

to give them money."—I hope my friend will excuse the liberty I use in giving publicity to his sentiments, which I have reason to believe are generally entertained by the Church at home, and which entirely accord with those of

AN OLD MAN.

Reviews of Books.

THE RIVER OF LIFE, IN EZEKIEL'S VISION; *A Plea for Home Missions.* BY THE REV. ALEXANDER TOPP, A.M., of Knox's Church, Toronto. Small Quarto, pp. 32. Toronto: James Campbell, 1860.

This excellent discourse, it appears, was delivered to the author's own congregation, on the 8th of April last. We are glad that he has been induced to give it to the public, and hope that, under the divine blessing, it will contribute extensively to the promotion of the important object at which it especially aims. Our own denomination, and every other in the Province, needs to be stimulated to strenuous efforts for the furtherance of the gospel in our own country, so peculiarly situated—many parts of which are thinly inhabited, and almost entirely destitute of the means of grace, while the people, as new settlers, find it impracticable for them to do much in the way of sustaining religious ordinances among themselves, especially in times so unfavourable as those we have lately had.

The sermon is founded on Ezekiel, xlvii. 8-9; and there is first an admirable exposition and illustration of the passage, which relates to "the waters issuing from under the threshold of the house"—the temple. He: the author enquires; first, What are these waters and whence do they come? and second, Whither do they proceed, and the effect which they produce? Then follows the "Plea in behalf of the Home Missionary operations of our Church, the efforts of the Church to carry the waters of life and salvation, and the ordinances of the gospel into the destitute places of our cities and land." We have great pleasure in presenting this portion entire; and our readers we trust will be both pleased and profited by the perusal.

In support of this plea we observe:

1. That the native tendency of the truth is to spread itself. He who has been spiritually healed himself, has been so not only for his own sake, but for the glory of Christ, and for the good of others. Hence you read in the 12th verse, "And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed. it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because the waters they issued out of the sanctuary, and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine." In other words, they who have been healed by the waters of the sanctuary, and who live upon the banks of the river—they who have been quickened by the Spirit of Christ, and are nourished by habitual prayerful attendance on the word and ordinances, shall not only live to God, and prosper in the divine life, as fruitful trees of righteousness, the