

ing as mourners;—the gentlemen of the town two and two.

The foregoing obituary is taken from the Public Ledger newspaper published in this town, the proprietor of which is Chairman of the Committee of Management of the Congregational Church of which the late Rev. Mr. Ward was the esteemed and beloved Pastor—and having seen in the Harbinger for last month a notice of Mr. Ward's death, and an expression of sympathy for the bereaved church, I have taken the liberty to transcribe, and send it to you—at the same time requesting that you will be kind enough to forward the Harbinger to the Subscribers, here as usual. I am perfectly assured that Mr. Winton, editor of the newspaper above referred to would gladly accept the agency. I must, however, beg to correct you in reference to the circumstance of our application for a successor to Mr. Ward. We have not applied to Mr. Wells, of the Missionary Society, but to Dr. Collison and John Nichols, Esq. of London, and recent accounts inform us of their success. Yours &c. &c.

J. F.

St. Johns, Newfoundland, Nov. 12, 1843.

The following gratifying letter from the Pastor of the Independent Church at Sheffield, N. B. has been handed to us for publication. Though not designed for the press by the esteemed writer, he will doubtless excuse the liberty taken, and also accept our assurances of the deep interest felt in his progress, and that of the estimable people under his care :

SHEFFIELD, N. BRUNSWICK,
November 21st, 1843.

DEAR SIR,—You will probably be pleased to learn that I have received (dated the 13th instant) a unanimous invitation from the Church and Congregation here, to remain among them as their pastor, which I have also thought it right to accept. Though the Society here is neither numerous nor likely ever to become so, yet its importance is considerable, viewed relatively to the immediately surrounding population, and to the interests of evangelical religion, and of sound ecclesiastical polity, in this part of the province of New Brunswick; and as its members appear both able and willing to sustain the ministry of the Gospel, I am willing, for my part, here to pitch my tent. I trouble you with these statements because you were the means of calling the attention of our churches at home to this station, and therefore I take for granted that you will not be displeased to hear of anything connected with either its weal or woe. With all Christian regard,

I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

JAMES PORTER.

To the Rev. H. Wilkes, A. M.

The Harbinger.

MONTREAL, DECEMBER 15, 1843.

The present number concludes the second volume of our Miscellany. The circulation which the Harbinger has already attained justifies the belief that it has been useful—though in this as in every other effort for the diffusion of truth, the extent of usefulness cannot be ascertained. The Editor trusts that neither on his own part, nor on that of his valued correspondents, has the motto of the publication in any instance been violated, and on the review of the year now drawing to a close, he sees abundant reason to congratulate his numerous readers on the steady progress of those great principles, for the defence and diffusion of which the Harbinger was first established. In this consideration he finds an ample equivalent for his own gratuitous exertions, and his correspondents also have the satisfaction of reflecting that they have contributed to the propagation of those sentiments which are justly held to bear directly on the best and highest interests of mankind. His varied and onerous engagements leave him but little time for the preparation of lengthened articles for the Harbinger, although a review of the two volumes already issued will exonerate him from the imputation of indifference to a department of useful labour which is acquiring constantly increasing importance in every part of the world. It is deeply to be regretted that our ministerial brethren, whilst in labours more abundant in relation to the *oral* communication of divine truth, do not, as a body, practically recognize the influence exerted by the press upon the public mind, and by their *written* communications, endeavour to enlighten, instruct and edify those who are placed beyond the reach of personal intercourse and effort. We have already exhausted all our arguments in enforcing the duty of contributing regularly and systematically to this Miscellany, as the recognised organ of our Colonial Churches, and indulge the hope that this slight allusion to the subject will give a salutary impulse to some who are well able to enrich our pages. What a large amount of intelligence and instruction is lost for ever to