

isters, delegates from churches, and friends from a distance, was larger than on any previous occasion. The examination was conducted with great spirit, and afforded much satisfaction to the audience. After it was concluded the examiners expressed themselves much pleased with the manner in which the students had acquitted themselves; and the Rev. Messrs. Melville, of Canada, Guthrie and Boyle, of London, congratulated the Union on the large number of young men enrolled as students, and on the diligence and ability which they had exhibited in the examination. After prayer by the Rev. J. Guthrie, the meeting dismissed.

The annual sermon was delivered on Tuesday evening, in North Dundas Street Church by the Rev. Hugh Riddell, who took for his subject, "The Propitiatory Work of Christ." The following extract from the sermon shows the nature of the propitiation:—

"Seeing, then, Jesus did not, and could not, endure the literal or full penalty of law against sin, some may be disposed to ask what then did he endure? We reply he endured that amount of suffering in the room of sinners which was necessary to vindicate the authority of law, and demonstrate to an intelligent universe that disobedience is highly criminal, and cannot be indulged in with impunity. The interests of the moral universe required that the Divine Ruler should signally exhibit his abhorrence of sin, and this abhorrence of sin was more effectually, more strikingly exhibited by the sufferings unto death of Jesus than if the whole human family had been hurled to perdition. The obedience of Christ magnified the divine law, and proclaimed it as holy, just and good, both in its requirements and sanctions. The sufferings of Jesus demonstrated the divine hatred of sin and his determination to put it down. If God did not spare his own beloved Son when he stood as a substitute for man, how shall those escape who delight to revel in the accursed thing, and neglect the great salvation? Thus the atonement of Christ was a grand moral expedient introduced into the divine moral government in consequence of human transgression, by which the violated law has been honoured and magnified—sin condemned, the compassion of God manifested towards sinners, and a safe and honourable way opened up by which guilty men may obtain life and salvation."

The sermon, which is throughout full of rich thought, and remarkably clear and convincing, concludes with the following lessons:—

"1. The inflexibly righteous character of Jehovah. He will maintain the authority and dignity of his holy law; he will not give the least countenance or encouragement to sin—it must be put down. If men will roll it as a sweet morsel under their tongues, the consequences will be terrible.

2. The unparalleled compassion of God is strikingly manifested in the work of Christ. So great is his compassion for perishing sinners, that he gave up his Son to atone for their sins, and thereby opened a way of escape for their guilty spirits. Calvary is the true standpoint from which to contemplate the divine character.

3. The great propitiation is finished, and all things needed for men's salvation are now ready. The door of mercy stands open for all. All