

We are happy to announce that the Rev. W. F. S. Harper, late of Seymour, has, with the concurrence of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, entered upon the duties of Travelling Missionary in the Newcastle District, in conjunction with the office of occasional assistant in the various charges attached to the Rectory of Cobourg.

In complying with the request to publish the following Circular, we beg to recommend it to the particular attention of all our reverend brethren. It is only by this means that the wants of the Province, as regards its spiritual condition, can be correctly known; and only thus that a full and faithful Report of our religious necessities can be drawn up and promulgated in those quarters from which we look for their alleviation. Our fellow Churchmen in Great Britain and Ireland have done much and are doing much for us; and they will do more when the exact state of the case is placed before them. Besides, it is important that the Imperial Government should be informed of the full extent of our spiritual destitution; for facts will go far in aid of arguments to demonstrate the justice of our claims to that public provision which, if applied according to its original intention, would serve at once to relieve the dearth of the religious aspect of our land:—

TORONTO, 22d January, 1838.

REVEREND SIR:

The following resolution passed a General Meeting of the Committee on Missions (stationary or otherwise, of the Church of England throughout the Province) appointed at the Clergy Convocation, under the Archdeacons of the Province, in October, 1836.

"That the information requested by the Committee from the Clergy in general, in the late notice published in the Church, 'not having been afforded, it is expedient that the Secretary address a circular letter to the Clergymen occupying the several stations in the Archdeaconries, inviting them to communicate such particulars regarding the spiritual necessities of the districts in their immediate sphere, with the view to the preparation of the report to be laid by this Committee before the next General Meeting of the Clergy of the Province.'"

Commending it, on behalf of the Committee, to your particular consideration.

I remain, Reverend Sir,

Your faithful servant,

H. J. GRASETT,

Secretary.

#### UPPER CANADA COLLEGE.

On Monday the 26th February, after the distribution of the Prizes for 1837, the Rev. Dr. Harris was presented by the Boys with an elegant Silver Vase, accompanied by the following ADDRESS.

REVEREND SIR.—Influenced by a respect for established usage, and still more strongly impelled by warmer feelings, we, the Pupils of Upper Canada College, approach you with a farewell of feeling, expressive of our gratitude and regret.

Our gratitude is due to you for the consummate ability and anxious assiduity with which you have superintended our studies, and for that unswerving adherence to justice and impartiality which gave weight to your instructions, and inspired us with a full and steady confidence in the measures which you adopted. These latter qualities, so prominent in your character, ever added force to your censure, and heightened the value of your praise. They not only rendered us submissive to the salutary discipline of the College, but taught us, in our own persons, to aim at the practice of those virtues which we so much admired, when we saw them exemplified by you.

Such is the language, Reverend Sir, in which we have ventured to express our opinion of the manner, in which you have presided over this favoured seat of learning! Need we then say how deep is the regret inspired by your contemplated retirement from the direction of this Institution, and how sincerely we lament our approaching separation from our Christian guide, our firm, though unostentatious friend, and our learned and impartial preceptor? We can only add that our most strenuous efforts shall ever be exerted to prove, by our conduct through life, the inestimable benefit of those moral and scholastic lessons which we have imbibed from your lips. This simple memorial is a type of the feelings that pervade our bosoms, but our own honorable and upright career, whether in a lowly or exalted station, will be the best monument that we can raise to your Christian and intellectual worth.

Reverend and beloved Sir, farewell! Your memory will ever be enshrined in our hearts, and we shall never think of you without breathing an ardent wish for your health, happiness, and prosperity. We can hope for no greater earthly blessing to fall to your share, than that your own son may attain that growth in learning and virtue, to which you have always taught us to aspire.

REPLY OF DR. HARRIS.

My dear young friends,

It is highly gratifying to me to receive this proof of your affectionate regard, and of your appreciation of my labours in your behalf,—and I cordially thank you for it.

It is now upwards of eight years since I was first called on to take the charge of this institution, on its establishment by that distinguished representative of his Sovereign, to whom the youth of this, and I trust of many succeeding generations, will be under such lasting obligations for the most solid, and real of all earthly benefits.

If my endeavours have in any degree contributed to fulfil the important object for which this Seminary was founded, by sending forth a well educated youth, to discharge with honour to themselves, and advantage to society the duties of their respective stations in the Province, I shall be richly rewarded for any exertion it may have cost me.

During the period that has elapsed since the establishment of the college, many pupils have passed through the entire course, from the first rudiments of education to its completion; and some of you, who now occupy the highest position in the College, have in like manner raised yourselves through the successive gradations to your present honourable station. On those who have thus left us I look with allowable complacency, as specimens of our system of education; and those of you, who will

ere long follow them into the active scenes of life, I am persuaded will continue to uphold the character of your Alma Mater.

And sure I am that none of you will ever have cause to regret as mispent that time which you have here devoted to the cultivation of your talents; nor to condemn as useless any of those acquirements which refine the feelings, and at the same time discipline and inform the mind; and I cannot but recommend you still to prosecute your classical studies, when you have left this place, as well as to pursue those more popular topics of reading, which, as making you acquainted with the history of mankind and the works of nature, are indispensable to a complete education, but are insufficient of themselves to produce and foster either purity of taste, or the more delicate traits of character.

To those of you, my young friends, who have still some time to spend in the prosecution of your studies, let me recommend a steady imitation of the many, I am happy to say, good examples your present and former school-fellows have supplied, of industry, perseverance, and respectful submission to that authority, which, remember, is only exercised for your good. I am happy to bear witness to the general good sense, and good feeling, with which, as you intimate, the needful discipline of the College has always been submitted to: and be assured, my young friends, that however irksome present restraint may occasionally seem, it is conducive, it is necessary to your future happiness: for in proportion to the luxury with which youth is suffered to pass, is the difficulty of self-control in after life, and the probability of forming a character repulsive for its forwardness and presumption. A strict regard to the duties proper to your age, and a cautious endeavour not to overstep your true position, will preserve you from these defects, and whilst it conciliates for you general esteem, will most effectually promote the success of your studies.

One example of a pupil of this institution presents itself to my thoughts, which I may single out for your imitation, without any appearance of invidious comparison,—for he has gone whither envy does not follow. I need not name that former school-fellow of many of you, who after passing through the College with equal credit for his abilities, and exemplary deportment, was prematurely called from earthly scenes. But whilst his early departure warns you that youth is no security from death, and that you should all endeavour to be constantly prepared for that awful period; the points of his character which I would now particularly recommend to your imitation, are, his uniform diligence, his strict integrity, and the becoming modesty with which, as a school boy, he ever conducted himself; to which I must add that firm religious principle, the happy influence of which was so beautifully exemplified in the closing scenes of his life.

But it is time I should conclude. The relation in which we have stood, (some of us for many years) is ere long about to be dissolved; and it is a most pleasing reflection to me that we shall part with such mutual feelings of regard. Strong will be the interest which I shall hereafter feel in the welfare of those whom I shall remember as pupils of Upper Canada College; and great will be my pride to hear of the distinction, and honourable success of those, whom, within these walls, I have endeavoured to render worthy members of the community.

God grant, my young friends, that the course of all of you in this world, may be that of honor, virtue, and piety, leading to the consummation of eternal happiness in the world to come.

We subjoin a copy of the Inscription on the Vase.

J. H. HARRIS, S. T. P.

Coll. U. C. Præsidii dignissimo,

Præceptoris grave munus deposituro,

Quod, faustis auspiciis inchoatum,

Prudenti consilio absolutum,

Moribus ornavit, auctoritate stabilivit, doctrinâ amplificavit.

Hoc quaecunque grati animi pignus

Et desiderii sui monumentum

Juventus Canadensis,

D. D. D.

A. D. MDCCCXXXVIII.

#### ECCLESIASTICAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Lord Bishop of Montreal, accompanied by his Chaplain the Rev. Geo. Mackie, returned to town last night from the townships of Leeds and Ireland, in each of which Confirmations were held, and in the former of which the Church was consecrated—his Lordship having been met upon the spot by the resident Clergyman and others who came to assist in the ceremony.—*Quebec Mercury, Feb 22.*

#### BISHOP OF LONDON.

A large proportion of the beneficed London Clergy attended at St. James' Square, on Wednesday, November 16th, to present on Address from the Fellows of Sion College to the Bishop of London, on his restoration to health from his late severe illness. The address was received in the most gratifying manner. In replying to the passage which contained a respectful remonstrance of his Clergy to be more sparing for the future of his own exertions, his Lordship promising to heed the caution, but only so far as was consistent with his higher duties, beautifully introduced St. Paul's observations to the Elders of the Ephesian Church:—"Not counting my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus Christ, to testify the gospel of the grace of God."

LIBERALITY OF A BRITISH MERCHANT.—On Tuesday, the 25th July, the Leathersellers' Company proceeded from their hall, St. Helen's place, London, to Barnet, to witness the laying of the first stone of the new almshouses about to be built by them. A marquee was erected for the occasion, and an elegant silver trowel was provided for the Master of the Company, Mr. Richard Thornton, who performed the usual ceremony; after which a beautiful discourse was pronounced by the Rev. Mr. Hyde, of Camberwell; and the court, accompanied by Messrs. Ward, the builders and contractors, dined together at the Castle, Hampstead. On the Master's health being drunk, the silver trowel was presented to him, when he, in a very appropriate re-

ply, adverted to the honor he had had, in laying the first stone of their almshouses, concluded with the request "that he might be permitted to finish them," and generously gave £1,308, being the amount contracted for the building.—*Kidderminster Messenger.*

#### GLOUCESTERSHIRE—BAPTISM OF A CONVERTED JEW.

At St. Thomas' Church, Bristol, on Wednesday, October 25, Simon Paul, being now the Christian name of Solomon Matthias, about twenty-three years of age, was received into the Church of England, by a minister who has superintended his advancement in the Christian faith for upwards of three years.—*Bristol Journal.*

#### ORDINATION OF A BRAHMIN.

The Bishop of Calcutta, in writing to the Church Missionary Society, says "Here (at Kurnaul, in North India,) I had the singular pleasure of admitting to the holy order of deacons your celebrated catechist Anund Mesceeh; the first ordination that has taken place in the upper provinces of India, in any of our protestant Societies, and the first instance of a Brahmin ordained to the ministry of the Church, as Abdool Mesceeh was the first of a Mussulman. The following striking passage is also given in the Annual Report of the Society, from the pen of Bishop Wilson. "All is pregnant with hope. If we once get the machinery to work without material obstructions, nothing can surpass the promise which smiles around us in our Missionary fields. They are white to the harvest. But God will be honored. Christ must be glorified. The Holy Ghost must be seen and felt, and acknowledged to be the author of grace. Perhaps things are kept back in their present merely preparatory state, in order to humble man, and ministers, and missionaries, and bishops, and societies. And when the hearts of all are duly melted down into contrition and love, the grace so long waited for may be vouchsafed in inconceivable abundance."

#### THE CHRISTIAN STATESMAN.

The rule of policy as well as of private morals is to be found in the gospel; and a religious sense of duty towards God and man is the first thing needful in a statesman: herein he has an unerring guide when knowledge fails him; and experience affords no light. This, with a clear head and a single heart, will carry him through all difficulties; and the just confidence which, having these, he will then have in himself, will obtain for him the confidence of the nation. In every nation indeed, which is conscious of its strength, the minister who takes the highest tone will invariably be the most popular; let him uphold, even haughtily, the character of his country, and the heart and voice of the people will be with him. But haughtiness implies always something that is hollow: the tone of a wise minister will be firm, but calm. He will neither truckle to his enemies in the vain hope of conciliating them by a specious candour, which they at the same time flatter and despise; nor will he stand aloof from his friends, lest he should be accused of regarding them with partiality; and thus while he secures the attachment of the one, he will command the respect of the other. He will not, like the Lacedæmonians, think any measures honourable which accord with his inclinations, and just if they promote his views; but in all cases he will do that which is lawful and right, holding this for a certain truth, that in politics, the straight path is the sure one! Such a minister will hope for the best, and expect the best; by acting openly, steadily and bravely, he will act always for the best: and so acting, be the issue what it may, he will never dishonour himself, or his country, nor fall under the "sharp judgment," of which they that are in "high places" are in danger.—*Southey's Colloquies.*

#### INFLUENCE OF THE ENGLISH BIBLE ON THE NATIONAL CHARACTER.

It is impossible to reflect upon the incalculable influence which the free use of this noble version, by a great nation, in an affectionate and thankful spirit, for centuries, must have had upon the character of both people and literature; and further, upon what would have been the diminished value of the boon, even for those who might have enjoyed it, had it been delayed to a much later period; without acknowledging a Providence in the choice of the time when, and the instruments by whose means, this benefit was conferred. As yet, the language was in a gradual process of formation. Ductile, various and manly—confined within no acknowledged rules, and checked by no fear of criticism—it was in a state admirably fitted to become the faithful mirror of the national character, which the publication of that great work was calculated so deeply to affect. The English Bible long supplied the chief intellectual as well as spiritual food of Englishmen. The sublime thoughts and majestic style of the Hebrew prophets and historians sank deep into the popular mind; the language of Scripture became the basis of both poetry and prose; and with many, it was the familiar vehicle of common discourse.—*Rev. R. Cattermole.*

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The poem of N. R. H. in our next.

The poetical communications of R. T. although in sentiment and spirit highly creditable, exhibit so many imperfections in their metrical structure that we are compelled reluctantly to decline their publication.

We have been favoured by a highly esteemed correspondent with a sermon appropriate to the late Thanksgiving Day; but as so much upon the same subject has already appeared in our columns, he will pardon us for thinking that its publication at this time would not be expedient.

LETTERS received to Friday 9th March:—

Postmaster at Markham, [who would oblige us by mentioning to the Rev. Mr. Mayerhoffer what he has communicated to us]; J. Kent Esq.;—Rev. H. J. Grasett, with enclosure and packet; Rev. Dr. Phillips;—A. Davidson Esq. rem: [we much regret not having the book he requests, but shall endeavour to procure one for him]; R. Athill Esq.