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# NEW-BRUNSWICK RELIGIOUS AND LITERARY JOURNAE.

"Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth peace, good will toward men."

VOLUME I.

SAINT JOHN, SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1829.

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### PROCEEDIUS

## A WEEKLY PAPER,

TO BE ENTITULED THE NEW-BRUNSWICK RELIGIOUS AND LITERARY JOURNAL;

#### ALEXANDER M'LEOD, EDITOR.

IN an age which with peculiar propriety is denominated, "THE AGE OF IMPROVEMENT," and in a Colony of the British Empire, which is now fast rising in importance, and in which the means of knowledge are increasing and taking a which the means of knowledge and increasing and taking a wider range,—it has been suggested,—that as true Religion, sound principle, and good morals, are the foundation of every thing that is truly great and excellent in man; that whatever has a tendency in any measure to promote these, is, in a proportional degree entitled to favourable consideration, and to countenance and support from the Public. Periodicals, having religious instruction for their basis, have in other places been found to be a most efficient auxiliary to the labours of Gespel Ministers, and have greatly contributed to the diffusion and Ministers, and have greatly contributed to the diffusion and aprend of the sacred and saving influence of Religion, and of "whatsoever thing are true, just, levely, and of good report."

In compliance with the earnest and repeated requests of perand compitation with too carnest and repeated reducts of persons deaply interested in this subject, and with an humble hope that it may in some small measure, at least, contribute towards so desirable an object, the present work, though with much diffidence, is intended to be undertaken.

The New-Brunswick Religious and Literary Journal, as its The New-Brunswick Religious and Literary Journal, as its title imports, will be occupied chiefly with matter of a religious nature and character, and as opportunity offers, with articles on literature and science, morals, domestic economy, and general information. In the religious department will be given, choice selections of Memoirs and Biographical accounts of persons of different religious denominations, who have been eminent for their piery, and their literary attainments and usefulness; well authenticated accounts of the spread of vital religion; extracts from Missionary and Bible Society, and Sunday School and Tract Society publications and reports, &c. &c. In making these selections and extracts, while a proper respect. School and Tract Society publications and reports, &c. &c-In making these selections and extracts, while a proper respect will be carefully cherushed towards the publications and estab-lished institutions of Great Britain and her dependencies, yet, having the vast world before him, the Editor will have no hesitation in extracting from the publications of other countries, whatever be may suppose to be applicable to the circumstances of this and the neighbouring Provinces, and that may in any measure conduce to the prosperity of Religion, to the improvement of Public Institutions, and to the amelioration and im-

That this publication will have a favorable aspect towards the doctrines which are taught, and the discipline which is exercised, among that body of christians, with which for many years the Editor has been, and is now connected, may reasonably be anticipated; but, that it shall breathe a liberal, catholic, and friendly spirit, towards other denominations of christians, may with equal confidence, be expected.

As there is not at present, either in this or in the neigh bouring Province, in a course of publication, any work of a similar character, it is presumed that the Editor will not be similar character, it is presumed that the Editor will not be thought to trespass upon, or even to interfere with, any other man's field of labour. And as in a religious point of view, the circumstances and the wants of both Provinces are nearly, if not quite similar to each other, whatever may be found substantially useful to the one, cannot be altogether inapplicable to the other. If this idea be correct, it may not be considered as presuming too much, if a favourable concurrence from the friends of religion in Nova Scotia, be anticipated.

As usefulness on the most extensive scale, in the departments As usefulners on the most extensive scale, in the departments already mentioned, is the principal object designed in this publication; articles from any quarter, baying this object in view, well written, and conceived in a liberal spirit, will be carefully attended to. But, as the Editor will solely be accountable to the public, for the matter which it shall contain, he must always be understood to have reserved to himself, the right of exercising his own discretion upon the articles which may be

TERMS.-The New-Brunswick Religious and Literary Journal, will be published Weekly, at The City Gazetto Office in Quarto form, on a Royal sheet, at 16s. per annuto, exclusive of Postage. One half payable in advance, the other half in six months.-All arrearages must be paid before any subscription can be discontinued, except at the discretion of the Publisher

Ministers of any denomination are authorised and respectfully requested to act as Agents. To any such, and to other authorised agents, procuring and forwarding to the Publisher ten responsible Subscribers, one copy will be sent gratis.

All communications involving facts, must be accompanied with the proper names of the writer.

#### BIOGRAPHY.

MEMOIR AND CHARACTER OF AMELIA GALE, Who died lately at Swineshead, in Linconshire, agea seventy-tico years.

THE following Memoir was drawn up by the Clergyman under whose Ministry this aged Christian was prepared for her heavenly rest. It furnishes a remarkable instance of the power of Divine Grace in the entire change of inveterate habits, and the formation of a most exemplary and honoured character in the lower walks of life.

#### Conversion in advanced life.

AMELIA GALE was born about the year 1755, and was about 72 years old when she died. The early part of her history is not much known: she had been married, but had been a widow many years; and, at the time of her death, did not know that she had a single relation, near or remote, in the whole world. She used formerly to gain her living by attending fairs and wakes with a gaming-hoard, by means of which she would sometimes win two or three pounds in a day; notwithstanding which she was, at that time, generally poor, and nover happy.

In this state of ignorance, misery, and sin did she live, till within the last sixteen years—carcless about God and eternity, and scarcely knowing that she had a soul: she had not one single idea on the subject of religion, and seldem or never entered a Place of Worship. But, about the time alluded to. she was induced to attend her Parish Church; when, hearing the Minister speak of that place "where hope never, never comes," it pleased God to direct the words to her heart like an arrow, and she went away thoughtful and serious, and for the first time concerned about her eternal welfare. Being deeply convinced of her sinfulness and guilt, she sought for peace of mind, where only it is to be found, at the foot of the Saviour's cross: the burden of her guilt was thus removed: a sense of pardoning love was experienced in her soul; and, from that time, she went on her way rejoicing, proving that the ways of true religion are ways of pleasantness and peace.

From this time a complete change took place in

the habits and pursuits of her life; thus affording the most catisfactory proof that the change in her views and feelings was genuine and scriptural. The evidences of piety which she gave did not consist in donces of picty which she gave did not consist in words merely, or strong feelings: she did not indulge vain ostentation, or loud talking on religious subjects: no one was less obtrusive. She knew when to be silent, and when to speak on these things; and, though she could as clearly as any one, when required, give a reason of the hope that was in her, yet hers was rather the elequence of an humble, hely, devented life and that was the searches. ted life, and that was language which every body could read and understand.

And here it may be observed, by the way, how remarkably Religion improves the faculties of the mind, and strengthens the understanding, as well as benefits the heart. Seldom was this more strikingly illustrated than in the instance of this poor unlettered woman. Before she was a partaker of true religion, she had scarcely two ideas on any subject; but, after Divine Grace had changed her heart and her thinking faculties began to be en ployed, it is astonishing how her understanding became enlarged. The powers of her mind were developed and expanded in a peculiar manner: so that she could give an opinion on most subjects with the greatest prudence and on most sanjects with the greatest producted and judgment, and could converse in a rational manner on some points where persons of education could say little or nothing; and it was no uncommon thing for her superiors to go and ask her opinion in difficult matters, that they might have the benefit of her better judgment.

Ardent Zeal to extend the Kingdom of Christ.

Having had much forgiven, she loved much; and

first embarked in this good work; when a Missionary Association was established, about ten years ago, m the parish in which she resided, and she heard of the zeal of others in this good cause, and of the sacrifices which they had made in order to contribute their mite toward the support of similar Institutions, she began to ask herselt. What can I do to promote this blessed work? Tea is my only heverage, and often my only meal: it is not whitened with mik to be support with the support of the sacret which is it is not whitened with mik to be only mean; it is not wintened with mink to be sure; but it is sweetcaed with sugar: I will try to do without sugar." Accordingly she deprived herself of this little luxury, and was the by enabled to give a penny a-week to the Bible and Missionary Fund. From that time her "y c'reumstances in the sure of th improved : the more she gave, the more she prospered in temporals, and thus found the truth of the Scriptural paradox, There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth. In due time she was enabled to double her subscriptions; and gave regularly 8d. a month, to the day of her death. But this was not all: a hen, that was given her by a neighbour, for her own benefit, was immediately dedicated to the cause so near her heart: and this hen was the means of producing,

for several years, nearly 20s. a year toward that fund. But, not content with giving to this cause herself, she used every possible means to stir up the zeal and liberality of others in her basket, by means of which She gained her subsistence, she always carried a Missionary Box; and those who did not purchase her needles and cotton balls were invited to drop their mite into the sacred box : by these and other means, she seldom brought less than £6 a year towards the funds of the Institutions alluded to: this was procured, not only by great personal labour, but generally by a denial of many personal comforts. More frequently than otherwise, would she give the last 8d that she had in the world, and nothing would pen her more than an intimation that she gave more than she could afford. Indeed she felt it an honour to be permitted to do any thing whatever toward promo-ting the cause of God; and, so far was she from boasting or indulging a self-complacent feeling for having done so much, that she was often grieved and humbled that she did no more. God was pleased to honour her Missionary Labours in a remarkable manner: many persons, in different and very distant parts of the kingdom, were stirred up by hearing of her solf-denying zeal to exert themselves more in the cause of benevolence than they had done before, and, even in Western Africa, a Missionary Society was formed in consequence of an account of her exertions being read to a body of Christians in Sier.a Leone: the Committee of the Boston Auxiliary Bible Society presented her with a large and hundsome Bible, as a proof of their respect for the zear which she manifested in promoting the welfare of that Institution: so truly did she find that Scriptural promise literally fulfilled, Them that honour me, I will honour. So far from being impoverished by her remarkable liberality, she actually died rich, in one sense of the word: for she was not only enabled to pay all her debts and leave enough to defray her iuneral expenses; but, when her goods were sold. there was a surplus of several pounds, which she particularly requested was to go to the cause in which, when living, she took so warm and lively an interest.

#### Simple Dependence on God, and Faith in His Promises.

She felt assured, that, when God promised that if we seek first the kingdom of God and His rightcoun-ness, all other things should be added to us, He meant what He said; and she took Him at His word: she used to say, that, socret than God would suffer her to want, He would and ravens to feed her; and that He, who took care of the sparrows, would not forget her. As a pr hat her confidence was well founded, her wants were frequently supplied by persons at a distance; some of whom she had never the constant language of her heart was—What shall persons at a distance; some of whom she had nover I render to the Lord for all that he hath done unto me? seen, and who lived spward of 100 miles north. Her zeal in the cause of the Bible and the Church south, and west of the place where she resided. Missionary Societies was unquenchable. There was Her landlord never once applied for her rent when something remarkable in the manner in which she it was not ready; and often it was sont her by per-