

*Reconciliation brought about by a dog.*—There were two friends, one living in London, and the other at Guildford. These friends were on terms of great intimacy; and for many years it had been the custom for the London family to pass the Christmas at Guildford, and their uniform practice was to arrive to dinner the day before Christmas day, and to be accompanied by a large spaniel, who was as great a favorite with the visited, as with the visitors. At the end of about seven years after this plan had been adhered to, the two families had an unfortunate misunderstanding, which occasioned an omission of the usual Christmas invitation. About an hour before dinner on the day before Christmas day, the Guildford gentleman, standing at his window, exclaimed to his wife, "well, my dear, the *Wags*'s have thought better of it, for I declare they are coming as usual, though we did not invite them; here comes *Cæsar* to announce them;" and the dog came trotting up to the door and was admitted as usual to the parlour.

The lady of the house gave orders to prepare beds, dinner waited an hour, but no guests arrived. *Cæsar* after staying the exact number of days he had been accustomed to, set off for home, and reached it in safety. The correspondence, which of necessity occurred, had the happy effect of renewing the intercourse of the estranged friends and as long as *Cæsar* lived he paid the annual visit, in company with his master and mistress.

### CHRISTMAS DAY.

Christmas day is appointed for the 25th, in commemoration of the birth of Jesus. The exact month, or week, or day of the advent of Christ is not known. Some writers have placed it in one month, and some in another. Some contend that it should be in autumn, and others in spring; but most protestants, and all Roman catholics, agree to keep it on the 25th of this month.

What an event was this incarnation! It awakened an interest in heaven, earth, and hell. Angels left their seats of bliss to announce the tidings to the shepherds, and to herald his approach: with their celestial music. But where is Jesus born, and who is his mother? What palace is honoured with his presence, and what mortal so favoured as to introduce him to the world? See the humble and devoted Mary in yonder stable, and you behold his mother. Examine that manger, and you see the babe of Bethlehem. Oh wondrous condescension! infinite and inexpressible! Shepherds, conducted by angels, pay him their adorations. Eastern magi, guided by an especial and miraculous luminary, present to him their magnificent offerings, and pay their devotion at his feet. His incarnation was only a means to an end. He was born that he

might obey, and suffer, and die. *Calvary* witnessed his expiring groans, and heard him exclaim. "It is finished!" The work was done; the law was obeyed; justice was honoured; and now, the way to the kingdom of heaven was thrown open to all believers.

This is a season of benevolence. More gifts of kindness are conferred now than at any period of the year. There is something pleasing and delightful in this fact, as serving to commemorate the disinterested kindness of our Redeemer, who, though he was rich, yet for our sakes became poor, that we, through his poverty, might be made rich.

Christmas presents are interchanged amongst friends. Books are frequently given as testimonies of esteem, and memorials of friendship.

The last day is at hand. The last hour and minute of the year is rapidly approaching; and, ere long, the angel will lift up his hand, and swear by Him that liveth for ever, that "time shall be no longer."

A wful period! when eternity shall commence its career, and the destinies of mankind be settled for ever; when the righteous shall be exalted to heaven, and the wicked consigned to the regions of woe. May it be our unspeakable happiness to be stationed at the right hand of the Judge, and hear him pronounce on each and on all, the delightful sentence, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter ye into the joy of your Lord."

### MARRIED.

On the 20th instant, by Rev. J. Burton, Mr. John Thorburn, to Miss Esther Rude, both of Jedore.

At New-York, on the 1st November, by the Rev. Wm. G. Miller, Mr. Charles B. Naylor, to Miss Catherine, daughter of the Rev. Mr. Vreedenburgh, of that City.

At New-York, on the 12th ult. Charles W. Schmidt, Esq. to Sarah Ann, daughter of Mr. William Johnston, both of Halifax.

### DIED.

Tuesday evening, Charles, youngest son of Mr. James Bossom, aged 2 years, and eight months.

Wednesday evening, Mr. John W. Mad-den, of H. M. Customs, aged 37 years. Funeral on Sunday next, at 1 o'clock.

Yesterday morning, of Scarlet fever, Sarah Eliza, aged 13 years and 6 months, the sixth child of Mr Andrew T. Smith.

### PROSPECTUS.

#### THE CHRISTIAN GLEANER, NEW SERIES,

Is intended like the former series, to be an independent religious periodical, having for its chief object in its selections—To investigate and enforce the truths of revelation as the Bible itself reveals them—and to discriminate and disentangle them from the speculations, and metaphysical subtleties of

system makers of Theology, with which they are so often confounded and disfigured—To expose the evils of *sectarianism*—and to promote in its stead the union of all Christians upon a Scriptural foundation.—To inculcate to the knowledge, belief, and practice of the Apostles' doctrine.—The restoration of primitive christianity.

Among the variety of appeals on almost every subject of importance now continually teeming from the Press on both sides of the Atlantic, so strikingly marking the signs of the times, and the enquiring spirit of the age, few have been urged with more weight than have been many on the topics above alluded to—nor have any with juster pretensions, or with more imposing motives, claimed from any class of men an impartial hearing, than do some of those from Christians—whether we regard the superior importance of their subjects, or the number, scriptural knowledge, and acknowledged talents, and piety, of those engaged in their investigation—Party prejudice in some, indifference in others, unhappily concur with other causes to make these writings to be neglected by, or inaccessible to many in this country—and their sentiments and merits liable to be misunderstood, or misrepresented, and their failings real or imagined to be magnified.

The design of this Miscellany as far as possible, exempts its conductors from any wish or temptation to prejudice or discountenance any inquiry as to what is truth.

The Gleaner therefore, selecting its materials irrespective of party creeds, or party motives, equally from any source—and referring its selections to the test—not of the systematic theology of any school, but to the Scriptures alone, to be approved, or condemned, adopted, or rejected according to its unerring decision—will embody in one volume much diversified information on subjects of all others the most important and interesting to men—and at a cheap and accessible rate, enable any (who do not believe that ignorance is the mother of devotior, and that to grow in grace is unconnected with growing in knowledge of the divine will;) to give these subjects an impartial consideration—and in reference to these, understandingly and justly to comply with the divine injunction contained in its motto—

"Prove all things—hold fast that which is good."

The Christian Gleaner, new series—will be published in monthly numbers each containing 24 pages, on good paper and of this type—twelve numbers to constitute a volume—The price of a volume will be Five Shillings payable at any time before the delivery of the second number, or 6s. if payment be delayed beyond that period.

Halifax, 10th Dec. 1835.

Subscriptions will be received at the Drug Store of Mr. John Naylor, at the Stationary Store of Messrs. A. & W. MacKinlay, and at the Printing Office of H. W. Blackad r.