

10. A BOOK UNDER THE QUEEN'S SANCTION.

An English paper announces the publication, by special permission of the Queen, of a Selection by her Majesty from the well known "Hours of Devotion" by Heinrich Zschokke, translated by Miss Frederica Rowan.

The selections are announced as having proved a source of comfort and edification to her Gracious Majesty in deep and overwhelming sorrow. The book is one which eminently inculcates and insists on practical religion, as opposed to a reliance upon correctness of belief. In the opening dissertation on the question whether slow decline or sudden death is preferable, the author regards those alternatives as of less moment than is usually attached to them. To the man of well-spent life he maintains that sudden death is not the greatest of calamities. "If," he observes, "thou leadest at all times a life of piety, innocence, benevolence, full of active well-doing, and free from hatred or anger, such as Jesus thy Saviour taught thee, then sudden death can only be to thee, a sudden benefit. Why shouldst thou dread to appear before God?" On the other hand, he exposes the self-deception which too often attends the tardy penitence of the deathbed, "born of the terror of the moment." He shows that erroneous views are entertained of its value. "When a criminal in his prison cell, full of the fear of the coming punishment, repents of his misdeeds, would you at once place him in moral worth on a level with the most pious and virtuous of men? . . . Your sense of justice would recoil from this. Then, how can you suppose the All-Just One to be less just than you would be?" Salvation must be worked out in life, and not in death. The purposes of mortal existence are finished, and our destiny is accomplished and fixed, when we are no longer capable of doing good. Hence he argues that sudden death is not to be feared, at least on the ground that it "deprives us of the opportunity and the time necessary to express our repentance, and to utter a few prayers. The Divine Son did not teach—Repent at the hour of death; but he said, 'Whoever takes up my cross during his lifetime, and follows me, he is my disciple!'" The termination, moreover, of a worthless or guilty life is not to be regretted. "Life has no value except as far as we use it for perfecting our souls, for enriching our minds with nobler qualities, and for spreading happiness around us."

11. RULES FOR DISTRIBUTING SCHOOL PRIZES.

The following excellent rules for distributing prizes in schools have been adopted by the Woodstock Board of School Trustees. —1. That no prize shall be given to any child who has not been a pupil for the preceding two terms. 2. That the prizes generally shall be awarded for good conduct and regular attendance. Insubordination to the teacher, continued tardiness of arrival at School, as well as frequent absence, to disqualify any child from receiving a prize. 3. No pupil to receive a *good conduct* prize two terms in succession, but this will not apply to competitive prizes if given. 4. *Special* prizes may be given when the Trustees think that circumstances render it advisable. 5. When a list of the best attending pupils is made out, the Teacher will be required to write opposite each name the word exemplary, fair, bad, as the case may justify; adding if they think necessary, any matter in explanation.

II. Educational Features of the Governor General's

VISIT TO UPPER CANADA.

During the recent visit of His Excellency the Governor General to Upper Canada, he visited most of the principal educational institutions in it, and exhibited a good deal of interest in their operation. The following is an account of these visits, abridged from the daily papers:—

UPPER CANADA COLLEGE.

In Toronto His Excellency commenced his visits at Upper Canada College, it being nearest to his place of residence while in the city. Here he was received by G. R. R. Cockburn, Esq., M.A., Principal of Upper Canada College, and the Masters. By these gentlemen the party were escorted to the lecture room of the College, the north end of which had been fitted up in a becoming manner for the occasion. His Excellency was conducted to a seat. Among those present was the Lord Bishop of Toronto. The lecture room and halls leading thereto, were crowded to excess. When the party were comfortably seated, Principal Cockburn advanced toward Lord Monck and read the following address:—

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.—We, the Principal and Masters of Upper Canada College, gladly avail ourselves of the occasion of your Excellency's auspicious visit to the capital of Upper Canada, to pay a mark of respect to your Excellency,

personally, as a visitor of the College, and to offer our most cordial welcome to this, the oldest seat of learning in Upper Canada. We beg to renew our assurances of loyalty and warm attachment to Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, and to express the deep interest we can never cease to feel in everything that relates to the welfare and honor of England. This College, founded on the model of the great public schools in England, is more particularly devoted to the training of the Youth of Canada for the professions, and there are very few localities in this Province where the pupils of this institution do not now occupy the most prominent positions. The College has been upward of thirty years in existence, and during that comparatively long period it has sent forth several thousand young men prepared to discharge with credit the duties of life, whether in peace or in war. Among the names of its *alumni*, your Excellency will find not a few who have distinguished themselves in the Crimea and in India, and if war should unfortunately come nearer home—an issue which we pray that God may, in his infinite mercy, avert—there are many trained and educated here, who will be ready to join in repelling the aggressor, and keep Canada a bright and willing dependency of the British Crown. As a College we gladly avail ourselves of the opportunity of thanking your Excellency for your kindness in continuing the annual prize, long known as the Governor General's prize, and which as the highest honor we have to confer, is year by year contended for with distinguished ability and earnest zeal. This prize can be won only by superior attainments, and it serves to connect practically the Representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty with this seat of learning, and at the same time to endear the name of each successive Governor to some of the most promising youths of the country. In conclusion, we trust that your Excellency will kindly accept our sincere wishes for the happiness of your Excellency, not only in your personal and domestic relations, but in every relation of life.

(Signed) "G. R. R. COCKBURN, M.A.,
Principal."

His Excellency replied as follows:—

"MR. PRINCIPAL AND GENTLEMEN,—I thank you sincerely for the address that you have presented to me, and I hear with satisfaction from a body so distinguished as you are, those sentiments of loyalty and attachment to our Queen and country, which, expressed to me as they have been by all classes of the people during my progress through Canada, are now so familiar to my ears. The system of education adopted at the public schools in England has had considerable effect in the formation of our national character. The peculiar features of that system, the freedom enjoyed by the students, the total absence of restraint during the hours of recreation, the general tendency to rely rather on the honor of the boys than on a strict supervision of them, and the encouragement given to athletic sports, all contribute to the development of those many qualities which are the especial characteristics of Englishmen, and well deserve the particular attention of all those who, like yourselves, are engaged in the important and arduous duty of education. I doubt not that the same spirit which prompted their predecessors to enter the military service of the Queen animates the young men now under your care, nor that they will go out into the world imbued with feelings of patriotism and loyalty, and ready to manifest them on all occasions when their country calls for their services. In some of the public schools at home, the elder boys have, with the sanction of the authorities, formed themselves into Volunteer Rifle Companies, and have attained considerable proficiency both in drill and in shooting. The possibility of establishing a similar practice here may be worth your consideration. I am gratified to hear the estimation in which you hold the prize which, following the example of my predecessors, I have had the pleasure to offer for competition to the students, and I trust it may be one means amongst many others of inducing them to maintain the high reputation for good scholarship and classical knowledge which the members of this College have long and justly enjoyed."

His Excellency said that reading an address was too formal for an occasion like the present, and he would therefore say a few words. He said he meant to conclude by requesting the Principle to grant the pupils holidays for the remainder of the week—(cheers.)—during which time he hoped they would indulge in the sports and pastimes characteristic of British subjects. Principal Cockburn said that, in accordance with the Governor General's request, there would be no school until next Monday. Three cheers were then given for "His Excellency," three for "Lady Monck," and three for "Lord Mulgrave." The party being then escorted to their carriages by the masters of the College, preceded by York and Queen streets to the

DEAF, DUMB AND BLIND ASYLUM.

At this institution, His Excellency was received by Dr. Morris, Principal, and Mr. J. B. McGann, Head Master, together with several others of the teachers. The party were first shown into the