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Miscellaneous Articles.

SKETCHES FROM THE LIFE OF THE REV. WILLIAM JENKINS, LATE OF RICHMOND HILL.

It is sometimes comforting and encouraging to view the providential dispensations of God in the lives of his people, especially in the lives of God's ministers. We may learn from them many important and useful lessons, especially when what is recorded is designed and fitted to manifest the glory of God, and not to exalt and glorify man. It is with this end in view that we desire to present to the readers of the Canadian *U. P. Magazine* a few brief sketches from the life of one of the first Presbyterian Missionaries and Ministers of Upper Canada.

The Rev. William Jenkins, one of the first Presbyterian Ministers of Upper Canada. was a native of the County of Forfar, Scotland. He was born on the 26th September, 1779. He gave himself early to God, purposing to serve him in the ministry of the Gospel of His Son; for this he studied in connection with the Associate Synod of the Secession Church, but before he finished his course of study he emigrated to the United States, being about 20 years of age. Shortly after his arrival in New York he was engaged by the Northern Missionary Society, to go as a missionary to the Oneida Indians, in the north west part of the State of New York. Here his labours, his trials, and enjoyments were many. Here he remained and laboured till 1817, when he came to Canada. He had to labour first through means of an interpreter till he acquired the language of the Indians: but after he attained this, his intercourse with them was more pleasant and profitable. He kept a Journal during part of the time that he laboured among the Indians. Parts of this Journal remain, but it is imperfect, parts being lost; from what remains we may learn some things in the life of a missionary among the heathen, his labours, his trials, and sorrows, arising from the ignorance and depravity of those among whom he lived. We learn, also, some of the thoughts and musings of the mind when the light of the Gospel first breaks through the darkness in which it is shrouded in a state of heathenism. We shall give occasional extracts from the parts of the Journal that remain. But before doing so we may make this remark, that in reading over the Journal, one great cause of the Missionary's troubles was the evil intercourse and unjust dealings of unprincipled white men with the Indians. These whites did not hesitate to cheat the Indians out of their lands and property whenever they had an opportunity, and that was not seldom nor long wanting to them. They were very apt at finding out opportunities to