

THE CANADIAN DAY-STAR.

"I am the light of the world."
"Preach the Gospel to every creature."—JESUS.

OCTOBER, 1862.

THE ATONEMENT—ITS EXTENT.

The question, For whom did Christ die, is one of great importance. It is important to the preacher; because, the success of his labours in leading souls to Jesus, must, to a great extent, depend on the answer which he gives to it. He may be earnest and powerful in shewing the sinner his sins, and yet in consequence of holding unscriptural views of the extent of the atonement, fail to present the saving truth to the sinner's mind. If he believe that Jesus died for a limited number he cannot tell any sinner that Jesus died for him; whereas, if he maintain that Jesus died for all, he can assure every sinner to whom he may speak the good word of God, that God desires to save *him*, and has, in the atonement of Christ, opened up a way for *his* salvation. Indeed, all other things being equal, he will succeed best even in awakening and convincing sinners of their sins, with scriptural views of the nature and extent of the work of Christ, for the gospel is fitted to awaken as well as to pacify, to convince as well as to convert.

It is an important question to the sinner, whether unawakened or awakened. If the unawakened sinner see the universality of the propitiation, he will see that his soul is precious in God's sight, and he will be more likely to be drawn towards Christianity than he would be if he regarded the work of Jesus as limited to a favoured few. And the awakened sinner if he be taught the limited extent of that blessed work will be greatly perplexed in his endeavours to find out whether Jesus died for him. This error may keep his soul long in fetters. But if he believe that Jesus died for all, it is as true, as that the general includes the particular, that Jesus died for him, and, by