

prayer on her behalf. People do not know what they lose when they will not suffer themselves to be loyal. It is a delicious feeling—I would not barter it for fifty republics.

After the lapse of some hours, the procession returned, with a new addition to the British portion of it; for now all the nobles wore their coronets, and it was a splendid sight. Of all my country's institutions, next to her church and throne, I would uphold her aristocracy: and however modern licentiousness may affect to scorn them, those little circlets of gold are very precious in my sight.

Now too the maiden's brow bore that brightest jewels among many nations—the crown—the regal crown of Protestant England: her right hand held the sceptre, and her left the golden ball. Thus invested, her reception was far more enthusiastic than before; for the people recognised the symbols of righteous dominion, and proved the truth of the assertion which has led me so far, that the genius of England is decidedly monarchical.—May God in his mercy, keep it so."

YOUTH'S DEPARTMENT.

For the Colonial Churchman.

A few months since I saw a vessel at the port of —, preparing to leave for some distant land. A few hours before she spread her canvass to the wind, I saw her youthful Captain in high spirits shaking one by the hand and then another, bidding what at the time was considered but a temporary farewell. He was soon conveyed on board and the vessel under sail. The wind being fair, she was soon lost to our sight. At the moment the vessel disappeared, a delicate female was standing near to me, watching the last speck the vessel formed upon the ocean. I heard her say aloud, "I wish you well," and burst into a flood of tears. On inquiry, she proved to be the Captain's wife. Time rolls rapidly on. The vessel has performed her voyage, and returned to the same port from whence I saw her take her departure. I observed her coming up the harbour; many hearts were palpitating in anxious waiting to hear the report from her of "All's well." As the vessel neared the wharf, suspicions were caused by an apparent gloom on board,—as scarcely a voice was to be heard from among the sailors who generally display gladdened hearts and merry voices at the sight of the home that they had left. But a few minutes transpired before the news came on the shore to us that Captain — was not on board, that he had been suddenly called out of this world, and his body laid low in the dust at the Island of —. I shall never forget the scene that the sudden shock occasioned. Many a manly tear started in the eye, but what were they to the tears that flowed from the eyes of the poor Captain's wife. The blow was indeed to her a sad and heavy blow. When she first heard that the vessel was in sight, and knowing the hardships with which the sailor has to contend, she at once busied herself in preparing a comfortable reception for her husband on his reaching his home — Soon and suddenly her hopes of seeing him were blasted in the bud. The sad countenance of a friend told her the mournful news. Where? she cried, where is my husband—my best earthly friend and protector? Her friend made known to her gradually the heart-rending news, but the blow to her was

too heavy and sudden,—she swooned away, and it was some time before she completely recovered.—

"In the midst of life we are in death." Scarcely a day passes away without full proof of this.

How little did Capt. — think at the time I saw him, that he was never to return to his wife and friends again. Nothing, I believe, was further from his thoughts. How solemn the reflection. They will never meet again until they meet on the day of Judgment:—the farewell that I witnessed, was the last and final farewell.

Reader! Are you a mariner? and do you seek your living on the mighty ocean? If so, let me kindly remind you, that while you are the tenant of a floating house, there is but an inch or two between you and a never ending Eternity. The Captain before alluded to, was permitted to die on shore, and his body decently committed to the earth. He exchanged his floating dwelling place for a much smaller and more fixed abode in the grave, where the storms and tempests of this world pass over and reach him not. But such may not be your fate.— Die you must in God's own good time; and your grave may be in the wide expanse of the mighty ocean. Your ship is your little world, and as such your little world is in danger every moment of being swallowed up by the great deep, or destroyed by the whirlwind. Therefore it behoves you to be at all times ready to meet your God, not knowing at what moment your house, which is without foundation, may be scattered to the wind. Or perhaps Reader, you are the wife or relative of the still living and noble mariner? If so, remember the sad event above related; so that whenever you bid 'Farewell' to your friend, even though he is bound on a short voyage, reflect that such may be your last Farewell on earth, as was the case with Capt. —. Life is most uncertain with us all. Therefore, in all your doings remember, whether on land or water, that "In the midst of life we are in death."

January, 1839.

D.

RELIGIOUS MISCELLANY.

CAUSE OF FREEDOM.

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Extract of a letter from George Blythe, Scotch Presbyterian Missionary, to Joseph Sturge, dated Hampden, Trelawney, Jamaica, 21st August, 1838:—

'You will be anxious to know how the emancipated negroes conducted themselves after the festivities had ceased. On the 6th, (the first day on which any were expected to work,) nearly all the males of my congregation offered to engage in the same labor to which they had been accustomed. On two estates, Dundee, and Kent—the former under the management of Mr. Farquharson, and the latter of Mr. G. Gordon, (both of whom, I suppose, you met)—all the males and some females commenced work, and continued steadily at it, without knowing what wages they would receive; and their confidence has not been abused, for their managers have since agreed to give them 1s. 3d. (1s. sterling) per day, with other perquisites. On another property, on which I have upwards of two hundred members, the attorney offered 1s. 8d., and got a considerable number of laborers, who were almost exclusively connected with my church. It is somewhat remarkable, that the first who went to work were young men who had learned to read their Bibles, and have been members of Mrs. Blythe's Sunday noon class for a number of

years. So much for instruction in fitting the labouring classes for their station. Some attorneys who offered only 1s. 3d. (9d. sterling) per day, have not been able to make any arrangement with their people, but have got a good deal of work done by the piece. From 10s. to 13s. 4d. (currency) have been given for cleaning an acre of canes, according to the condition in which they were. Last week, eight of my people cleaned a field of sixteen acres, at 10s. per acre, in the course of two days. They laboured hard, indeed, and during extra hours. Still they made excellent wages, and one person cleaned an acre per day, which, in the days of slavery, required six or eight. The remark of the Governor has therefore been more than verified, that one free man would work as much as four slaves. Another of my people took a cane field to clean, and after paying those who assisted him at the rate of 2s. 6d. per day, had forty shillings remaining to himself for a few days' labor. If there be any in my congregation unemployed, they are merely a few straggling individuals on estates where 1s. 8d. has not yet been offered, for they have all pledged themselves to work for that sum. On some properties, the work is going on as regularly as if no change had taken place. And on the whole, the state of my congregation more than justifies the hopes of the warmest advocates for emancipation. I consider this part of the country as completely settled, with the exception of a few properties, the managers of which are obnoxious to the people, or refuse to give them adequate remuneration for their labor. This happy state of things has, in a great measure, arisen from the reasonable demands of the labourers, and the good sense of the planters, who have met them, though reluctantly, on fair terms. I suppose the most irreligious will confess that Christian instruction has also a salutary influence in the present crisis. One of my elders told me, last Sabbath, that the attorney of the estate on which he resides, called him up to the overseer's house, and expressed his great satisfaction at the excellent way in which the people had behaved themselves; and added, that he attributed it to the good advice which they had received at church and from the elders at home. The following is an extract from the letter of a judicious overseer who manages a property where all the people are connected with my church:—I think, if any thing causes the ruin of the country, it will be the folly of those who allow the negroes to go down idle, while the offer of 1s. 8d. per day would set all to work. When this has been offered and refused, I fear there is no alternative, as a lighter rate would not leave the proprietor any thing. I assure you it is a cause of great happiness to me to see how well the people here are behaving which is caused by the good advice and instruction they get from you. I mention not these things in the spirit of boasting, but I cannot be blamed for magnifying my office, and the great cause to which I have devoted my life. I am sorry to add, that unfavorable reports have reached us from other quarters, but they are probably exaggerated; my congregation have also had many reflections cast upon them for labouring, as some of their neighbours have thought, for too low wages. While those of opposite interests have blamed Mr. Knibb, myself, and others for combining to raise the rate of wages. I expected such censures, but disregarded them, having no other in view but the prosperity of this country, and the securing of such a scale of wages as appeared equitable to master and servant. And it is no gratification for me to see at least nine-tenths of a congregation already settled under the new system, and likely to prosper in their worldly circumstances, as well as to adorn their religious profession by a consistent conduct. I hope much more from the influence of the Congregational Temperance Society. It has