

POETRY.

PILGRIM'S FAREWELL TO THE WORLD.

Farewell, poor World, I must be gone,
Thou hast no home, no rest for me:
I'll take my staff, and travel on,
Till I a better world shall see.

Why art thou loth, my heart? Ah! why
Dost thou recoil within my breast?
Grieve not, but say "Farewell," and fly
I into the Ark, thy heav'nly rest.

I come, my Lord, a pilgrim's pace,
Weary and weak I slowly move:
Longing, but cannot reach the place,
The welcome place of rest above.

I come, my Lord, the floods arise,
These troubled seas foam nought but mire,
My soul from sin and sorrow flies,
To heaven I languishing aspire.

"Stay, stay," said Earth: "Ah! whither haste?
Here's a fair world, what wouldst thou have?"
Fair world! Ah! no, thy beauty's past,
An heavenly Canaan, Lord, I crave.

Thus Pilgrims, in Times's elder day,
Weary of earth, sigh'd after home:
They're gone before, I must not stay,
Till I with them to Zion come.

Put on, my soul, put on with speed:
Tho' long the way, the end is sweet;
Once more, poor world, farewell indeed!
In leaving thee my Lord I ne'er.

VARIETY.

CAMELS-HAIR GARMENTS.

MATH. iii. 4.

The vestments of the great in the time of John the Baptist were *purple and fine linen*—Luke xvi. 19. But with regard to camels hair, it would appear they had not learned to manufacture it as it is now done in the East, and which renders what is made of it so valuable. Campbell says, the Baptist's raiment was made of the fine hair of that animal, whereof an elegant kind of cloth is made, which is called camlet, but of the long and shaggy hair of camels, which in the East is manufactured into a coarse stuff, anciently worn by monks and anchorites.

As our shepherds pick up the coarse hair which is lost by the sheep, and spin it into yarn, which they knit for their own wear, so the inhabitants of the Jewish deserts made a coarse stuff of the woolly hair which nature annually throws off their camels; which dress John adopted when he lived among those poor people. Thus the Tartars of our time manufacture their *camels hair* into a kind of felt, for the covering of their wooden habitations. The raiment of the Baptist is represented as mean, if not mortifying. What went ye out for to see? a man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they that wear soft clothing are in Kings' houses—Math. xi. 8.

HARMER AND BURDER.

The first thing necessary in conversation is a strict regard to truth. Things are seldom represented just as they are. Some have weak memories and others have strong prejudices, and it is astonishing, says Dr. Johnson, how little people guard against the violation of truth.

Faith has a *clear eye*, a *strong hand*, and a *swift foot*. It discerns with a glance the sufficiency of Christ, seizes with a firm grasp the promises of the Gospel, and flees without delay from the wrath to come.

LOCAL.

THE THEATRE.

Previously to our departure on our late visit to Halifax, an opinion was entertained by a large proportion of the community, that theatrical exhibitions would, for the present at least, be suppressed in this City. We however regret to find upon our return that the theatre is in operation, and that no small degree of excitement exists in the public mind upon the subject.

As we are informed, on some evening last week, a play called the *Hypocrite*, was exhibited, the tendency of which was understood by some of the clergymen of the City, and many other discreet persons, to be, to degrade, and to pour contempt upon the ministerial character, and upon the Holy Scrip-

tures. Under this impression, the Rev. B. G. GRAY, the Rector of the Parish, felt himself called upon in the discharge of his duty on Sunday last, to express to the congregation in Trinity Church his entire disapprobation of theatrical exhibitions in general, and of such as that above alluded to in particular; and to express his views of the absolute inconsistency, of an attendance upon the theatre, and a participation in the office of the *Holy Communion*. We are greatly surprised to be informed, that this faithful expression of his views upon the subject, has not been received by some of his hearers, and others also in the City, in the manner in which we conceived it ought to have been received, and we have been pained, at hearing the manner in which it has been distorted, and the motives to which it has been attributed. The Rev. Gentleman, however, will have the satisfaction of knowing that the stand he has taken, meets with the warm and cordial approbation of the most serious and pious, (we wish to speak charitably) Members of the Church, and of a large proportion of the Citizens; and above all, he will have the approbation of his own mind in having performed his duty. We do not write thus as though the Rev. Gentleman stands in need of an apologist, he is perfectly able to sustain himself, and to maintain the high ground he has taken; but as the public mind is warmly excited upon the occasion, we conceive it to be the duty of all friends of morality and good order, however feeble they may be, to express themselves explicitly upon the subject. Our own opinion—that theatrical exhibitions, are decidedly unfriendly to the morals of mankind, and especially to the young, have long since, and more than once, been recorded; and we should feel that we had betrayed our trust, as conductors of a public Press, were we upon the present occasion to abstain from expressing our deep and continued conviction of their injurious tendency. To us it appears, that the theatre is a nursery and hot bed of vice, and although we do not mean in a sweeping manner, absolutely to charge all persons who attend theatres with being more vicious, than their neighbours who conscientiously abstain from going to such places; yet we hazard the opinion bold as it may seem, that the natural and legitimate tendency of the theatre is vice, and could we dare to pollute our paper, with extracts from some of the most popular plays, we feel confident that we could extort an acknowledgment to this effect, from those who upon this subject profess to be sceptical and unbelieving.

A very respectable and intelligent gentleman of this City, has informed us, that another gentleman of high respectability, not a resident, informed him, that some evening not long since, he attended the Theatre in this City, and that such indecent expressions were used, (accompanied we suppose by corresponding action,) as absolutely to put it out of his power, to lift his eyes, to meet the eyes, of some respectable females who sat near him. If this then be true, and we firmly believe it, what friend to delicacy and morals can countenance such exhibitions. The latter gentleman further added, that in all towns, as population increased vice naturally increased, without extraneous aid, but the stage conducted in the manner above alluded to, must in the nature of things be a hot bed of vice, and prematurely force the plants of corruption.

At the opening of the Court on Tuesday His Worship the Mayor, expressed his decided opinion that the Theatre was dangerous to the morals of the young, and included the present Theatre among the matters given in charge to the Grand Jury; and it was to have been expected, that some of the persons living in the vicinity of the Theatre, and who had frequently and loudly complained of the tumult and disorder, which had taken place at the doors, to the very great annoyance of the whole neighbourhood, would have availed themselves of the opportunity to prefer their complaints to the Grand Jury, in a formal and regular manner; we have not learned that this has been done.

In the absence of complaint of this kind, the state of the Theatre, became matter of consideration to the Grand Jury, and the design was entertained of visiting the Theatre in the same manner that other nuisances, and places of ill fame are visited, to ascertain by personal inspection, whether it were a nuisance or not. According to our information, the Manager, anticipated their design, and gave an invitation to them as a body, and 16 or 17, out of 21, went in due form with the Constable in attendance at their head. Whether they have made any report upon the subject, or what that report is, we have not yet heard, and as no proceedings have been instituted, we suppose that part of the business will end there. The public mind is however divided, as to the propriety of the Grand Jury, going in a body, and upon an invitation without any expense to such a place.

Admitting however, as we do, the visit to have been well intended, and conscientiously performed, yet as the object was to ascertain with precision the natural state of the Theatre, and whether it actually were a nuisance or not, to us it appears, and we say it with all deference, that a more effectual method to obtain those ends might have been adopted.—The previous notice of their intention, and their going in a body, would naturally put the players on their guard, and as far as was practicable, the whole exhibition would be so chastened, as to conceal its most objectionable features.

Perhaps the most effectual method to ascertain the natural tendency of the Theatre would be, to read the plays that have already been exhibited, and also those intended for future performance, and to compare with this an idea of the action amiable to the sentiments and expressions contained therein. This we conceive would give an abstract idea of the thing as it is. But to this should also be added, an idea of the tumult frequently occasioned by the disorderly conduct of many persons who frequent, and haunt the doors of such places, the facility for drinking spirituous liquors, afforded by the bar-rooms in the same premises, the fascination thrown over the minds of young thoughtless persons, and the strong temptation that arises, to possess themselves in an illicit manner of the means to procure admittance.—If these circumstances be taken into the consideration and we are persuaded that no

Theatre exists without them to a certain degree, we leave it to all discreet persons to judge of the probable or positive effects of the Theatre upon the morals and welfare of the rising generation. And should those pernicious effects be much more limited than we apprehend them to be, and if the principles and morals of but one youth be destroyed, how or in what manner, shall reparation be made to the unhappy person himself, to his parents or friends he have any, or to the community? We leave it to the advocates of the Theatre to answer this question.

TO-MORROW, the new Wesleyan Chapel lately erected in Portland will be opened for Public Worship.—A Sermon will be delivered therein at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and also in the afternoon at 6 o'clock. After each of the Services a collection will be made to aid in defraying the expense of erecting the building.

Collect for Whist-Sunday.

God, who, as at this time, didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by the sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit; Grant us by the same spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort, through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end.—Amen.

MARRIED.

On Monday last, by the Rev. Dr. Burns, Capt. ALEXANDER ELDON, of the Brig St. George, of this port, to Miss MARGARET, youngest daughter of Mr. THOMAS RANKINE, all of Perth-shire, Scotland.

On the 28th ult. by the same, Mr. ALEXANDER LINDSAY, to Miss HELEN M. NEILSON, daughter of Mr. GEORGE NEILSON, formerly of this City, now of Boston. At Halifax on the 23d ult. by the Rev. Dr. Willis, Mr. THOMAS A. ANGUS, to Miss MARY ANN CAMPBELL, of the City of St. John, N. B.

DIED.

At Parsborough, (N. S.) on the 31st ult. Mrs. MARY RATCHFORD; wife of James Ratchford, Esq. of that place.

The loss of this excellent woman will be truly irreparable to her family, her friends, and the society in which she moved; to which she was an honor and a blessing. The ornaments of a meek and quiet spirit was hers in a singular degree. Mild in her manners, domestic in her habits, affectionate in her disposition, and most attentively hospitable, and liberal to the poor; she will be lamented with the unfeigned tears of all who know her.

The writer of this short tribute to departed worth, has known her from her earliest youth, and can with truth say, that she has fulfilled her several obligations in life with conscientious integrity, and exemplary effect.

"Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace."—Ps. xxxvii. 37.

AGENTS FOR THIS PAPER.

Fredericton, Mr. William Till. Sheffield, Dr. J. W. Barker. Chatham, (Miramichi,) Mr. Robert Morrow. Newcastle, (ditto,) Mr. Edward Baker. Bathurst, T. M. Deblois, Esq. Sussex Vale, Rev. Michael Pickles. Sackville, Rev. Mr. Busby. Moncton, William Wiley, Esq. Sheddy Mr. George Rogers. St. Andrews, Mr. G. Ruggles. St. Stephen's, Geo. S. Hill, Esq. Magaguadavic, Mr. Thomas Gard.

NOVA-SCOTIA.

Halifax, John McNeil, Esq. Cumberland, Thos. Roach, Esquire. Newport, Rev. R. H. Craue. Bridge Town, Mr. A. Henderson. Granville, Rev. A. Desbriais. Yarmouth, Mr. John Murray. Barrington, W. Sargent, Esq. Sydney, (Cape Breton) Joseph Noad, Esq. P. M.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Charlotte Town, Mr. John Bowes.

QUEBEC.

John Bignall, Esq. P. M.

TERMS.—The "New-Brunswick Religious and Literary Journal" is published Weekly, by ALEX. McLEOD, at "The City Gazette" Office, at 15 shillings per annum, exclusive of Postage: one half payable in advance, the other half in six months.—All arrears must be paid, before any subscription can be discontinued, except at the discretion of the Publisher.

Ministers of any denomination are authorised and respectfully requested to act as Agents. To any such, and to other authorised Agents, procuring and forwarding to the Publisher ten responsible Subscribers, one copy will be sent gratis.