

David might have heard of the preparations for a sacrifice of more than ordinary solemnity, or perhaps he might be at some distant post with his charge; but at all events he was not deemed of sufficient consequence to be recalled from his occupation to take his place among his brethren, until a special and urgent message was sent by Samuel, refusing to sit down to the feast, until he appeared. Summoned hastily from the field, he entered the presence of the Prophet, his beautiful countenance animated by the ruddy glow of health. The secret pleasure which filled the Prophet as he gazed upon him, was rendered more intense by the inward assurance of the Lord, that now His mission was fulfilled; that the chosen one, the man after God's own heart, stood before him. To the astonishment equally of the youthful David and his family, Samuel anointed him in the midst of his brethren. It is not probable that the whole of God's purpose with regard to him was made known to David, but this much he knew, he was to accomplish some great and glorious destiny. He returns to wait the further development of God's plans in the simple pursuit of his usual occupation. But again his reveries are disturbed, his solitude invaded by a second summons; this time it is a messenger from Saul, the king. The fame of David, as the sweet singer of Israel, had reached the ears of Saul; he seeks to assuage the restlessness of a remorseless conscience by the soothing melodies of David's harp, and our shepherd boy becomes the favorite companion of royalty. But the simplicity of David seems to have withstood the temptation of a court, and in his release from attendance upon Saul, he returned to feed his father's sheep, at Bethlehem. When he again quits his favorite haunts, it is to seek not the court but the camp. Sent to bring tidings of his brethren, he is astonished at the apathy and ungodliness which pervade the Israelitish camp. He burns to take away the reproach from Israel, and by the eye of faith sees in the uncircumcised Philistines, who defied the armies of the living God, a foe not more formidable than the lion and the bear which he slew. His request, strange and foul-hardy as it appeared, is granted; and arrayed not in the costly armour and brilliant array of Saul, but in his simple shepherd's dress, his staff and

slung his only armour, he goes forth; the smooth stone from the brook is cast from the sling, and not at a venture; its aim is true; the giant is overthrown; and David's faith remains triumphant.

(To be continued.)

Friendly Hints to Teachers, Parents, and Children.

The vast importance of training up the rising race in the way they should go, is my apology for giving the following advice.

Having for more than thirty years attempted to teach, I trust, that I may, without giving offence make a few remarks upon a subject of great importance.

The prosperity of the Church and State depends upon the proper training of the rising race.

Divine wisdom must be sought daily by every teacher and parent; therefore, every school and private family, should be opened and closed with a short prayer. The Lord's prayer, being a part of the holy volume, might be repeated without giving offence. This, with other portions of the Bible, ought to be repeated in every school and family. To recite a few verses of the Holy Scriptures, in every school and private family, daily would tend greatly to improve the mind and strengthen the memory.

The children, in the Bethel school, in Queen Street, have long been accustomed to this useful exercise; and I do most respectfully recommend it in all schools and families.

On my late journey to the west, I have addressed upwards of a hundred schools, in all which I have earnestly recommended the above plan, with the Saviour's rule recorded in Mat. vii. 12; also, Paul's advice to one who was about to destroy himself, viz., "Do thyself no harm." These short rules, if obeyed by all the population would save thousands of lives and millions of pounds annually.

That all ministers of religion, parents, and teachers, may exert themselves to promote temperance and pure religion is the respectful request of their humble servant,

THADDEUS OSGOOD.

Montreal, August 27, 1851.