

ordinance. Young persons are often afraid of an ordeal of questions, the answers to which test the power of memory and self-possession unduly. Some who have reached middle life before becoming communicants are ashamed to come publicly so late. Others are rendered unhappy and restrained by their keen sense of shortcoming from what a Christian should be. Others are perplexed by the difficult process of self-examination, which is occasionally performed so as to make a man's own varying feelings the object of contemplation rather than the character and death of Jesus Christ. Again, some who have come looking too much to the ordinance as a means of good to themselves instead of a solemn festival in honor of their Lord, have felt disappointed in the partial absence of what they more immediately expected. Looking at the sacrament of the Lord's Supper in its simplest and practical light as a commemoration of our Saviour's death, it ought not too greatly to be connected in the minds of communicants with rigid systems of question and answer, with intricate speculations as to the deeper doctrines involved in theories of sacrifice, or with a morbid prosecution of self-scrutiny. Do I feel myself a sinful man? Do I believe that Jesus of Nazareth came from heaven to die for our sins? Do I adore Him as "my Lord and my God"? Am I striving and do I trust in Him to help me by His Spirit to live a godly, righteous, and sober life? He may well be a communicant who can to these things heartily say, Amen. And he who, having come to reasonable years, still delays becoming a communicant, should think very seriously,—Have I so little to do with Jesus Christ that I cannot be one of those who celebrate that simple feast which is the monument of His own appointment, to every succeeding age, of His death?

WESTVILLE.—The Autumn Communion was dispensed in this church on Sabbath, 8th October. The Thursday evening service was conducted by Rev. W. McMillan, while on Saturday and Sabbath Mr. Dunn was assisted by Rev. R. McCunn. Upwards of thirty were communicants for the first time: a very gratifying increase to the communion roll. The pastor had devoted several evenings to a communicants class, which was attended by nearly a hundred, and at which Mr. Rankine's "First-Communion Lessons" (elsewhere noticed) were largely gone over.

EARLTOWN.—Considering that they had not, on this occasion, the co-operation of West Branch. River John, this congregation made a very fair endeavour to secure Mr. McKay as their pastor, and are justly entitled to the commendation bestowed upon them by the Presbytery for their zeal in the matter.

There are none living who do not, in a greater or less degree, have an influence over the earthly happiness of others. The sense of contributing to the pleasure of others augments our own happiness. Unselfishness, Christian charity, and loving-kindness are sunbeams of the soul.

RIVER JOHN.—The second of the series of lectures on Scripture Biography will be delivered (D. V.) on Friday, the 20th inst., at 7 o'clock, by the Rev. A. W. Herdman. Subject—"Daniel."

Through the kindness of John McKenzie, Esq., who gave a donation of Ten Dollars (\$10) for the purpose, the Sabbath School Library of the Ki River John, has lately been replenished.