



DEVOTED TO TEMPERANCE, SCIENCE, EDUCATION, AND AGRICULTURE.

VOLUME XV., No. 14.

MONTREAL & NEW YORK, JULY 15, 1880.

SEMI-MONTHLY, 30 CTS. per An., Post-Paid.

THE SOURCE OF TWO RIVERS.

Colonel Grey, of British Columbia, who spent some months, a few years ago, in exploring the Stikine River, which forms the southern boundary of the narrow strip of Alaska, that separates the most northern part of British Columbia from the Pacific coast, thus describes its source which is also that of the Mackenzie River. "The next morning we crossed the 'divide' in its small grove of stunted pines. The descent either way is so small as to be imperceptible. The bottom for a mile or so to the northward and westward is through a bed of boulders and rolling stones, with little or no herbage. The valley between the ranges of the mountains on the east and west at this point is probably between twelve and fourteen miles wide, showing all the traces of having been at one time the bed of a great lake. At present it is covered with a growth of soft wood, poplar and birch. A little to the southward of the stunted pine grove is a morass, apparently of several acres, extending upward toward the base of the mountains on the west. Little stream trickle out of the morass, descending toward the valley. The eye would detect no striking difference in the direction of their courses, but as they descend and increase in volume almost imperceptibly, one turns off to the north and left, runs with winding turns into little swamps, thence into Deore Lake and River, and so on to the Mackenzie and the Arctic, the other turns with similar windings toward the south, swells in its volume, becomes the Stikine and winds its way into the Pacific Ocean."

Very often have this and similar facts been used to illustrate the course of life. There are comparatively few men who have descended to the depths of degradation who could tell exactly when and where the first

downward step was taken; and it may have been that, for many days, they have departed slowly and gradually from the things that are good, led only by their own feelings and inclinations until, suddenly, they awoke to the fact that the frozen Arctic is close at hand. Equally gradual may be in other cases the development of a good and holy character, each day teaching its lessons, each trouble and difficulty overcome, making stronger and brighter the character. On the direction first given the thoughts of the young largely depends their future welfare. Thus the responsibility of elders whose actions the younger ones naturally copy is very great and the final results of the greatest importance.

posed to keep intoxicating drinks for the guests of the hotel only. But it made no difference, and he had to go away with his application without the merchant's signature. After a few days, he resumed trading with his friend as if nothing had happened; but it was only a short time before he gave up the hotel business entirely.

I will now mention an occurrence that is most instructive as well as saddening on this subject. In the western part of New York State there is a town that for years voted no license on the temperance question, and so there was no saloon or place where liquor was sold by the glass in the place. Just before the day on which the vote was to be

canvassed showed just one majority for license. His condemnation and shame were overpowering, but he kept the trade of his hotel customer. Before the next occasion to vote on the license question his only son had become a patron of the hotel bar-room, and in a year or two filled a drunkard's grave, while his father died of a broken heart because of the consciousness that his own act and sacrifice of principle had provided the means for his son's destruction.

Merchants who follow Christ seem to be indisposed to say a word against any sin that will displease their customers, and in this way, I think, cause a feeling of mistrust and disgust to arise in the minds of those who

watch for the manifestation of the influence of religion over its professors. If we should stand up for God under all circumstances, I believe our business success would be very much greater, while the influence of the church and religious teachings would be increased tenfold.

Be not conformed to the world. — N. Y. Witness.

'I CAN TRUST.'

"I am very weak," said an Irishman in the Adelaide Hospital.

"But what are your hopes?" was the reply.

"Brighter than ever," he whispered. "I am too weak to talk, and

I am too weak to pray, but I can trust every moment."

A few hours after he said to the night nurse, "I'm going home," and then he fell asleep, and he did not wake again on earth. When his eyes were opened it was to see the Lord Jesus as He is! — *Word and Work.*

HANNAH MORE says that there is one single fact that one may oppose to all the wit and argument of infidelity, that no man ever repented of Christianity on his death-bed.



THE SOURCE OF THE STIKINE.

SUMMIT WHERE THE WATERS DIVIDE—ON ONE SIDE TO THE ARCTIC, ON THE OTHER TO THE PACIFIC.

ONE VOTE FATAL.

I know a merchant who was selling a good many goods to the leading hotel in the town, and who was one day approached by the landlord (who was a personal friend) and asked to sign a petition for license to sell liquor, but told his friend that his obligations to the church and to society made it impossible to comply with his request. His friend the landlord was quite indignant, and thought because of buying his supplies of his neighbor that he should help him by signing his application, especially as he pro-

posed to keep intoxicating drinks for the guests of the hotel only. But it made no difference, and he had to go away with his application without the merchant's signature. After a few days, he resumed trading with his friend as if nothing had happened; but it was only a short time before he gave up the hotel business entirely.

I am too weak to pray, but I can trust every moment."

A few hours after he said to the night nurse, "I'm going home," and then he fell asleep, and he did not wake again on earth. When his eyes were opened it was to see the Lord Jesus as He is! — *Word and Work.*

HANNAH MORE says that there is one single fact that one may oppose to all the wit and argument of infidelity, that no man ever repented of Christianity on his death-bed.