

THE HISTORY OF AN AMERICAN POCKET PRAYER BOOK.

WRITTEN BY ITSELF. CHAPTER VII.

Church built.—Visit of another Missionary, the Rev. D. Phelps His character.—Church Consecrated.—Confirmation.

The Rev. Mr. Nash remained at my master's house several days, and all that time was diligently employed in making preparations for organizing a Church, and in ascertaining how much money could be obtained towards erecting a suitable house of worship.

While the new church was in progress, our little congregation were again cheered and encouraged by a visit from another devoted missionary, the Rev. Davenport Phelps; a man whose name cannot be pronounced but with the sincerest respect and affection.

In two or three years after his visit to our village this good man was called to receive the reward promised to those "who turn many to righteousness."

Some months before the Church was finished, the congregation were blessed by the faithful ministrations of a pious young clergyman, in deacon's orders, who divided the time equally between four parishes, fifteen or twenty miles apart.

The wished-for day at length arrived; and a bright and happy day it was. Multitudes flocked in from the neighbouring towns, to witness the ceremonies.—Our little Church was full to overflowing.

About twenty young persons, and eight or ten of advanced age, presented themselves for confirmation. Every person in the Church evinced an absorbing interest in this solemn ceremony.

I have witnessed many such scenes since, but those first impressions are never to be effaced. To see a church under every possible difficulty and discouragement, planted in the wilderness, taking root, and springing up and flourishing; to behold a neat and commodious edifice, with its spire pointing towards

heaven, consecrated on the spot where, a few years before, no trace of civilization could be found, and where mighty forest trees had for centuries spread their giant arms to the sky; to see the sacred ordinances administered, and to hear the glad tidings of salvation proclaimed in that church for the first time; these are scenes affecting beyond description to a pious mind.

My master appeared perfectly happy, having accomplished the object which had long been nearest and dearest to his heart; and when he retired to rest that night, I heard him repeat aloud—"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace."

CHAPTER VIII. Visit of the Rev. Mr. P.—His kindness to children.—The Prayer Book resumes its travels with him.—Joy at Mr. P.'s return.—Description of his residence.—He visits his parishioners.—Their affection for him.

A few weeks after the consecration of our little Church, I was separated from my beloved master, and I have never had the happiness of seeing him again. One Saturday evening a clergyman came to his house, and remained with him over Sunday. This gentleman had been settled several years in the southern part of Ohio, and was now on his return to his family and parish.

Children are good physiognomists; they can discern at a glance, where their little attentions are likely to be well received, and their young hearts are easily won by an approving look or a kindly smile.

On Sunday morning, our new guest, who was to officiate during the day, asked for a Prayer Book, that he might examine the lessons; saying, that he had unfortunately left his at the house where he had last lodged.

My new master, the Rev. Mr. P., proceeded on his journey westward, on Monday morning, taking me with him. He occasionally stopped a part of a day and preached, wherever he found a vacant congregation, or a few scattered Church-people, disposed to hear him.

The news of his return soon spread through the village, and many of his parishioners hastened to welcome back their beloved pastor, and to inquire after his welfare.

My master's house was delightfully situated, a little out from the village, on the banks of a small river, which flowed into the Ohio, not far from its mouth.

The distant scenery was strikingly interesting. The mighty Ohio could be seen as it rolled along to meet the mightier Mississippi, and to mingle its waters with the ocean.

The day after Mr. P.'s return, he visited many of his people; calling first on the sick, the afflicted, and the infirm, and administering consolation as their

respective cases required. It was a gratifying sight to witness the affection and respect with which he was every where received. The dull and heavy eye was pallid countenance of disease brightened up at his approach; for at the bedside of the sick and dying he always appeared as a comforter and guide of souls.

In the true spirit of his Divine Master, it was his delight to discourse of the priceless riches of redeeming love, and to direct the thoughts from vain and perishable pleasures of earth, to that "inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away."

CHAPTER IX. Character of Mr. P.—Importance of parochial visitation. Sunday-school instruction.—Qualifications of Teachers.—Public Catechising.

Few clergymen possessed a happier faculty of making their conversation agreeable and instructive, to all ages and ranks of people, than Mr. P.—He knew how to be cheerful without levity, grave without austerity, dignified without haughtiness, and humble without servility.

He felt the responsibility of his ministerial office, and laboured faithfully, in season and out of season, "to bring all such as were committed to his charge, unto that agreement in the faith and knowledge of God, and to that ripeness and perfection of age in Christ, that there be no place left among them either for error in religion, or for viciousness of life."

The importance of parochial visits cannot be too strongly urged upon the ministers of our communion. No church can prosper, unless the pastor is acquainted with his whole flock; and to know them well, he must visit them frequently at their homes.

Next to public preaching, and visiting his parishioners, my master thought it the most important of a clergyman's duties to attend to the catechetical instruction of the young; he had, therefore, as an aid to the fulfilment of this duty, established a Sunday-school, which was entirely under his control, and over which he maintained a watchful care.

What shall be said of the declining years of a sinful priest? What can hope suggest? What consolation can he minister to the stings of his conscience? Can he say that he was ignorant, and so fell into the snare of sin, and of Satan? But it was his business to teach the law of God, and shall he plead that he knew it not?

Mr. P.—was very solicitous that the teachers in his school should possess the requisite qualifications for their high vocation;—above all, that they should be truly pious. He well knew that there were many in his parish, of a proper age, and character, and talents, for filling the useful and responsible, yet humble office of Sunday-school teachers; and on these he earnestly pressed the importance of coming forward to the discharge of this their bounden duty, not of constraint, but willingly.

The distant scenery was strikingly interesting. The mighty Ohio could be seen as it rolled along to meet the mightier Mississippi, and to mingle its waters with the ocean. Far off in the distance rose the high hills of Kentucky, and to the east of these, but much more distant, you could discern some of the loftiest peaks of the Alleghanies, resting like clouds on the verge of the horizon.

and graces, renders him more and more meet for the enjoyment of that blessed promise to be fulfilled in him:—They that be TEACHERS, shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars for ever and ever.

Important however, as Sunday-schools are, as auxiliaries to the clergyman in feeding the lambs of his flock, my master thought they ought never to supersede the good old fashion of catechising the children, "openly in the church," as the rubric directs. On the afternoon of the first Sunday in each month, therefore, which was communion Sunday, he assembled all the children, Sunday scholars and others, in the body of the church, and instructed them in the catechism.

The Garner.

THE TRINITY. If there were no Trinity, there could be no atonement—for first there must be some infinitely great Being to whom the atonement should be made, which is God the Father; secondly, there must be some infinite Being who should make the atonement,—which is God the Son; and, thirdly, there must be some infinite Being to make known to mankind the glad tidings for atonement effected, and consequent salvation—and this province belongs to God the Holy Spirit.—Rev. W. Howells.

THE NUMBER "THREE." The space and duration of time (from the sixth hour there was darkness all over the land, till the ninth hour) is also to be noticed: it may have been the period of our Lord's extreme agony. St. Jerome expresses himself to this effect, "that the most bright luminary of the world withdrew his rays, that he might not behold Him who was hanging on the cross, and the wicked blasphemers should not enjoy his light."

THE LEADING PRINCIPLES OF THE PRIESTHOOD. The leading principles of the priesthood are so far from being confined to the Mosaic dispensation, that they are part of the lasting heritage of the redeemed. The first of these principles may be termed consecration, by which, as Christ offered himself to God, so all his people must offer themselves, being in the language of St. Paul, "crucified to the world, and the world to them."

THE SINFUL PRIEST. What can hope suggest? What consolation can he minister to the stings of his conscience? Can he say that he was ignorant, and so fell into the snare of sin, and of Satan? But it was his business to teach the law of God, and shall he plead that he knew it not?

Advertisements. Mr. HOPNER MEYER, Miniature Painter and Draughtsman, LATE STUDENT OF THE British Museum and National Gallery, LONDON.

THE PHENIX FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF LONDON. APPLICATIONS for Insurance by this Company are requested to be made to the undersigned, who is also authorized to receive premiums for the renewal of policies. ALEX. MURRAY, Toronto, July 1, 1841.

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MR. S. WOOD, ATTORNEY, 179, KING STREET, TORONTO. March 3, 1842.

MR. S. WOOD, SURGEON DENTIST, CHEWETT'S BUILDINGS, KING STREET. Toronto, February 5, 1842.

A. V. BROWN, M.D., SURGEON DENTIST, KING STREET. ONE DOOR EAST COMMERCIAL BANK. Toronto, December 31, 1841.

WANTED. A STUDENT in the profession of Dental Surgery, by the name of A. V. BROWN, M.D., Surgeon Dentist. Toronto, December 31, 1841.

DOCTOR SCOTT, LATE House Surgeon to the London City and County Infirmary, and Physician to the Fever Hospital, 144, KING STREET, Three doors west of Yonge street. Toronto, February 25, 1842.

DR. PRIOR, (Late of Newmarket), OPPOSITE LADY CAMPBELL'S, DUKES STREET. Toronto, 7th August, 1841.

OWEN, MILLER & MILLS, Coach Builders, King Street, Toronto, and Store Street, Kingston. All Carriages built to order warranted twelve months. Old Carriages taken in exchange. N.B.—Sleighs of every description built to order.

TORONTO AXE FACTORY, HOSPITAL STREET. THE Subscriber tenders his grateful acknowledgments to his friends and the public for past favours, and would respectfully inform them that in addition to his former Works, he has purchased the Establishment, formerly owned by the late HENRY STEWARD, and recently by CHAMBERS, BROTHERS & Co., where he is now manufacturing CAST STEEL AXES of a superior quality. Orders sent to the Factory, or to his Store, 122 King Street, will be promptly received and promptly executed.

THOMAS J. PRESTON, WOOLLEN DRAPER AND TAILOR, No. 2, WELLINGTON BUILDINGS, KING STREET, TORONTO.

T. J. P. respectfully informs his friends and the public, that he keeps constantly on hand a well selected stock of the best West of England Broad Cloths, Cassimeres, Doakins, &c. &c. Also a selection of Superior Textures, all of which he is prepared to make up to order in the most fashionable manner and on moderate terms.

REMOVAL. JOSEPH WILSON, UPHOLSTERER AND CABINET MAKER. SINCERELY thankful for the liberal patronage he has received, he desires to acquaint his friends and the public that he has removed into his NEW BRICK BUILDING, corner of Yonge and Temperance Streets, (directly opposite his old residence), where he has fitted up superior accommodation for the carrying on of the above business, and hopes, by strict attention to the manufacturing of his goods, punctuality in executing orders entrusted to him, and reasonable charges, to still merit the kind support he has heretofore received, and that a continuance of his favours will be thankfully acknowledged by him.

BRITISH SADDLERY WAREHOUSE, WELLINGTON BUILDINGS, TORONTO, AND STORE STREET, KINGSTON. ALEXANDER DIXON respectfully informs the Militia and Army of Canada, that he is always supplied with a superior assortment of Saddlery, Harness, Whips, &c. &c. imported direct from the best Houses in Great Britain, which constitutes his FIRST-RATE ENGLISH ESTABLISHMENT.

SANFORD & LYNES, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCERS, CORNER KING AND YONGE STREETS. BROG to announce to the Public that they have LEASED those premises lately occupied by Messrs. ROSS & Co., and have laid in a general assortment of articles in the Line, which they offer for sale at approved rates.

EXTENSIVE STOCK OF DRY GOODS, SEILING OFF. THE Subscriber being about to discontinue the Retail Branch of his business, will commence this day, 1st March, to sell off their entire stock, comprising a large and varied assortment of STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS, at very reduced prices, for cash only. This will afford an opportunity never yet met with to families wishing to supply themselves with articles of the best description in the above line at an immense saving; and the Trade generally will find that here they can purchase the same Goods for the country at lower rates than they can be imported. The whole will be found well worthy the attention of the public.

NEW STRAW BONNETS. JUST opened by the Subscribers, four cases STRAW BONNETS, of the latest importations and most modern and approved shapes, comprising as complete an assortment as low prices can be met with in the market, which will be found well worth the attention of town and country trade.

BRITISH AMERICA FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Incorporated under an Act of the Third Session of the Eleventh Parliament of Upper Canada. OFFICE, DUKES STREET, CITY OF TORONTO. ASSURANCE against Loss or Damage by Fire is granted by this Company at the usual rates of premium.

A few Shares of the Stock of this Institution may still be had on application at the Office. Toronto, March 11, 1842.

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