

ly, faithfully, and with deep humiliation of soul—sincerely purposing, by Divine grace, that if spared to enter upon a new year, we shall be more zealous in the service of our blessed Master than we have been in time past, and endeavour fully to realise the blessed assurance that “His service is perfect freedom.”

The conviction that our best services are marked by imperfection, ought deeply to humble us in our review of the past—but more particularly, when we ascertain, as we cannot fail to do if we strictly scrutinize our conduct, that we have squandered away many precious hours, and neglected many gracious opportunities, which, had they been rightly employed, and faithfully improved, would have resulted in a greater growth in grace and wisdom, and a more perfect conformity to the Divine image.

It is also profitable to meditate upon the rapid flight of time, and the uncertainty of human life. How many of our fellow men, who, when the present year commenced its course, bid as fair for long life as either the reader or the writer of these plain remarks, have, nevertheless, been summoned into the world of spirits—where that which is filthy shall be filthy still, and that which is holy shall be holy still. The young and middle-aged, as well as the old—amongst whom, doubtless, were many of our acquaintance and relatives—have been removed; and—solemn thought!—many, very many, who shall commence the year one THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY-TWO, with bright hopes of many years of happiness, shall also, ere that year shall terminate, be numbered with the silent dead!—“Lord teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.”

WE are requested to intimate, that a meeting of the Sabbath Schools in connection with the Wesleyan Methodist Congregation, will take place, as usual, on New Year's day morning, in the chapel, Great St. James street—when an address to the scholars will be delivered. The parents and friends of the scholars, and all interested in Sabbath Schools, are invited to attend. The scholars to assemble at ten o'clock, and the exercises to commence at half-past ten precisely. After the exercises have been gone through, the usual refreshments of cake, &c. will be furnished to the children.

On Monday evening, January 3. the usual Tea Meeting will be held, in connection with the Sabbath School Anniversary—when a Report of the proceedings of the past year will be submitted to the meeting.

THE MONTREAL POCKET ALMANACK, AND GENERAL REGISTER, FOR 1842. Price 7½d. Montreal: Starke & Co.

This is the title of the most beautiful specimen of typography which, we believe, has ever been produced by the Canadian press. It contains 80 pages of valuable information, and reflects much credit upon the publishers. The work may be had of the different Booksellers, at a price which will place it within the reach of all.

Our subscribers and friends are respectfully informed, that the office of the “Christian Mirror” has been removed to the premises, Place d'Armes, formerly occupied by Mr. Herbert as a Musical Warehouse, and next door to the Union Bank—entrance by the green gateway.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of another article from the pen of Mrs. J. R. Spooner—too late, however, for insertion in this number: it shall appear in our next.

For the Christian Mirror.

THOUGHTS ON PHRENOLOGY.

NO. III.

In my last communication, I endeavoured to show that a virtuous or vicious propensity depends not on the physical structure of man, but on the character of his spiritual nature. This being proved, it follows, that if the native tendency of the human mind be to do evil rather than good, then is the scripture doctrine of human depravity confirmed by Phrenology. What matters it whether this tendency to evil be called “a disposition of the mind to abuse its organs,” or “the natural depravity of man, if the ideas be the same. Some Phrenologists, (as mentioned in my first letter,) deny this doctrine, on the ground that many of the lower propensities are unnecessary in a state of perfect innocence and security. Mr. COMBE, when treating on these propensities, says:—“Theologians who enforce the corruption of human nature, would do well to consider whether man, as originally constituted, possessed the organs of these propensities or not. If he did possess them, it will be incumbent on them to show the objects of them in a world where there was no sorrow, sin, death, or danger.”

Now, with all due deference to such a man as Mr. COMBE, I think it is for him to consider not whether man, as originally constituted, possessed these organs—but whether the mind of man is the same in its character as when his Creator breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. It is for him to consider whence arises the tendency in man to abuse his faculties. After he has considered this, any theologian can show him that man was never placed in a world where he was not liable to sin; and being liable to sin, was exposed to sorrow, to danger, and to death. Hence the necessity of the organs in question, in a state of innocence and conditional security. I shall dismiss this part of the subject by saying, that if a man's good or bad character be the result of the peculiar construction of his brain, then does human accountability cease—it being certain, that we have no controul over the formation of our heads.

The proposition that on the organization of the brain depends vice or virtue, must be false—for it involves a contradiction: as, in this case, there cannot be either. Moral character necessarily supposes freedom of will and choice, which the fate of organization renders impossible. The form of the brain may make a difference in the talents of individuals, and in the power to acquire knowledge—it may make some men appear amiable, and others sour and ill-tempered; it may even make, as it does, a great difference in the characters and peculiarities of God's people; but it is not the cause of vice or virtue, abstractedly considered.

ENCEPHALO.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

ARRIVAL OF THE COLUMBIA.

THIS beautiful steampacket arrived at Boston on Tuesday week, after a boisterous passage of about seventeen days.—The political news is not important.—The distress among the people of England is very great. Relief, by emigrating, is viewed with much favour.—An incendiary attempt had been made to burn the Horse Guards, and St. George's Barracks. It is said that Government has ordered a return of all foreigners in England, the incendiary attempts recently made, inducing a belief that there is some foreign treachery concerned in the mischief. This we look upon as doubtful.—Fever is very prevalent in London.—There is a general and unfortunately a too well founded apprehension that in some parts of Ireland a famine will exist, owing to the failure of the potatoe crop.—The great silver seal of the Irish Exchequer has been stolen from the strong box in which it was kept.—Five hundred people have been thrown out of work in consequence of the partial destruction by fire of Bartholomew and Co.'s cotton works, near Glasgow. Loss estimated at £40,000.—Owing to the bad weather, the *Illustrious*, having Sir Charles Bagot on board, did not leave the coast of England until the 24th ult.—A number of fresh troops have been sent to China.—Chantrey, the Sculptor, is dead.—Her Majesty is doing well, she has resumed taking her airings. The Christening of the Prince is to be as private as possible.—Lord

Elgin is dead.—An association is being formed in England to encourage Emigration to British North America.—More failures have taken place.—There had been a terrible explosion in a coalpit near Barnsfield—many lives have been lost, and several persons badly wounded.—Another abortive attempt was made on the life of Louis Philippe.—The Tea market does not present any variations worth noticing.—We observe by a paragraph in a London paper that Lord Stanley, in answer to a deputation from Scotland, assured the gentlemen who waited on him, that the subject of emigration was under the serious consideration of Her Majesty's ministers. We hope that Canada will feel some of the beneficial effects of this “consideration.”

THE QUEEN DOWAGER.—We learn by the *Columbia* that the health of the Queen Dowager of England is much improved. The following was the last Bulletin issued prior to the departure of the packet:—

“The improvement of the Queen Dowager's health announced in the last bulletin has continued up to the present time, and there is every prospect of her Majesty's gradual recovery.

D. DAVIS, M. D.

“Under the continuance of the present favourable symptoms, no further bulletins will be issued.”

THE INFANT PRINCE.—We have reason to believe that Her Majesty has expressed a disinclination to perform any act in consequence of which the new-born heir to the Throne would be addressed by a title similar to that by which his illustrious father is designated and addressed. It is also said that both to the Premier and the Lord Chancellor, this feeling on the part of her Majesty has been made the subject of a formal communication, for the purpose of ascertaining how far, with due regard to established precedent, it can be acted upon in settling the style of the interesting subject of the inquiry. “The infant Prince” is the appellation which is used throughout the Household, when speaking of the Royal infant; and this title is understood to be that for which her Majesty has expressed a decided preference.—*Globe*.

The Queen, we understand, has already sketched a likeness of the infant Prince, which will immediately be lithographed. The resemblance is said to be perfect, and the circumstances under which it was made cannot fail of giving it an interest peculiarly its own.—*John Bull*.

THE ROYAL CHRISTENING.—The baptism of the infant Prince, it is rumoured in circles likely to be well informed, will not take place until February, immediately after Parliament assembled. In confirmation of this rumour, we have reason to believe, the instructions received at the Earl Marshal's Office, where all such state ceremonials are arranged, are not of that urgent nature as if the ceremony were to take place this month. The ceremony will be performed in town.

The Royal christening, which is expected to take place in about a week within St. George's Chapel at Windsor, will be attended with circumstances of peculiar pomp and grandeur. Not the least curious of the contingencies arising out of it, however, is that which will affect our present venerated and venerable Archbishop. Dr. Howley will be the first primate of England, who has crowned and married the reigning Sovereign, and afterwards baptized the heir apparent of the throne.

LIVERPOOL CORN MARKET.—The trade has continued in an inanimate state. Flour has gone off slowly at 36s. to 37s. per barrel for United States. The rates of imports have declined 1s per quarter for wheat; 1s. 6d. for oats; 7J. per barrel for flour, and have advanced 1s. 6d. per quarter for rye.

Nov. 27.—Wheat is at present 4s. 8d. per quarter dearer than it was on the 29th Nov. last year. At that time it was 61s. 8d.; it is now 66s. 6d. per quarter.—*Liv. Albion, Nov. 29.*

CANADA.—Sir Richard Jackson has, by Proclamation in the *Canada Gazette*, called the Registry Ordinance into force from the 31st December, and, for the purposes of the Act, has divided the former Province of Lower Canada into Districts, which, in general, correspond with the municipal divisions now existing. A second Proclamation makes alterations in the number of Municipal Councillors for Quebec, Montreal, Berthier, and Sydenham. The appointments are not yet gazetted.