

Poetry.

For the Wesleyan.

GIFTS FOR THE ABSENT.

What would we give to our Beloved? A hero's heart to be unmoved? A Poet's star-tuned harp to weep? E. Rowet.

Gifts for the absent ones, The loved and dear, Who bow no more with us, At household prayer; Whose presence may not glad At morning's light, Whose voices breathe not new The sweet "Good night."

What shall we ask for these, Gold, dimmed by care, Of fame whose burnished leaves, Conceal the tear? For paths of earthly peace, Whose flowers spring up? Or for unending draughts From joy's rich cup?

Alas, how often has Each foolish heart, Sought for its treasured ones No better part. But higher gifts than these To-day we claim, A nobler heritage, A loftier name.

Adoringly we bow, And ask of Heaven, That unto them rich stores Of grace be given, Hope, with her pinions bright, Plumed for her home, And faith, whose earnest eye, Views bliss to come.

Peace their companion be, Where paths are steep, And joy that singing goes, When worldlings weep; Ever at Duty's call, Her voice to hear, By patience calm sustained Though doubt and care.

Thy presence be their guide, In darkest way, Pillar of fire by night, And cloud by day; To them thy choicest boon Of love be given, Life's toils and conflicts past, A rest in Heaven.

M. R. H.

For the Wesleyan.

EARLY RECOLLECTIONS OF A MOTHER'S TEARS.

A Child went forth with its Mother dear, To the place of social prayer— And she ask'd as she gazed on that Mother's face, Why the tear fell so frequent there? The Mother spoke of a Saviour's Love, Of the Love which He bore to her, She told of her hopes laid up above, Of her heart and treasures there.

That Mother has slept in her dusty bed, Through many revolving years; And that Child now fills a Mother's place, But she near has forgot those tears. She too has bowed at the Sacred Cross, And her heart has been given to Him Whose love made her Mother's heart rejoice, While her eyes with tears grew dim.

She asks no more why that Mother's check, With the tear-drop's stain was wet; But the childish thoughts of those hallow'd hours She can never, through life, forget! St. John Falls. *****

THE WESLEYAN.

Halifax, Saturday Morning, January 18, 1851.

EDUCATION.

If we have not recently directed attention to the subject of EDUCATION, it is not because we have not deemed the matter of sufficient importance to engage our thoughts or occupy our pen, or because our previously expressed views have undergone change or are in the least degree modified. Next to pure religion, we are disposed to rank in the scale of importance the education of our youth. By many of the avowed advocates of elementary and scientific education, we are persuaded that the great end of all literary training has been practically overlooked and disregarded. That design is not merely to qualify for the business of the present life. Such qualification is one of its objects. To restrict it

exclusively to this purpose is neither wise nor safe. So think and so reason vast numbers of our fellows, who are distinguished alike by experience, piety and talent; by large and comprehensive views and a just regard for the real well-being of the individual and the State; and who are influenced in their judgments of what is right and fitting by the unerring dicta of inspired TRUTH, to which they yield a ready submission, and which they hold as paramount to all earth-born teaching, and as infinitely superior to the dogmatic sophism of worldly expediency. They take into consideration the whole being of man—the future as well as the present—and in con- sidering for the necessity of the religious element in every effective system of education, as alone sufficient to qualify the young for the loftier state of existence, and as materially preparing them for the better discharge of the duties of the present life, they place themselves within the impregnable fortress of divine truth, from which, as long as Christianity is held as the true revelation, and possesses a claim on the unqualified assent of our race, it will be impossible to dislodge them. Nor, whilst religious principle exists, and influences a large proportion of the State, can a purely secular education become generally acceptable: the good sense and sterling piety of the people will condemn it—and justly.

Legal sanction exclusively given to the secular scheme of education would be a hazardous experiment. It would outrage the feelings and violate the consciences of multitudes of honest, industrious, and pious individuals, who aid the productiveness of the State, and who may be justly considered as constituting in no small degree the stamina of the country's welfare. To place Institutions under Legislative ban, in what- ever realm, solely on the ground that the Word of God is daily read, and prayers are offered for the blessing of Almighty God to be given to those within their Halls, and the moral sense of the students is strictly cultivated, and a due regard to religious principle and the claims of God is on suitable occasions enforced, would be considered as an act in itself offensive to the Most High, and fearfully portentous of evil to the country's weal.

The supremacy of divine truth in all depart- ments of action is a principle ingrained in the hearts of thousands of good and loyal subjects; it is part and parcel of their new nature, perman- ently associated with all their mental habits, present with all their thoughts, a polar-star by which they are guided, a rule of judgment to which all considerations are subordinated; and as well might one attempt to quench the solar fire, or dim the luminaries of heaven, as to exting- uish the light of that principle in the centre of their hearts or destroy its influence—it lives and will forever live.

We have not been inattentive to the move- ments of some in our father-land to superinduce the secular scheme of education. Reports of their proceedings have reached us, and we have read the comments, by no means profound, which have been volunteered in their favour. But alas! for the day, when such a project shall succeed by the consent of England's population! That population wants education—but it wants above all things secular education combined with the religious. Without the latter element, the masses will become only more expert in trickery and more adroit in wickedness. Secular educa- tion alone can never elevate the morals of the people. Greece and Rome, with cultivated intel- lects, were debased in morals, and vicious in conduct. The height of their mental culture only rendered the depth of their moral degrada- tion the more conspicuous. And what benefit is to be derived from the history of the past, if not to warn us of impending dangers, and assist in guiding us to the path of safety?

An excellent article appears on our first page showing the true character of THE BIBLE, and the obligations of civil and domestic society, for whatever is really virtuous and valuable in their respective departments, to that sacred book.— It more than justifies the remarks made above, and fully warrants the most earnest pleadings of the staunchest friends of the religious instruction of youth.

MISSIONARY MEETINGS, ST. JOHN N. B. Sermons in behalf of the Wesleyan Methodist Missions were delivered on Sabbath last at St.

John N. B. in the Germain Street, Centenary, Portland and Carleton Churches. Revs. Messrs. Sutchife, Smithson, Allison, Smith and Cooney, officiated. The anniversaries of the various Branch Missionary Societies in connection with the said Churches were held on Monday, Tues- day, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings follow- ing. The result we have not yet heard; but we hope it will prove worthy of the well-known and long-established liberality of our friends in those localities.

NEW MAGAZINE.

A Prospectus of a New Monthly Magazine, to be called "THE ARBUTUS, OR THE LADIES' ACADIAN MAGAZINE," has been handed to us. It is to be edited by Miss Herbert, a talented young lady of this city, and devoted to "Litera- ture, Scientific and Domestic Information."— Price 7s. 6d. per annum, or 7d. each number. We wish the fair authoress all possible success in her praiseworthy effort to supply a desideratum in our Periodical Literature. Our Ladies will now have a good opportunity to afford encour- agement to native talent, and at the same time procure for themselves a medium of interesting information, as we perceive that the "ARBUTUS" is to have a special reference to "Ladies," and to the "family circle."

RICHMOND NURSERY.

We call attention to Mr. Harris's advertise- ment in this day's paper. Mr. H. deserves the patronage of all lovers of flowers and of horti- culture generally. He has spared neither pains nor expense in preparing his new grounds, and introducing into his nursery rare, beautiful, and valuable plants. A visit to his gardens will be amply rewarded by a sight of his large and various collection of plants, flowers, &c. Go, friends, and see.

AN AGED MINISTER GONE TO REST.

The Rev. EDWARD MANNING, a native of Ireland, but long a resident in this Province, and deservedly well known as a zealous Baptist Min- ister, departed this life at Cornwallis, on the evening of Sunday, the 12th inst., in the faith of the Gospel, and in the hope of a glorious im- mortality. The departure of this aged Minister of Christ from this world of sorrows to his infi- nite and eternal reward, will prove a serious loss to the Denomination of which he was a member. Though unable, in consequence of the infirmities of advanced age, to take an active part in the onerous duties of the Pastorate, yet, the wisdom, experience, and prudence, which a long life spent in the service of God, gives to the counsels of aged Ministers, render their continu- ance on earth invaluable to the Church. But "our fathers, where are they?" How true it is, that they cannot live for ever! By their depart- ure, survivors are admonished of the necessity of working while it is day: to them, also, the night will soon come, when they cannot work. We sincerely sympathise with our Baptist brethren in the loss they have sustained by this dis- pensation of Providence. May God sanctify it for good.

SOME OF THE ARTICLES INTENDED FOR THE LONDON EXHIBITION.—By Mr. A. Downes—6 cases of Birds, comprising—Partridge and brood, Loon, Woodcock, Hawk, Crow, Red Stork, Humming Bird and nest, with young, and a variety of others, (most perfectly and beautifully preserved.)

3 cases Insects, very much admired. Moose's head, animal shot by Capt. Chearnley, prepared by Downes. By Mr. John Robinson, Hatter of this city.—Black, Silver Grey, and Red Fox, Cat, Otter, Mink, and Wolf skins. (A fine collection and very valuable.)

Cheese (Annapolis). Bird's-eye Maple, polish- ed. A portion of the flattened stem of a Lepi- dodendron, from Sydney Mines, (interesting.) Bonnets and Hats from Truro and Stewiacke, (of exquisite texture and finish.) Cloths from Pictou, (good, but coarse.) Yellow Ochre, from the farm of Mr. Fenton, Rawdon, (pure.) Brown Iron Ore, Londonderry Mines. Magnetic Iron Ore, do. do. Oats, Colchester, 48 lbs to the bushel. Wheat, 65 lbs to the bushel. Barley, 54 lbs do. do. 200 Specimens Wild Flowers of Nova Scotia, preserved with great care.—(Miss Gilpin.) A large collection of very beautiful Minerals, Hearth Rugs, Truro.—Communicated to Sun.

The Legislature of this Province will meet on Thursday next for the despatch of business. It will be a Session of great importance to the interests of the Colony. We hope the members of the respective Branches may have in abun- dance that "wisdom which is profitable to direct."

The vessel containing the apparatus intended for the New Light House has been lost—all saved providentially saved.

On Monday last a fine barge of about 200 tons called the "Carnegie" was launched from the ship-yard of Mr. Chappell, Dartmouth, for Messrs. Fairbanks & Allison, Merchants of this City.

Mr. Wm. M. Phee, of Douglas, Hants, was unfortunately killed on Wednesday morning last, near the Four Mile House, by falling from his sled loaded with hay, which passed over his body, causing immediate death.

The Sons of Temperance of this City have presented the sum of £18 10s. 10d. to the Mayor towards the relief of the sufferers by the recent fire contiguous to the Barracks.

The dwelling house of Mr. Comford, in Falk- land Street, was entirely consumed by fire early on the morning of Thursday last.

By the last Gazette, we perceive that the Royal Assent has been given to the Postal Bill passed by our Legislature, and we may hope soon to have a reduced and uniform rate of postage within the precincts of our own Province and between the British North American Colonies generally. Hasten the day!

A forged check, purporting to be drawn by a respectable firm in this city, was attempted to be passed at one of our Banks on Wednesday last. The cheat was discovered, and the guilty party was arrested. "Honesty is the best policy."

The Revenue of this province for 1850, it is stated, shows an increase of £11,000 on that of the preceding year.

At a meeting of the City Council, on Friday the 10th inst., Mr. Robert Malcolm's tender for the stone work of the new market, at £6,000, was accepted by the board. It is estimated that the building will cost £20,000, one half of which it is expected the Legislature will provide. The edifice is to be constructed of granite, in the ornamental style, and to be erected on the site of the present market.—Colonist.

WESLEYAN SABBATH SCHOOL, WOODSTOCK, N.B.—The Annual examination of the Wesleyan Sabbath School Scholars took place in Council's Hall on New Year's day, and was highly inter- esting and satisfactory to all who witnessed it. About 120 scholars were present on the occasion. After the examination the children were regaled with a plentiful supply of right good Christmas cheer which had been provided for them by their teachers and friends. A number of valuable prizes, we understand, have been awarded, and are to be presented in a few days.—Woodstock Sentinel.

Speaking of THE PAPAL AGGRESSION in England, the St. John's, Newfoundland, Ledger says:—

"We think that the people of England, taking them en masse, so understand their moral obliga- tions, are so enlightened, as to the one great object of faith, that they are not easily to be misled. Anyhow, that they abominate the Italian papacy is clear enough; and they are right, for the reason that it is contrary to the free exercise of human judgment, and that it controls by pains and penalties the consciences of men."

JESUITS' ESTIMES, CANADA.—The informa- tion comes to us from various quarters that there is a determination on the part of the Priest's party to drive through a measure, next Session, for the restoration of the Jesuits' Estates to the Church of Rome. Will the Papist not move in this matter till it is too late? Where are our public Meetings to protest against such a use of the public property? Where is the united voice of the Press against it? In conversation all de- precate such a result, even Roman Catholics, but where is the public paper against this master stroke of Papal policy? We say Papal, for we gather by Cardinal Wiseman's manifesto, that all these things are watched over and regulated at Rome.—Medical Times.

The Annual Service of the Wesleyan Sabbath Schools in Montreal was held in the basement story of Great St. James Street Church on the evening of the 2nd inst. Rev. Mr. Coughley and other Ministers addressed the Meeting.

The Montreal Religious Anniversaries are to commence on the 26th inst., and to continue through the week.