

would never have proceeded so far in evil,—but Willy can you learn no lesson here ?

“ I think, mamma; we may learn not to steal any thing little, for fear we shall grow up thieves.”

“ Precisely so, my son. Beware of the beginnings of evil. This I wish distinctly to impress upon your minds. It is dangerous to trifle with sin. Can you tell me any text, Sarah, to illustrate this ?”

“ Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.”

“ Be very careful then, continued, Mrs. Pantton, how you allow yourself to do wrong in one single instance. It is opening the gate to sin, and she walks in and takes possession.

“ Ellen, did you ever omit to read your Bible for one day ?”

“ Yes, aunt, replied a thoughtful looking child, and then the next day I forgot it, and once I did not begin again for a whole week.”

“ I do not doubt it, my dear; and so too with the particular sin of which poor Charles was guilty. Guard not only against the actual taking of that which does not belong to you, but cultivate also a strict regard of justice in every thing. If you borrow anything of your brothers, sisters, companions, be very sure that you return it in precisely the same order as that in which you received it, and in your opinions and practices ask yourself often the question. Am I just ? But I see tea is on the table, and we will dismiss the subject for the present.”

Montreal, May 29, 1843.

The Harbinger.

MONTREAL, JUNE 15, 1843.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF EASTERN CANADA.—The Annual Meeting will be held, in this city, on the 5th, 6th and 7th days of July next. The following is the order of the Public services :

Wednesday evening 5th, Sermon by the Rev. J. Anderson, of Melbourne.

Thursday evening 6th, Missionary Meeting.

Friday evening 7th, Meeting in connexion with the Congregational Institute.

A Communion of Ministers and Churches will be held in the Congregational Church, St. Maurice Street, on the afternoon of Sabbath, the 9th.

AMERICAN RELIGIOUS ANNIVERSARIES.—During the month of May—when our edi-

torial duties were cheerfully undertaken and ably performed by a beloved brother—it was our high privilege to attend those festivals of Christian charity ; and happy should we be, if we could convey to our readers the impressions which they have left upon our mind. The meetings were throughout characterized by all the qualities most congenial with the high and holy objects of Christian charity. The highest expectations which had at any time been cherished, in reference to those annual assemblages, were more than realized, and we feel as though an apology were due for the inadequate estimate we had previously formed of their excellence and efficiency. Without any invidious comparison, we can with all sincerity affirm that, for mental power, moral dignity of spirit and of purpose, catholicity of sentiment, elevated, enlightened and expansive charity, and all the most desirable characteristics of sacred oratory—simplicity, fervour, gravity, energy,—the speeches on these interesting occasions, were, in general, all that could be wished. At the meetings of New York, the number of speakers was, for the most part, comparatively small, two or at most three individuals occupying all the time not otherwise taken up with the report, devotional exercises, and music of the choir. In these instances, however, the addresses were obviously the result of profound thought, diligent research, close and careful observation, and studious adaptation of matter and of manner to the audience and the object. There was little in them to raise the feelings to a state of transient excitement, but much, very much, to inform and impress, and to commend the varied enterprizes of Christian benevolence to the judgment and the heart. The meetings at Boston differed in some respects from those of the neighboring metropolis. The addresses were, for the most part, obviously unstudied—but no amount of previous study could have rendered the speakers, in general, more completely masters of their several themes. They were “thoroughly furnished” for the task assigned them. They rose gracefully to the “height of their great argument,” and rarely indeed did they seem to falter or to flag in their earnest and eloquent enforcement of the claims of charity and truth. It is impossible, in this brief retrospect, to specify the diversified objects which were successively brought before those vast assemblages of Christian