

THE WESLEYAN.

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

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

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Original Poetry.

LINES FOR A BLANK LEAF OF "POLLOK'S COURSE OF TIME."

O GLORIOUS in the fount that flows, sublime,
Its diamond waters down the "Course of Time,"
And oh! how brightly in the realms of day,
He shines who rose in this illustrious day!

Spots in the sun let imperfection show,
The righteousness of man with God below;
We turn not with the envious to malign,
But greatly worship in his beams divine.

Bow Milton, Homer,—sons of Error bow,
The wreaths Olympian, Arian, wither now;
Redeeming love descends in holiest fires,
And Christ is sung as God himself inspires.

Toronto.

A. J. WILLIAMSON.

Biographical.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES

OF THE REV. BARTHOLOMEW WESLEY, AND OF THE REV. JOHN WESLEY, HIS SON; GREAT-GRANDFATHER, AND GRANDFATHER, OF THE LATE REV. JOHN AND CHARLES WESLEY.

THE following notices are taken from a pamphlet just published by the Rev. William Beal, the full title we give below.* Mr. Beal has kindly forwarded a copy, with permission to abridge it so far as our confined limits render necessary. Those limits prevent the republication here of the entire pamphlet; but we the less regret this, as we cannot doubt but that the extracts now inserted will induce many of our readers to procure the pamphlet for themselves.—EDIT. WES. METH. MAG.

"Known unto God are all his works, from the beginning of the world." What we are accustomed to term nature, providence, and grace, are but the development of these known purposes, and the manifestation of God. As these declare unto us "invisible

* "Biographical Notices of the Rev. Bartholomew Wesley, Rector of Charmouth and Catherston, Dorset, 1645—1662; and of the Rev. John Wesley, A. M., his son, Vicar of Winterbourne-whitechurch, in the same county, 1658—1662; the former, the Great-grandfather, the latter, the Grandfather of the late Rev. John and Charles Wesley. By William Beal. 8vo. pp. 32. J. Mason. "He whose heart is not excited upon the spot which a martyr has sanctified by his sufferings, or at the grave of one who has largely benefitted mankind, must be more inferior to the multitude in his moral, than he can possibly be raised above them in his intellectual, nature.—Southey.

things, must it not be equally the duty and the privilege of men to behold the Divine Being therein? Creation is the declaration of God; the disclosure of those plans which previously existed in His infinitely wise and benevolent mind; for "in his book they were written, when as yet there was none of them;" and these in material substances constitute an important part of that temple in which the Creator ever lives, acts, and should be adored. Men who thus regard visible things, will not contemplate merely so much brute matter, and variously combined substances; but forms by and in which are brought to the senses and mind the previously existing patterns and plans where-in the "back parts" of God are disclosed.

"He who made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation." These "appointments and bounds" imply both plan and design; or what we are accustomed to term Providence. This important word ideally stands for pre-vision or for-sight, and provision or supply. In the special endowments of men, and their disposal as to time, place, and circumstances, for the work appointed them to do, is not the development of the plan very apparent? Especially in connection with the purpose of God in Christ and the Christian Church, "which is his body, the fulness" and the manifestation "of him who filleth all in all."

From Eden to Calvary; from the period when it was said, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature," to this hour, Christianity has been, and is, the great work and manifestation of God, and his only-begotten Son: "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work." The agents employed have been created and formed by him. They have greatly differed as to distinguishing qualifications; but have all contributed in the way of heaven to the same end. As mighty operations, though unnoticed in one season, prepare the earth for the flowers and fruits of the next, so good men, comparatively unheeded and forgotten, have been chosen instruments in the hand of God to prepare his way.

In the agents by which Christianity was successfully made known, and has been continued in the world, amidst the "counsel" and efforts of men, who, resolved to scout the Gospel from the earth, as a "pernicious and pestilential superstition," divine providence is strikingly apparent. In the estimation of the world, they were "base, weak, and as such despised;" but they brought to nought things that were. The