

before his death. Finding himself extremely languid, he took a little milk, and desired that air might be admitted into the room; and on being asked if he felt relieved at all, said, "Very little: I can hardly distinguish, indeed, whether this is languor or drowsiness which has come over me; but it is a very agreeable feeling." Soon after, he said suddenly, "I surely must be going now, my strength sinks so fast," and on my making some observation on the glorious prospect before him, he added, "Oh, yes! I am glad to go, if it be the Lord's will." He shut his eyes and lay quite composed, and by and by said, "What glory! the angels are waiting for me!"—then, after another short interval of quiet, added, "Lord Jesus, receive my soul!" and to those who were about him, "Farewell!" these were the last words he spoke: he gradually and gently sunk away, and in about ten minutes breathed his last, calmly and without a struggle, at nine in the morning of the 9th of April, the very day on which, twelve months before, his mind had first been awakened to the hopes and joys of the ever blessed gospel!

THE ACCOMPLISHED YOUTH.

LYING.

I really know nothing more criminal, more mean, and more ridiculous than lying. It is the production either of malice, cowardice, or vanity, and generally misses of its aim in every one of these views; for lies are always detected, sooner or later. If I tell a malicious lie, in order to affect any man's fortune or character, I may indeed injure him for some time; but I shall be sure to be the greatest sufferer myself at last; for as soon as ever I am detected (and detected I must certainly shall be) I am blasted for the infamous attempt; and whatever is said afterwards, to the disadvantage to the person however true, passes for calumny. If I lie, or equivocate (for it is the same thing) in order to excuse myself for something that I have said or done, and to avoid the danger or the shame that I apprehend from it, I discover at once my fear, as well as my falsehood; and only increase, instead of avoiding the danger and the shame; I shew myself to be the lowest and the meanest of mankind, and am sure to be always treated as such.

People of education, and, in the main, of good principles, sometimes fall into this vice, from mistaken notions of skill, dexterity, and self defence; tho' it is inseparably attended with more infamy and loss than any other *Blair.*

COMMUNICATION.

For the Juvenile Entertainer.

SIR MILNE,

Sir,—It has often occurred to me, that many of your juvenile subscribers do not duly appreciate, the numerous advantages which they, at present enjoy, of acquiring a proficiency in almost every branch of useful knowledge. Their youthful minds, wholly intent upon the present, seldom cast a glance at those things which are past; and are, therefore, rarely well qualified to form a proper estimate of their present privileges and enjoyments. They have not arrived at that period, when a familiar acquaintance with the more recent occurrences, induces them to investigate the transactions of the past, and thus to enlarge the sphere of their information. Hence,

they are extremely apt to view their privileges with indifference, and very falsely to suppose, that their ancestors enjoyed exactly the same. But no idea could possibly be more incorrect.

In the settlement of this District, and the surrounding country, the inhabitants, though they had many difficulties to encounter—though they were exposed to incessant toil and privations, and had to earn their subsistence by the sweat of their brow, felt these hardships to be of far less importance, than the want of proper instructors for the rising generation. Their offspring were growing up around them, without the opportunity of attending the stated ordinances of religion, and without that previous instruction, which could alone qualify them to understand and obey its sacred precepts. Their parents, though their days were spent in incessant toil, were their only teachers; and they, though their information was not the most extensive, gladly imparted this knowledge to their children. Solitude were their ears gladdened by the joyful sound of the gospel; and many of the aged fathers of the settlements feared, for the morals of those who must afterwards occupy their place in the community. Some times, indeed, the venerable herald of peace, borne down by the weight of continued exertions, might be seen winding his way to those benighted settlements of the woods. His charge was not restricted to a single settlement, or a single district; all equally participated in his fatherly care—all were equally the subjects of his daily meditations. When, however, he happened to visit a settlement, he never failed to embrace every opportunity of conveying, both to the young and to the old the most salutary instruction. Their moral and religious improvement, always formed the subject of his earnest inquiry; and he viewed, with the tenderness and complacency of a father, every step which they made to an end so desirable. Such was the original state of education in the surrounding settlements; such were the opportunities of acquiring religious information: but how changed is the scene! While the natural aspect of the country has undergone an immense alteration, and traces of a more civilized nature, are everywhere visible; the moral improvement of the inhabitants has advanced with an equally sure pace. Now, the father has no longer to act in the capacity of the schoolmaster; proper instructors are comparatively numerous. In many a settlement, the eye of the fatigued traveller is relieved by the view of a neat little church raising its spire amidst the surrounding houses, and which causes him, insensibly, to revert to the peaceful and solemn nature of that religion, which it is designed to promote. By the introduction of pious missionaries of every denomination, the operations of the minister, confined to a sphere more circumscribed, are conducted with greater success: and the institution of sabbath schools, has given a renewed vigour to their exertions. How grateful, then, should your young readers be, for all the means of instruction within their reach! Let them think on the past, and compare it with the present, and let this comparison have its due and proper influence. Let the path of virtue be the way, in which they are resolved to tread; and they cannot ultimately, fail to secure a proportional degree of respect and affection. Wise men will love them, and the wicked and ill disposed, though, in public they may speak lightly of

them, in the calm hours of reflection, must acknowledge their worth. None who ever walked in virtue's way, have found their progress through the world, on this account, more thickly encompassed with the thorns of affliction. W.

Pictou, May 7, 1832.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE BALL AND THE FUNERAL.

A writer in the Pastor's Journal for July gives the following account of an occurrence which happened some years since, and left a deep impression upon his mind.

In the town of D——, there resided a family, with whom the writer from his boyhood had maintained a familiar and pleasant intercourse. They ranked among the most respectable and prosperous families of the place. Their habitation was retired and peaceful. The traveller came upon it unexpectedly, as he issued from the grove, which had seemed to limit the improvements of a thriving town; and saw just before him with delight, a stately, snow white dwelling, succeeded by several others of an inferior but cheerful aspect. The neighborhood contained no vicious characters, no idlers. But the pride of it was the family in the white dwelling; being numerous above the rest, and distinguished for the superior taste and beauty of several brothers and sisters, which a second marriage had gathered into one domestic circle. Of the five sisters, it might be difficult to decide which was the most amiable; but one was pronounced fairer than the rest. I have still a vivid recollection of her thoughtless gaiety. Her vivid eye and smiling countenance, were no deceitful indication of a heart almost solely bent upon enjoying life as it goes. Never do I recollect to have heard from her lips, a solitary expression, that disclosed a serious state of mind. The confession must however be made that there was little in my conversation or deportment by which such expressions should have been elicited.

The hours passed rapidly away in this lively circle, which as yet Divine Providence had not passed over it the hand of bereavement. None thought of impending chastisements; at least, none thought less of them, than the fairest of the sisters. The season had arrived for the great ball, which the youth were accustomed to get up once or twice a year, in despite of the counsels of their Christian friends. It was a time which elicited the anxieties of many a parent; and yet no substitute had been devised as an amusement which added little to the improvement of the young, while it involved them in the guilt of setting at nought the prudent advice, and, in some instances, the authority of their natural guardians. The ball was resolved upon, and became as usual, the topic of conversation. Even the place, the day and the hour, were understood to be fixed; though, as yet, to keep back the urgent counsels of the old folks, no public announcement was made. The middle of the pleasure seeking youth were quite absorbed with the prospect of a splendid scene. The whisper respecting managers, partners, &c. invaded the sacredness of the Sabbath, and was indulged even in the sanctuary. None were more interested in these arrangements than the circle I have described. Among them, the beautiful