

YOUTH'S DEPARTMENT

To the Editors of the Colonial Churchman.

Messrs. Editors,

In casting my eyes over some pieces of poetry which were presented me some time since by a much esteemed friend, I have taken the liberty to select two of them for insertion in your valuable paper. The former of these communications, I trust, will not only be read, but also committed to memory by many of those for whom it was particularly composed. Hoping that you may deem them worthy of insertion. I remain your's truly,

AMICUS.

Lancelburg, 1839.

H Y M N.

COMPOSED FOR THE CHILDREN OF A SUNDAY SCHOOL.

O Thou! to whom the grateful song
Of prayer and praise is due,
Hear, we entreat, our childish throng
And grant thy blessing too.

On those who have so kindly strove
Thy precepts to instil;
Who strive to teach us how to love,
And do thy holy will.

On such, O Lord! thy mercies shed,
Who, in this world of woe,
Like fountains, with fresh waters fed,
Bear blessings as they flow.

And may we, planted by such streams,
Like flowers, which love to lave
Their bending branches in the beams
Which warm their parent wave.

May we, thus blest, yet humbly bow
To Thee, the source of Love!
And drawing nurture from below
Breathe brightness from above.

Then shall we, while on earth we live,
To thine a comfort be;
And wither but through death to live
An endless life with Thee!

Selected.

SILENT WORSHIP.

Though glorious, O God! must thy temple have been
On the day of its first dedication
When the cherubim's wings widely waving were seen
On high, o'er the ark's holy station;

When even the chosen of Levi, though skilled,
To minister standing before Thee;
Retired from the cloud which the temple then filled,
And thy glory made Israel adore thee;

Though awfully grand was thy majesty then;
Yet the worship thy Gospel discloses,
Less splendid in pomp to the vision of men,
Far surpasses the ritual of Moses.

And by whom was that ritual forever repealed?
But by Him, unto whom it was given
To enter the oracle, where is revealed,
Not the cloud, but the brightness of Heaven.

Who having once enter'd hath shown us the way,
O Lord! how to worship before thee;
Not with shady forms of that earlier day,
But in spirit and truth to adore thee!

This, this is the worship the Saviour made known
When she of Samaria found him
By the patriarch's well, sitting weary, alone,
With the stillness of noon-tide around him

How sublime, yet how simple the homage he taught
To her who inquired by that fountain,
If Jehovah at Solyma's shrine would be sought,
Or adored on Samaria's mountain?

Woman! believe me the hour is near
When He, if ye would rightly hail him,
Will neither be worshipped exclusively here,
Nor yet at the altar of Salem.

For God is a Spirit! and they, who aught
Would perform the pure worship he loveth,
In the heart's holy temple will seek with delight
That Spirit the Father approveth.

And many that Prophecy's truth can declare,
Whose bosoms have livingly known it;
Whom God hath instructed to worship him there
And convinced that his mercy will own it.

The temple that Solomon built to his name
Now lives but in history's story;
Extinguished long since is its altar's bright flame
And vanished each glimpse of its glory.

But the Christian, made wise by a wisdom divine,
Though all human fabrics may falter,
Still finds in his heart, a far holier shrine,
Where the fire burns unquenched on the altar.

THE DESERTED CHILDREN.

'I will record in this place,' says Mr. Flint, in his Travels in America, 'a narrative that impressed me deeply. It was a fair example of the cases of extreme misery and desolation that are often witnessed on the Mississippi river. In the Sabbath school at New Madrid we received three children, who were introduced to that place under the following circumstances. A man was descending the river with three children in his pirogue. He and his children had landed on a desert island on a bitter snowy evening in December. There were but two houses, and these at a little prairie opposite the island, within a great distance. He wanted more whiskey, although he had been drinking too freely. Against the persuasions of the children, he left them, to cross over to these houses and renew his supply. The wind blew high, and the river was rough. Nothing could dissuade him from his dangerous attempt. He told them he should return that night. He left them in tears, and exposed to the pitiless peltings of the storm, and started for his carouse. The children saw the boat sink before he had half crossed the passage—the man was drowned.

These forlorn beings were left without any other covering than their own scanty ragged dress, for he had taken his blankets with him. They neither had fire nor shelter, and no other food than uncooked pork and corn. It snowed fast, and the night closed over them in this situation. The elder was a girl of six years, but remarkably shrewd and acute for her age. The next was a girl of four, and the youngest a boy of two. It was affecting to hear her describe her desolation of heart, as she set herself to examine her resources. She made them creep together and draw their feet under their clothes. She covered them with leaves and branches, and thus they passed the first night. In the morning, the younger children wept bitterly with cold and hunger. The pork she cut into small pieces. She then persuaded them to run about, setting them an example. Then she made them return to chewing corn and pork. It would seem as if Providence had a special eye to these children, for in the course of the day some Indians landed on the island and found them, and, as they were coming up to New Madrid, took them with them.'

INTELLIGENCE.

From the Ecclesiastical Gazette.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.

GENERAL MEETING, APRIL 9, 1839.

The Rev. J. E. Tyler in the Chair.

A letter was read from the Rev. Archdeacon Coster, Secretary to the Church Society of the archdeaconry of New Brunswick, sending a bill of exchange for 60*l.* for a supply of books for distribution, the lending libraries, and Sunday and other schools; and requesting, by a resolution of the committee, a grant of books from the Society.

It was agreed to grant books to the amount of 40*l.* in aid of the objects of the New Brunswick Church Society.

A letter was read from the Right Hon. the Earl of Eldon, inclosing a draft for one hundred guineas as a donation to the Society.

A letter was read from Messrs. Smith and Grover, of Hemel Hempstead, announcing a legacy of 1000*l.* bequeathed to the Society by the late Mrs. Nugent of Berkhamstead.

AUDIT ACCOUNT, 1839.

	£	s.	d.
Gross Receipts,	90,363	12	10
Of which—Subscriptions, £14,879	19	6	
Benefactions,	2,568	3	6
Legacies,	6,940	4	0

PUBLICATIONS.

Bibles,	108,132
New Testaments,	102,121
Common Prayer-Books,	227,362
Psalters,	14,198
Bond Books,	161,167
Tracts,	2,276,166

2,889,146

The following letter was read from the Lord Bishop of Madras, dated February 2, 1839:—

'I fear that our venerable Society may accuse me of negligence in not having earlier announced my arrival at Madras. I felt, however, unwilling to state a circumstance in itself so unimportant, until I might have something of real interest to communicate.

'I will not at present hazard an opinion upon the prospects of Christianity in this country, my experience of India being so very limited; but I may safely say that I am full of hope. Much can be done, and I am satisfied that much will be done; for this most interesting land. If we proceed but slowly, may we not hope that the building which we are thus rearing upon the only sure foundation, will be the more durable?

'I have now commenced my visitation of this still overwhelming diocese. I may fairly apply to it this epithet, when I find, that properly to visit every station, will most probably occupy at least twenty-six months out of three years.

'At present I can only request our venerable Society to continue to honour me with its confidence, and to feel assured that I will never neglect an opportunity of promoting its designs to the utmost of my very humble ability. I can truly say, my heart is in the cause.

'As yet I have not expended any part of the 500*l.* intrusted to my stewardship; but as I proceed on my long journey, I fully expect that urgent calls for assistance will be made at almost every station. And when it is taken into consideration, that this diocese is geographically almost as large as that of Calcutta, and that there are circumstances connected with Southern India, rendering it of especial importance to the Church of England, I venture to hope, that in the course of my visitation a further grant may be allotted to me.

'It is my intention to forward to the Society, at the end of each year, so long as it may please God to spare my life, a copy, or rather a series of extracts from my journal, which, in my opinion, may prove of interest.

'Our Diocesan Committee flourishes; and we have in the Rev. G. W. Mahon a zealous and able secretary.

'I have determined to recommend the Society most urgently at every great station which I may visit; and I shall endeavour to excite the liberality of the Christian residents in its behalf. Depend upon it, the Society is not known throughout India as it ought to be. Its claims shall not want an advocate, however incompetent, in me.'

INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL.

The friends of this Society will be glad to see by the Report which has just been published, that a large addition was made to its income during the past year. Forty-five new District Committees have been formed; and the receipts from subscriptions, donations, &c. (exclusive of collections made under sanction of the Queen's letter) have exceeded those of 1837 by more than 5000*l.* In consequence, however, of a large extension of the Society's operations, its expenditure has more than kept pace with its income. The effort commenced in 1837 to supply the grievous spiritual destitution of Australia has been