

by their conduct sought pardon by humble supplications both of God and their neighbours. Their repentance being fully proved, they were received again into the bosom of the church, and became entitled to those outward privileges which had been suspended during their obstinate continuance in sin.

We ought, as individual members of our church, so far to comply with her requirements as to avail ourselves of this solemn season, for a particular examination of our own hearts with a view to our deeper penitence. And may God give us grace to beware of imagining that repentance is a temporary affliction of the mind, peculiar to certain seasons.—It should be the employment of life, every hour, every moment that we live, have we need not only to supplicate heaven for our daily bread, but earnestly to solicit the forgiveness of our trespasses.—While the language of the lip must be accompanied with corresponding feelings of the soul, or it will not be acknowledged for true repentance, by Him who knoweth the secrets of the heart. We must lament our sins “worthily,” that is, with sorrow adequate, if possible, to the enormity of our offences. With “worthily lamenting our sins,” the church has very appropriately connected ‘acknowledging our wretchedness;’ and surely none can venture to assert that this language is too humiliating—rather ought we to thank the Almighty for a form of sound words, which as often as we would go back to the suggestions of unassisted reason, recalls us forcibly to the essentials of the Gospel in the knowledge and practice of which our forefathers lived and died, and the benefits of which, we hope, they are emerging in the kingdom of heaven.

Thus we have briefly considered the nature of that repentance which needeth not to be repented of. But we must not forget that with pardon for the past, our church instructs us to implore that God would create and make in us new and contrite hearts for the time to come. This view of repentance as connected with a renewal of heart is very important. For what is it that makes repentance necessary, but that the heart of man is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked, and needs to be cleansed from all its impurities.

To inculcate repentance, therefore, without renovation of heart, would present a very inadequate as well as unscriptural view of the subject.

And now to sum up the whole matter, I would conclude these remarks, by observing that the highest blessing which man can enjoy upon earth is that for which the Collect under consideration teaches us to pray—“perfect remission and forgiveness.”

Oh! who is not astonished when he considers his transgressions, and the love of God, which offers to us pardon, and reconciliation—who can forbear acknowledging Him as the Collect expresses it, to be indeed a “God of all mercy.”

Let us then learn to look up to Him with gratitude and love, as our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, assured that if we pray as our Collect directs us to do, He who hateth nothing that he hath made, and doth forgive the sins of all who are penitent, will love and forgive us; will favourably receive our petitions, and grant to us perfect remission and forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For the Colonial Churchman.

Messrs. Editors,

I have heard with the deepest satisfaction of what has been done by those most excellent institutions the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, for the encouragement of Candidates for Holy-Orders, in these provinces. The church in these colonies is indeed greatly indebted to the exertions, of our venerable Diocesan, for this as for many other services, as no doubt his Lordship's representation and reports are the chief causes why the benevolent of Great-Britain are so attentive to our wants. I hope that the wealthy and well-disposed portion of the members of the church will not fail to second the endeavours of these good societies, by their mutual and zealous efforts in supporting the Diocesan Church Society, and that all those who know how to appreciate the blessings of the Gospel, and the ordinances of their church, will give themselves no rest until all the settlements in the British colonies, and indeed all the inhabitants of this world, are furnished with the means of grace and salvation. Allow me to say, Messrs. Editors, that I do not know any portion of the world more in want of religious instruction, than many parts of Nova-Scotia. There are, especially along the sea shore where no road has yet been made, I suppose more than fifty settlements where Divine Service ought to be performed every Lord's day, and where the poor people do not enjoy that privilege more than three or four times a year, and most of them perhaps never. I would beg leave to mention a few of these places, having had occasion to travel through many of them.

Take for example the shore from Halifax to Lunenburg. It might be supposed that because two or three clergymen are residing within this district, all the religious wants of the people are supplied; but this would be a great mistake. Along the coast from Halifax to the entrance of St. Margaret's Bay are a great many inhabitants, and mostly all Romans or dissenters; but there are many members of our church among them who have long sighed in vain for at least one visit now and then from one of their own ministers, and whose children will of course imbibed the errors of their neighbours, and thus be lost to the church. But in St. Margaret's Bay you will find more than a hundred and fifty families, all strongly attached to our beloved Zion, and scattered among rocks and woods, on a shore of forty miles. One clergyman has been residing there a few years, but his health is not very good, and if it were, he could never by the greatest exertions, attend to all his people as he could wish, and as it is necessary. He could easily assemble eight congregations every Sunday, from forty to a hundred strong, in different places, and he can meet only one. All the others are five or six miles off, or nine miles across a rough and dangerous bay. The roads also are so bad that he must travel mostly on foot. The Western shore of this large bay, (notwithstanding all the attentions which it has received from time to time from the pious rector of Chester, whose many other duties forced him to give only a small share of labour to this part of his parish,) contains about fifty families, and I do not suppose there is one dissenter among them; they will allow no minister to come to preach to them but their own, and yet there is none to be given them. For want of the means of grace, and good schools, these poor people, whose ancestors were, no doubt, zealous for the faith once delivered to the saints, are now sunk into a state next to barbarism. I do not think there is one among twenty that can read among them, and having no regular ordinances to urge them to attend to their salvation, they hardly ever think of the one thing needful, and of course morality is as low as religion among them. Indeed, I fear they have been so little used to the admonitions and instructions of the minister of God, and they know so little of the necessity of religion, that their ignorance added to their poverty, will form a formidable barrier against their religious and moral civilization. Now I would ask, is there another settlement more in want of a minister of God than this? Here are fifty families without the means of grace, with only a few visits in the year from the clergyman on the Eastern

side of the bay, and all too poor to do any worth notice for the support of religion among them and too ignorant to seek it! Surely a mission should be sent there as he would be sent into a then country. And if the government will not the necessity of bringing religion and the means of salvation to every man's door, let those who otherwise - let those who know how to love their low-creatures and to give themselves for their brethren, in imitation of their blessed Redeemer, do something! I could speak very much in the same strain concerning three or four other settlements in this bay, but I know that these receive a little more instruction on account of their being nearer to the clergyman and minister, and that the latter does all in his power for them.

Let us now take a survey of Chester. In this bay you will find a worthy rector, devoting all his talents to the spiritual welfare of his flock. how many congregations has he got under his care? If I remember well he has four, and all of them large and at an immense distance from each other. Let him exert himself ever so much, he will not be able to do one third of what should be done in that mission. There is BLANDFORD, nine miles from Chester Bay, which can be visited only in summer, and where there is a large number of people attached to the church. There is SHERBROOKE, twenty miles from the town, which would be glad to have a resident clergyman, and is visited only once a month, and then not without great fatigue and pain on the part of the rector. There is also another place ten miles from Chester, on the road to Lunenburg, where he holds Divine Service, I believe every four weeks on week-days, and where a number of people receive him with gladness. While a minister is thus obliged to be absent from his parish church and more particular flock, he is obliged to neglect many other important duties. He has no time for study, being hardly returned from a long and tiresome journey when he is obliged to undertake another. He has no time to visit his people at their own houses, to speak to them in private, or to devise plans for their advancement in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, while he himself may be spending his spirituality by constant travelling and want of time for private devotion.

Lunenburg contains another very interesting mission of our church, and from all that I hear about I believe that it is in a very flourishing condition.

But here also more labourers are greatly wanted. A church has lately been built in the beautiful hone Bay; and the people have applied for a minister of the Most High God to officiate in holy things among them, but none is to be obtained; and the rector has to divide his time, like all other incumbents in these colonies, the best way he can, among his numerous congregations. I am not quite so acquainted with the other destitute places in this bay as I am with Chester and St. Margaret's, but I believe the want of additional labourers is equally as great, and I dare say that if the missionaries to the westward of Lunenburg were to give a minute detail of the destitution of their parts, the want of missionaries in those parts also would appear less. I think this is a duty which the church owe to the church. They are daily suffering all kinds of trials and privations for want of assistance, they surely are the best entitled to call upon the wealthy lay brethren for help.

But what shall I say of the Eastern Shore of Nova-Scotia? Behold more than a hundred miles of coast inhabited, and all the people loudly crying for the means of grace, and for the messengers of glad tidings, and not one is to be sent! I have myself travelled along some parts of this coast, and have seen the people's anxiety for the ministers of Christ. I have seen some in tears of sorrow on account of their distance from the sacred ordinances of the church, and have seen them erecting churches with much labour, but doing all with joy in the hope of having day the pleasure of enjoying the services of a clergyman, and of joining in the sacred privilege of worshipping God in public. The able and devoted missionary who visits them twice a year, and sometimes oftener, through all kinds of perils and dangers,