

Fourth's Corner.

St. Timothy's Hall,
4th April, 1844.

DEAR SCHOLARS,
An opportunity is presented to me once more of sending a few lines to you, the Editor of the *Berean* being an acquaintance of mine: really I have known him as long as I know myself, and he is ready to allow me some space for communicating with you.

It does seem to me as if I ought to write particularly, because you may hear that the Editor of this paper and myself put our heads constantly together, and St. Timothy's Hall must suffer loss, if its Principal gives that time to a newspaper which he ought to devote to his scholars. I wish to set you right on the subject, and therefore I say that certainly I have been persuaded to undertake a very great labour in order to set the *Berean* going, but I purpose, God willing, to let my scholars still be my first care, and to give you fairly the hours which I have engaged to spend for your improvement.

You may also let me tell you that I have found the increase of your number a cause of difficulty to me, because I love you. It separates more between you and me than I am quite willing should be the case; therefore I think it will be wise, not to fill up those places which may from time to time become vacant, but to let the number decrease until we are become a small school, though we may yet remain a large family. If then I still retain the assistance of the Gentlemen who help me in teaching you, I shall be able to go through my duties with comfort, rendering help to the *Berean* only during the leisure-time which the care of you allows me.

The heading of this column shows you that the *Berean* itself is made to keep my thoughts directed towards you, for I am to have under my special charge the "Fourth's Corner," in which I will endeavour to publish useful and pleasant pieces for you and for other youth of inquiring minds and a reading disposition. I hope you will find Master Esaias Schnee an interesting little fellow. He seems very thoughtful, and on the watch to turn his recreations to some profitable purpose.

I entreat you to catch that spirit of him, and to go through life with the shovel and pickaxe of humility and watchfulness in your hands, that you may dig the gold of heavenly wisdom out of the deep hollows of labour, disappointment, and sorrow. And may God enrich you with stores of improving experience!

I am,
Dear Scholars,
Your affectionate Tutor and Friend,
THE PRINCIPAL.

ESAIAS SCHNEE,

THE WEISSENBURG SCHOLAR.

Adjoining the parish-church of Weissenburg in Germany, there is a little dwelling-house occupied by the Sexton who, in the year 1733, was a worthy man, respected by every body that knew him. His name was Andrew Schnee: he was a shoemaker by trade, worked with great industry, and attended punctually and with great civility and earnestness to all his duties. Good management had enabled him and his diligent wife to give to their two sons an education much superior to his own. The elder of them was now a candidate for the ministry, and the younger, Esaias by name, was the most exemplary scholar in the Senior Form of the Grammar School under the learned Head-Master, Dr. Doederlein.

But on a beautiful day in autumn of the year before mentioned, the Sexton's habitation bore a very gloomy aspect. The sun, it is true, had dispersed the early mist, and shone bright through the round glass-panes of the little windows. Some of his rays also fell upon the smooth mirror of a pail of water in which Mr. Schnee had put leather in soak, and there they made quite a glory: then they reflected upwards and brightened up the whitewashed ceiling of the room: but they seemed to look down with amazement at the sadness which prevailed below. The family had met with a severe disappointment. The elder son was looking for employment in some place where he might do good to his fellow-creatures, and which would give him the means of returning to his aged parents some kind service for the self-denial to which they had put themselves in order to bring him up to learning. The situation of Second Master at the Grammar School had become vacant: he had applied for it with great expectation of being appointed, but another had been preferred; this morning the news was received, and sadly put out the family which used to be so cheerful and composed at other times.

I must tell you, this really was a heavy blow for the family. Weissenburg was a free Imperial city; it generally gave employment to its own young men, and took in none who belonged to the country around, if it could help it; so then the young men of Weissenburg in their turn had but little chance of finding a situation, if their own native city had no employment for them. Dark, therefore, was the prospect now before young Mr. Schnee; and we need not wonder at the gloom which had spread over this household, every one of them feeling that a portion of their united hopes of comfort and advancement was gone for the present.

The young scholar was the first to have his thoughts diverted into a more animating channel. The learned Dr. Doederlein had invited his Form of Scholars to an excursion into the neighbouring country, each of them to take some lunch with him, and an article which you will think an odd one for a country-excursion: even a pick-axe, hoe, spade, or shovel. Young Esaias had borrowed a powerful tool from old Pèter, whom his father commonly employed to dig the graves in the church-yard. He had been looking for his mother to do up a good supply of eatables for him in an old number of the *Nuremberg Imperial Advertiser* which the Post-Master's Stephen had given him, and which was a rarity in Weissenburg, because newspapers were not by any means so common, a hundred and eleven years ago, as they are now. But for once Mrs. Schnee forgot poor Esaias. He did not like to interrupt the sad stillness which prevailed; so he just slipped out at the door, opening and shutting the latch with as little noise as possible, and went to join his companions whom he saw marching across the wood-market, rigged up like a party of grave-diggers. Esaias himself would almost have been glad

not to go, for it seemed unkind for him to have recreation in view, while his brother and parents were grieving; but his Master, to whom he was endeared as a most affectionate and steady pupil, would not have liked to miss him. He now supplied himself with two penny loaves at the baker's, and took his place in the rear of the party, after having paid his respects to the old Gentleman at the head of it.

Now you will want to know what this excursion was intended for. Well, it was in real truth for grave-digging; not for opening a new grave, but for examining some old one which they went in search of. In the vicinity of Weissenburg there were known to be many tumuli, as learned people call them; in plain English, they are mounds which were formed by the ancient Germans at the burials of the dead. The persons who take pleasure in searching after any thing that will make them acquainted with the manners of people in days long gone by, are called Antiquarians, and one of them was Dr. Doederlein. He had inspired his party of scholars with great expectation of interesting discoveries, if they went to open one of those ancient burying-places. Hence the strangeness of their outfit, and the uncommon subjects of their conversation, as they tramped along the pavement of Market-street. You heard nothing of tops, hoops, kites, or marbles. One of them hoped, if they should light upon the grave of a private of the Roman army, it would be one who had received the *minor prize* for bravery in the field, so that the Weissenburg scholars would unbury those silver or gold chains which the General had hung round his valiant soldier's neck. Another raised his expectation to the discovery of the *greater prize* which might have been laid in the grave with the body of some commanding officer: a mural crown for having taken a town, or a vallarian for the storming of a camp was what he aspired to excavate from the tumulus which he had not found yet.

Esaias Schnee endeavoured to moderate their glowing anticipations by saying that the tumuli were more likely to contain only the remains of Germans, in which case no costly spoils were to be expected; yet he was sure, the plain iron articles of workmanship which might come to light would be rendered very interesting, if their learned Chief made antiquarian comments upon them. He also gave it as his opinion that it would do very well to find silver and gold, when only iron had been expected: but that it would prove a *damper* if nothing but iron should come to light, when the precious metals had been looked for. But the boys generally spurned the idea of putting up with such common stuff. All their talk was about silver and gold and other costly ornaments, while they kept traversing fields and forests, looking for some elevation sufficient to be dignified with the name of a *tumulus*.

They became dull, however, hungry, and tired altogether, before any such discovery was made. On a little circular spot, where an old stump offered to the Master a seat of honour, if he would accept it, while his scholars had ample room to stretch themselves in becoming subordination on the green at his feet, the party halted. The Doctor took off his hat, wiped the sweat off his face, and with rather a cross look pronounced his judgment that they had taken all this trouble for nothing. As they had found no *tumuli*, they could dig up no dead bodies; and be enriched by neither iron nor silver nor gold antiquities. He therefore recommended an attack upon the eatables with which they had provided themselves; and he found the troop around him perfectly docile, for in a trice they all had encamped on the grass and were unpacking their provisions.

(To be continued.)

EDUCATION.

ADVICE FROM A MOTHER.

As I am the mother of nine children, I know something of the trials and difficulties of managing a large family. For the benefit of young mothers, I should like to state something I know, from my own experience: almost every thing depends upon the fact that mothers begin early to subdue the tempers of their children, whether they have much or little trouble with them through life.

A mother cannot commence too young to subdue the will of her child; and when she once undertakes, she should never yield till she has made them submit to her authority. I once had a contest with one of my children at the age of ten months. She had been accustomed to be rocked to sleep in my arms: I determined to break up this habit; I therefore placed her in a cradle, awake; I rocked her for some time—she cried violently, but as I thought she was old enough to understand me, and to give up her wishes and will to mine, I continued rocking her till she fell asleep. At first I heartily repented that I had undertaken a task so unpleasant, but from this time I had very little difficulty in subduing her: ever after she would lie quietly, and go to sleep in her cradle.

I had a little one of four years, that would frequently repeat the following lines very prettily:

Solomon speaks, his words are mild,
Spare the rod and spoil the child.
No, dear mother, don't do so.
But whip me well and let me go."

The rod, I know, is sometimes necessary; yet I do not approve of it, except when other means would be ineffectual; but do not fail to give your child the punishment you promise, even if it should be a whipping; otherwise you will teach it, by your own example, to tell falsehoods.

I have now a little one, about two years old. I usually punish her by putting her into a closet. I do not approve of shutting up little children in the dark, for this is apt to frighten them. I have a large pantry which has a window in it, and when she is disobedient or naughty, I say, "Ellen, you may go into the pantry and stay there till you are a good girl." I have sometimes asked her, while there, "Will you be good?" She will answer me, "No," and continue there till she has made up her mind to do right; and as I always leave the door unwatched, she will come peeping out, laughing and saying, "Ma, Ellen is a good girl now." She will often come and kiss me, and thank me for making her good, adding: "Dear mother, I feel better than when I was naughty and crying." I then tell her that she will always find, that the way to be happy is to be good. The sooner mothers begin to impress this moral lesson upon the minds and

hearts of their children, the better. May the Lord continue to bless your efforts to the good of mothers and children, prays your old friend,
—From the Mother's Magazine.

A GRANDFATHER'S WAY OF TEACHING A LITTLE GIRL VERY YOUNG.

"I occasionally instructed her in easy spelling lessons, and explained every word; but I exercised her more in spelling the names of animals, trees, and things she was acquainted with, and telling the difference between them; their properties, use, &c. &c.

"In the twilight of the evening she usually sat on my knee for half an hour, to hear me tell scripture stories, or to spell all the articles in the room, and learn of what they were made, by what mechanics, and to describe their uses; and as she progressed I required her to spell a number of short words and put them together for a long one. This of course set her reasoning and reflecting faculties at work, and promoted utterance.

"As early impressions are the most lasting, I considered it important that the first book she became interested with should be the best one in the world; I therefore used the New Testament as her principal book. We spent half an hour at a time, twice a day, in teaching her, and did it in as pleasing a manner as possible. In the first place, an easy verse or two were selected for her to spell, and with some help she read them. As she progressed, her lessons were lengthened, and previous to reading they were very fully explained, so that she understood the subject. By these means she acquired new ideas, as well as learnt to spell and pronounce the words. This greatly encouraged and stimulated her; to prevent her ardor from being checked, I always had her stop before she was weary, and she was never once urged to her book, but of choice spent much of her time with her Testament and her little pious books.

"She was taught, that not only every sentence, but every word was full of meaning. I was quite diverted with her observations and inquiry. At one time she comes with her Testament and says, 'grandfather, in one place they spell Lord with a big L, and in another place with a little l; what does it mean?' This was explained to her satisfaction. She came next with a similar inquiry in regard to the word God. Soon after she says, 'grandfather, they have made a mistake in my book; they have put a little c for city.' I inquired why she thought it a mistake? she replied, 'A city holds a great many people. It should begin with a big C;' and she was not easily convinced that the book was correct.

"I found frequent opportunities to interest her tender feelings in the benevolent character of our blessed Redeemer in feeding the hungry, curing the diseased, &c. as well as his omnipotent power and gracious purposes and designs. This I conceive incumbent on every christian parent, grand-parent and teacher of children, and it should be promoted by every christian philanthropist and statesman, as a blessed means ordained of God for sowing those seeds of virtue so essential to both individual felicity and our national existence."

This child is now eight years of age, and the evident good effects of such a course of instruction as is described by her grand-father, are sufficient to stimulate every parent and grand-parent to go and do so likewise. Nearly every parent has sufficient qualifications to commence the good work, and experience will make them skilful, and with proper domestic arrangements it would scarcely interfere with business.—*Albany Common School Assistant.*

THE OLD SQUIRE'S TABLE TALK.

I want the boys to be schooled, but not to be spoiled. They are to be brought up so as to be manly, free, and fit to work at their fathers' callings. They must not be taught that which would withdraw them from the plough and the barn, but that which will make them like the plough and the barn better, by exercising their understanding on the things they have to do with.

A good many farmers think learning to be quite unprofitable to those who are afterwards to be engaged in the toil and business of life. I do not agree with them; but there may be some ground for the opinion, and we had better try if we can find what that is, to the end it may be removed. Farmers have found that some of the boys who have had much schooling have not so much life in them as others who have spent all their time in the fields, frightening crows and living in contact with actual things. The pedlar who has learnt neither reading nor ciphering, makes out the account of his sales much more quickly than the scholar with all the rules of Walkingame in his head. It is quite certain that the scholar knows more ciphering than the pedlar; but he has not found the bridge yet which connects Walkingame's rules with actual life, and therefore his learning appears to the farmer unprofitable. If he will have patience, the scholar may give him more satisfaction yet. But if that should not be the case, still the fault may not be in the teaching which the boy has got, though I think when he has learned Walkingame's rules, he has not spent his time as profitably as he might.

A great deal of the schooling which boys of the labouring class receive, does run to waste, through want of the bridge which is to connect it with life. The boy has become what is called a good reader; but what is there for him to read, when he has left school? Of books, it is true, there is no lack; but how few of them are of the kind that takes with the labouring man as reading for him. Numbers of them have indeed been written with a special view that they should be useful to that class of people; but the good men who do not move in the walks of humble life themselves, do not write that which takes with the readers in humble life. And so, it turns out a very slender chance that the poor man has, of being supplied

with reading that will connect his studies at school with real life. The poor man's rich friend wonders to see him sink into dullness and listlessness, after all the means afforded him for the awakening of his mind and storing it with useful learning: the scholar seems to have left his wits in the Spelling-book and Walkingame, and none seem to accompany him to the cottage in which he is now trying life for himself.

Luther said, books ought to be so written that every word have "hands and feet." He had a right to say so; for he himself wrote words which walked into every cottage and clung to every weary and heavily laden soul, and were not to be frowned off by Princes, Emperors, Priests, or Popes: they held fast, until thousands and thousands had been delivered from the bondage of superstition to the liberty of gospel-truth. Now we want books of this kind for the labouring man to read; words in them that he can carry about with him in the field and barn, and which shall make his heart full and easy, and open his eyes to see the broad heaven over his head, and quicken his hands to handle with judgment his mother earth. His books should interpret to him the things he is conversant with; and they again would receive an interpretation from those things.

When Luther began to write in German, for the common people to understand, he attempted a thing almost unheard of until his day. He succeeded in a most wonderful manner. Now I look upon him as having been particularly raised up and furnished with every useful gift by God, whose time had arrived for giving liberty to the nations enslaved by Rome. But then it is lawful to inquire whether God gave Luther any peculiar training for this special service of popular writing. Now if there is one pursuit in which Luther was engaged more than in others, it is the study of the Scriptures. The Bible is the most popular book in existence. It is the model for writing in a manner that shall take with the people. Our Lord's Sermon on the Mount, and his parables are samples of the most popular style and choice of subjects. The study of them, with actual observation, and constant benevolent exertion among labouring men, will make the writer of books for the improvement of that class of people.

I suppose I have mentioned the reason why so few books of that kind are written: those who are most fit to write them, are so much engaged in benevolent exertion, that they are not easily brought to sit down and write. Still, there are probably treasures of cottage-reading hidden, which might be brought forth, if special attention were directed to the subject. Would not those who are in the habit of visiting the labouring poor, give information, through the periodical press, upon works which they find peculiarly adapted to interest and improve that class of people; and might not a combined effort be made for supplying them in the cheapest and most durable form possible, for sale, loan, or, in cases of urgent necessity, gratuitous distribution?

THE BEREAN.

They received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so.—*Acts 17, 11.*

THE WANT of a periodical which would convey to Protestants in this part of the British dominions such intelligence as they in their character of religious persons must wish to be acquainted with, and which would contain, throughout, such reading only as they would not fear to place within the reach of the junior branches of their families, has been felt by many, and for a considerable period. This acknowledged want has engaged the attention of several members of the Church of England, and created in them an anxiety to supply what is so much desired, by the publication, at Quebec, of a weekly paper for the diffusion of religious, commercial, and political intelligence, and the promotion of all the best interests of a christian community.

After a protracted search for an Editor who would carry this design into effect, the united urgencies of those friends with whom the individual who issues this Prospectus had hoped to co-operate as a promoter only of the design, have prevailed with him to undertake the entire responsibilities of the enterprise. The Proprietor and Editor thus referred to will be glad, if it may be, to observe the incognito which is usually accorded to Editors in the mother-country. He will, however, be sufficiently pointed out to a large portion of the readers of this Prospectus by the signature Hsi, under which he has now and then addressed the public. He has not resolved upon entering upon this charge until he had received a promise of kind and efficient help in the secular department, to which he as a Clergyman, engaged in other duties of engrossing interest, will not be able to give more than a general superintendence.

Promise of aid has been given by several gentlemen of the Clergy and Laity, who will contribute to make the columns of the "Berean" worthy of the patronage of members of the Church of England and other friends of pure and unadulterated religion.

The political part of the "Berean" will in most cases, be nothing beyond a simple

record of proceedings, the Editor thinking it quite needless for him to give an opinion of his own upon the greater number of those questions which cause political strife and agitation. But whenever the cause of morals, good order, and religion shall appear plainly involved in the proceedings of politicians, he will not shrink from avowing the view he takes of the question, without regard to the party whose design it may become his duty to oppose.

Endeavours will be used to obtain and communicate the most important news upon Shipping and the Markets, so as to convey to commercial men prompt and correct information upon matters with which it may be desirable for them to be acquainted. Intelligence of local or of general interest will be given, as the course of events may furnish matter, and as space may permit.

Being cordially attached to the religious communion of which he is a Minister, the Editor feels it incumbent upon him to decide at once upon giving to the interests of the Church of England a prominent place in the "Berean"; but entertaining at the same time an affectionate regard towards those members of other religious persuasions who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity, he will not exclude from his columns a ready acknowledgment and kindly notice of what in their proceedings may be of general interest to the friends of the gospel.

As it is the Editor's settled purpose to set forth that faith by which the sinner is justified and obtains peace with God, his course must be resolute against attempts, whether made within or without the protestant church, at substituting for it the devices of men. Never will he give countenance to any scheme that would withhold from souls perishing for lack of knowledge the message of hope through the atonement, or would, by departure from the simplicity of the gospel, mar the plan of salvation through the merits of the alone Saviour Christ.

Diocesan intelligence will always be given with a special view to inform the readers of the "Berean" upon the state of the Church of England in the Diocese of Quebec primarily, and in the adjoining Dioceses of British North America; and information on these points, as also upon the state of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, will be thankfully received.

The cause of morals will be constantly inculcated, through the most efficient motives, by a faithful exhibition of gospel truth. But it must be expected that calls will arise from time to time, for an explicit testimony against practices which, from their public character and their wide-spreading influence, require direct notice, in order to inform and guide the public mind; and the Editor will do so, fearless of the wrath of man. On this account also, advertisements of a nature directly injurious to this cause will be declined, while others are respectfully invited.

It is intended, if sufficient encouragement be given, to issue the first number on the first Thursday of the approaching month of April. The terms of subscription will be fifteen shillings for the year, or twelve shillings and six pence if paid in advance. No subscriptions will be received for a less period than six months.

The "Berean" will be printed and published by GILBERT STANLEY, Bible and Tract Depository, 15, BUADE STREET, where subscriptions and advertisements, as well as communications for the Editor will be received.

Quebec, 22nd Feb. 1844.

PROSPECTUS

OF THE CANADIAN JURIST.

IT is proposed to publish, as soon as a sufficient number of subscribers shall be obtained, a Monthly Periodical to be called "THE CANADIAN JURIST" Edited by JOHN HILLIARD CAMERON, Esquire, Barrister at Law and Reporter to the Court of Queen's Bench.—The work will be strictly confined to legal subjects, and will contain original and selected articles on important points in Pleading, &c. &c.; Remarks on Provincial Statutes relating to amendments or alterations in existing Laws, or introducing new Laws; the Reports of Cases adjudged in the Court of Queen's Bench in Upper Canada with a Quarterly Digest thereof; Notes and Reports of leading Cases decided in the English Common Law Courts, and Notes of Cases in Chancery in this Province, with a quarterly Digest of the Cases reported in the *English Jurist*. The first number, to be delivered in April next, Price, Five Shillings a number, payable half-yearly in advance—the subscription for the first half-year payable on the delivery of the first number. Subscriptions will be received at the Offices of the following Gentlemen:—

- Messrs. Strachan & Cameron, . . . Toronto.
- Cartwright & Geddes, . . . Kingston.
- John Wilson, Esquire, . . . London.
- Charles Baby, Esquire, . . . Sudbich.
- R. O. Duggan, Esquire, . . . Hamilton.
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- J. G. Armour, Esquire, . . . Peterboro.
- C. T. Burris, Esquire, . . . Bytown.
- R. Cling, Esquire, . . . Cornwall.
- G. O. Stuart, Esquire, . . . Montreal.
- Toronto, Decr. 28, 1843.

The Editors of papers in Toronto, Kingston, Montreal, and Quebec, inserting, to receive a copy of the work for one year.

PRINTING WORK, OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, NEATLY EXECUTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE BEREAN, On the most reasonable terms.

QUEBEC:—Printed and Published by GILBERT STANLEY, No. 15, BUADE STREET, opposite the French Church.