

Look at the matter as you learn the words. It is vast, and infinite. It is highly important—God the fountain of all blessedness is the object; the salvation of immortal souls, through faith in Christ is the end, and the practice of these commandments is agreeable to the will of God.

What obligations: what gratitude is due to the Creator: what can be so easy for children: They are short, sententious, easily remembered, of such a style as befits the sovereign majesty of heaven. They are binding as the laws of the King Eternal, immortal and invisible, are they not a transcript of the light of nature, impressed on the fleshly tablets of man's heart at his creation. To keep alive the knowledge of the living God among the children of men, what think you of your Heavenly Father's care to write them with his own fingers on tables of stone,"—to command Moses to lay them up carefully in the ark of God for a testimony to Israel, that all his subjects might know what was written in the statute book of his spiritual kingdom?

Finally the effects of these on the intellectual and moral character of ancient and modern nations, have been great. Seneca the philosopher, admired the acumen and enterprize of the Jewish nation, from their knowledge of the Scriptures. These have established themselves in all parts of the world and have given their laws to the conquerors. The law of the wise is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death. Marcus Aurelius, the emperor, at 12 years of age loved the precepts of Christ that were taught him by his mother. But so dark and dull were the notions of heathens, that they placed the image of Christ among the other false deities of the Pantheon, and there worshipped him. But ye have not so learned Christ in the first and second commandments. Thou shalt have no other Gods before me—unto no graven image bow the knee; but the children of faithful Abraham so far forgot their duty to God as to fall down before the golden calf whose name was Apis, an Egyptian God, and for this sin they perished and fell in the wilderness. Be ye not guilty of their sin, but show your love to Jesus by keeping his words. In the language of one of the poets you have recited this evening:

"Then glory to him the great father above who sent with such blessings, the son of his love, like glory to him, who came down from the sky to save, and to suffer, to triumph, and die."

A recent traveller from Germany, said that knowledge is more universally diffused in Scotland than in England, and why? Because every child is taught in his Bible and catechism. In every humble hut covered with turf in the Highlands there is knowledge and civilization. Such is the testimony of D'Aubigné the celebrated divine. And so of God's ancient

people who had, in the days of their glory, 480 Synagogues in Jerusalem, the capital of Palestine. Not long ago there were only 326 churches in London, the mart of commerce, and capital of our great empire. But from morning till evening and from generation to generation, the Hebrews, remembered the Sabbath day—In the places of public instruction throughout the borders of their land, this day was sacred to devotion and the study of the Bible. And also in their families. Thus also Christ and his disciples spent their Sabbath. To the same duty every christian is impelled by the highest obligations; by the laws of God, by the voice of reason and conscience; by love for the rising generation, and the examples of apostolic ages. How do you spend your Sabbaths, said a Christian to an Infidel: Why, in amusements, or in keeping accounts. Well, replied the Christian that last is just the very thing God will do at the day of judgment;

Having thus laid before the young the testimony of God, and the experience of philosophers, and Christians in every age, I need not say much more to parents, who are more deeply interested than others in this matter, but I pray God that they may be enabled to set a christian example before their children even as they have engaged before God and his holy angels at their baptism. But how can the instructions of Sabbath Schools become effectual to salvation, unless the venerable practice of reading the Scriptures and catechizing is kept up in the family? The spirit of God may indeed make this matter, means effectual to salvation. But above all the blessing of Christ is upon parental diligence and prayerfulness in Christian families.

To those, who may have passed from the care of instructors, and who may have read the eloquent and fatherly address to the youth at Queen's College, we need say but little. At the very moment you think you are your own master, and can do for yourselves without parental care, or counsel, oh then is the hour of danger, the fatal rock of temptation on which thousands fall and are broken in pieces. Remember then your high vocation wherewith you are called, the privileges you enjoy, for your fathers had fewer advantages. Without libraries and without teachers, they toiled through many hardships. Two educations are needful, the one from instructors, the other from personal application. As an instance of the latter see the labors of D. Simpson in the science of Mathematics, who while an apprentice to a shoemaker, and as far from having pens, ink and paper, books and a money, as from a crown and a sceptre: yet drew problems on smoothly beaten pieces of leather; yet see him again in after life, the best mathematician of the age, and sitting side by side with the noblest in the land!

While I now commend you to God, and the word of his grace, commit yourself to Christ your Saviour who will guard you from harm and save you from sin. Let me close in the verses of a worthy citizen of Montreal, "H. E. M." to the Presbyterian for December, 1849. Oh may we too depend on Him our Saviour and our friend:

"Oh may we live that when we die
Our portion may be sure on high;
Then shall they watch us from above,
With kind approving deathless love,
And greet us on that heavenly shore,
When this our pilgrimage is o'er."

THE CONGREGATION OF VAUGHAN.

We learn from an attentive correspondent, that the adherents of our Church in this Township recently contributed £18 10s., as a manifestation of their appreciation of the exertions of the clergymen, who had from time to time broken to them the bread of life, during the past year. Our correspondent thinks, that though many other vacant congregations may be doing likewise, it is but a duty incumbent upon them, and not a subject for boasting. It is indeed gratifying to be enabled to report this pleasing instance of spontaneous exertion, and we sincerely trust that the congregation of Vaughan, as well as the other waste places in our Zion, may soon be supplied with the regular ministrations of devoted, earnest pastors.

SIMCOE CHURCH.

We learn from the Home and Foreign Record for December, that the ladies in Glasgow, who have frequently shewn the interest they take in the Colonial Churches in British North America, have recently remitted, through the Colonial Committee, and with their entire concurrence, the sum of thirty-three pounds, to aid in the erection of the Church at Simcoe, Canada West, built through the exertions of Capt. Wilson.

CHURCH IN COLONIES.

LAY ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA.

We have often observed with pleasure and acknowledged with gratitude the good offices and valuable assistance which this patriotic Association has rendered to the Church of Scotland in this Province. The zeal and activity of its office-bearers and members have gained for it much approbation, and have attracted the notice and drawn forth the hearty commendation of friends not only on this, but also on the other side of the Atlantic. It has formed for several years past, a strong and continued bond of connection between vacant congregations and the Colonial Committee of the Assembly, and has been instrumental in procuring the scanty but welcome assistance from the parent Church which has been lately obtained. Not satisfied with what they have already done, with the establishment of an excellent Academy, and with the encouragement shown to deputations and missionaries, we understand that the office bearers of the Asso-