

REMARKABLE ESCAPE OF MISSIONARIES.

We make the following extract of a letter from Rev. D. Leslie, published in the *New York Advocate*, under date of Willamette, Oct. 20, 1838. Mr. L. is a Methodist missionary, connected with the Oregon Mission.

“Early in the month of August, it became necessary for me to accompany Mrs. White up the Columbia to our new station, commenced at the Dells. Between Vancouver and the Dells we pass the cascades, consisting of rugged falls and rapids, of about four miles in length. In ascending the river we walked this distance, leaving our Indians to navigate the canoe. On returning, it is considered safe to run the rapids, as they are called, about half the distance. We accordingly made the portage on our return; and, after walking the usual distance, seated ourselves in the canoe. Mrs. White had an infant child about eight months old. We were soon drawn by a resistless current, into the most violent rapids, in the midst of the stream. So impetuously rushed the waves, that I felt there was no hope. It was an awful moment! I gave orders to lighten the canoe. I put my hand on a musket—but before I could throw it over, our stern took water. We had barely time to cry, ‘God save us!’ and our boat went under a dark wave and disappeared! What I felt at this awful moment exceeds all description. I was not conscious of the faintest hope of escape, or any dread or fear to die. The most vivid thoughts which rushed on my mind presented a widowed wife and orphan children in a foreign, heathen land. What I first recollect after going under the water, is a kind of instinctive care for Mrs. White. I found myself far beneath the surface. Grasping for something, I soon caught Mrs. W.’s garment. (It was a double gown filled with cotton, now perfectly soaked with water.) This so impeded my efforts to rise, that I was obliged to quit my hold, as I had no skill in swimming. When I rose to the surface, the canoe was upset, and drifting from me down the current, I went down again, and deliberated in my mind whether to remain disencumbered as I was, or share a common fate with Mrs. White. I resolved on the latter; and feeling her on my feet, seized her garment with my left hand, and made an effort to rise, and got my head above water. At that instant, the canoe, in the act of whirling round, presented the stern within my reach. I could not grasp it without letting go my charge, which I did, and threw my right arm over the canoe. At the same time an Indian caught my hand on the other

side. I then plunged again, and with my left hand raised Mrs. White to the surface of the water, placed her head and shoulders on the canoe, and in this situation drifted down the rapids nearly two miles, and gained the shore. On turning up the canoe on the beach, we found the corpse of the babe. All our Indians were saved. It is to me a miracle that I live to tell the story. On finding myself safely restored to my family, I opened my Bible, and the first passage on which my eyes lit was, ‘The floods have lifted up, O Lord: the floods have lifted up their voice: the floods lift up their waves.’

The Lord on high is mightier than the noise of many waters. To thy name be the praise, ‘O thou preserver of men.’”

ORDINATION.

Agreeably to the request of the Baptist Church at Beamsville, U. C., an Ecclesiastical Council convened on Wednesday, April 17, 1839, at ten o'clock, A. M., to set apart, if deemed proper, brother Julius P. Hall to the work of the Gospel ministry. Elder John Harris was chosen Moderator of the Council, and Elder William Baily, Clerk. After hearing a relation of his Christian experience, views of doctrine, and call to the ministry, which were highly satisfactory, it was unanimously resolved, that the Council proceed to ordination. Elder W. Baily preached from Isaiah lxii. 6. Elder Salem T. Griswold offered an ordaining prayer. Charge by Elder J. Harris. Elder David Curry presented the right hand of fellowship. Hymn and benediction by the candidate. “The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few.”

JOHN HARRIS, *Moderator.*

WILLIAM BAILY, *Clerk.*

Mr. Thomas Hill, a respectable Minister of the Baptist persuasion, was thrown from his carriage on the 4th July, and so severely injured that he died on the 11th instant. This melancholy event occurred in Beamsville, in the District of Niagara, Upper Canada.—*Montreal Transcript*, July 15.