

# THE CANADIAN UNITED PRESBYTERIAN MAGAZINE.

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## Miscellaneous Articles.

SUBSTANCE OF THE LECTURE DELIVERED AT THE OPENING OF THE DIVINITY HALL OF THE U. P. CHURCH, IN THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, TORONTO, AUGUST 1st, 1854.

On an occasion like this, it is surely most meet that we should, at the outset, devoutly and gratefully recognize the good hand of our God in bringing us together in peace and comfort. Such an acknowledgment which is, in the highest degree, becoming on every anniversary of this sort, is especially so at present when disease is so prevalent around, and when so many of our fellow men are suddenly and unexpectedly summoned to their great account. Let us not fail to ascribe it to the sovereign mercy of God that we have been continued in, or restored to, health, and permitted once more to assemble for the prosecution of our peaceful and sacred avocation. True indeed, several of our number are prevented by indisposition from being present. With them let us tenderly sympathize, and supplicate the Hearer of prayer in their behalf, not only that they may reap from their trouble the peaceable fruits of righteousness, and learn lessons in the school of affliction perhaps more important than could have been expected here, but also that if it be the pleasure of Him in whose hand are our breath and all our ways, they may be speedily restored to wonted health and vigour. It is comfortable, however, to reflect that while their ailments, proceeding, there is reason to believe, from over-application to study, are not of such a nature but that a season of relaxation may be expected under the Divine blessing to bring relief, one of our little circle who has long laboured under very severe affliction, from which his recovery seemed exceedingly doubtful, has now, beyond expectation been brought back from the gates of death, and has been enabled to resume his place in the midst of us. "Bless the Lord O our souls and all that is within us bless his holy name. Bless the Lord O our souls and forget not all his benefits : who forgiveth all our iniquities who healed all our diseases : who redeemeth our life from destruction : who crowneth us with loving kindness and tender mercies : who satisfieth our mouths with good things so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's." Ani-