

THE
CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTOR.

JUNE, 1860.

THAT THE SOUL BE WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE, IT IS NOT GOOD"—Prov xii. 1.

THE LATE REV. GEORGE GILMORE.

Through the kindness of some of the descendants of Mr. Gillmore we have lately received a number of his papers, which supply considerable information regarding his history. As little is known of him to the present generation in this Province, and as his labours as one of the pioneers of Presbyterianism in Nova Scotia are deserving a record, we shall now furnish what details of his life and ministry we have been able to obtain. We regret that the particulars are so few, but should this meet the eye of any of his descendants who may have in their possession any papers throwing further light on his history, or parties having any additional facts concerning him, they will oblige by communicating the same to the Editor.

Of his early days we know nothing, except that he was a native of the County of Antrim in Ireland, born about the year 1720. His theological and probably his Classical studies were prosecuted at Edinburgh University, as appears from the following Memoranda:

"I delivered a lecture in the Divinity Hall, College of Edinburgh, on Proverbs, 3rd chapter, beginning at the 13th verse, the 18th January, 1763."

"I delivered a sermon in the Divinity Hall, at Edinburgh, on the 1st of April, 1763."

From these items it will appear that he had not begun his studies at a period of life considerably later than usual.

We have only one document connected with this period of life previous to his leaving the old country. It is a copy written by himself of the rules of a Fellowship meeting of which he was a member.

This society met once a week for prayer and conference, and no member was to absent himself without sufficient reason, of which the other members were to judge. The principal exercises were prayer, praise and conference on "questions relating to the substance of religion or practical godliness," or upon which any member of the society may have been exercised. In these exercises each member was to engage in turn.