Biggs.
Vocal Music	Mr. Hullah—Mr. May—Mr Bannister.

Michaelmas Term commenced 6th Oct., 1853, and will close Dec. 17.

Lent Term will commence 19th Jan., 1854, and close 6th April.

Easter Term will commence 24th April, 1854, and close 1st July.

The College will be closed on the Prince of Wales' birthday, Ash-Wednesday, Ascension-day, the Queen's birthday, and Whit-Monday.

The Fees are—a composition of £26 5s. for the year, or £9 9s. for one term; or £1 11s. 6d. per term, for those Classes which meet twice in the week, and £1 1s. for those which meet once. All payments to be made at entrance.

Individual instruction in Vocal Music in its higher branches will be given by Mr. George Benson, under the direction of Mr. Hullah; and in Instrumental Music by Messrs. R. Barnett, O. May, and W. Dorrell, under the direction of Mr. Sterndale Bennett. Instruction for advanced Pupils in Drawing and its various applications will be similarly arranged, under the direction of the Professors of Drawing. The Fee, Three Guineas per Term.

The Drawing Room is open to Pupils for practice from 2 to 4 o'clock on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays during Term.

PREPARATORY CLASS FOR CHILDREN ABOVE EIGHT YEARS OF AGE.

This Class has been established to supply the want of good Elementary Instruction, and as Introductory to the College Course.

Arithmetic	Mr. Cock.
Biblical Instruction	Mr. Plumtre.
Drawing	Mr Weigall.
English Grammar	Mr. Plumptre.
French	Mr. Brasseur—M. Enot.
Geography	Mr. Nicolay.
German (Etymology)	Dr. Bernays.
History, Ancient	Mr. Nicolay.
Ditto, English	Mr. Brewer.
Italian (Etymology)	Mr. Bezzi.
Latin	Mr. Plumptre.
Reading	Mr. Nicolay.
Vocal Music	Mr. Bannister.
Calisthenic Master	M. Rolla.
Lady Superintendent	Miss Parry.
Assistant	Miss Worth.

The year of study extends from the last week in September to the last week in July, with Vacations at Christmas and Easter.

The payment is £15 15s. per year for Pupils under 13 years of age, and £21 for Pupils above 13.

Elementary Instruction on the Piano-forte is given under the superintendence of Mr. W. S. Bennett. Fee, £2 2s. per Term.

Lady Resident, MRS. W. ROWSELL.

The ordinary periods of Examination for Certificates are the last week in each term, but ladies unable to attend at those times may, on special application, be examined at any time during term. Fee for first Certificate, £1; for every other, 10s.

Particulars may be ascertained at the College daily, from ten till four; and from the Deputy-Chairman at the College, every Wednesday and Saturday before two o'clock.

February 16th, 1854. 29

A GRADUATE of King's College, Fredericton, N. B., now studying for Holy Orders, is desirous of engaging himself with a clergyman of the Church of England, as Tutor to his sons, and would be happy to assist as Lay Reader in return for any assistance he may receive in pursuit of his own studies.

A situation with a private gentleman would not be objected to.

For further particulars apply to A. B., box 217, Toronto.

Toronto, Feb. 15th, 1854. 29

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November 17th, 1853 16tf.

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August 30, 1854. 5

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Toronto, Sept. 20, 1854. 8-

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