THE

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DEVOTED to the RELIGIOUS EDUCATION of the OLD AND YOUNG.

GOD'S PURPOSE IN THE CONQUEST OF CANADA.

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"The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his Kingdom ruleth over all."

PSALM CHI., 19.

If it be admitted that the world was ! ereated by God; it would require a vast amount of credulity to believe that it is not governed by Him. We believe that He interests himself in all its affairs, and superintends, and controls even its minutest concerns; and that He has ulterior purposes in view, both with regard to this world, and the human race, far beyond what it is possible for man, in his present condition, to comprehend. If then God ruleth over all the affairs of this world, it is plain that He raiseth up, and casteth down princes, according to His sovereign pleasure; and that He presides over the formation, growth, decay, and destruction of empires; and especially, that every thing connected with the cause of true religion on earth, is the object of His constant watchfulness and care.

It is true, that the wicked sometimes so prosper, and acquire such power; and that systems of superstition, and idolatry, and oppression, so prevent the truth, and persecute its faithful professors, that it might almost seem as if God were indifferent to the cause of righteousness and truth altogether. This, however, though a very

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natural, is a very unreasonable idea. God often permits wicked men, when they avail themselves of His established and wellknown laws, to prosper greatly; while good men, by disreg rding them, are often brought to hardship and poverty. Thrones of iniquity are sometimes permitted to be firmly established, and exercise the most cruel tyranny for generations; and systems of superstition, and idolatry, and willworship, and spiritual despotism are some times permitted to deface and prevent the truth, and bury it under heaps of ceremonial rubbish, and persecute unto death its faithful defenders. But these things are permitted for wise purposes, and though they may be inscrutable to us now; yet what lively views are thus conveyed to us of the evil of sin, and these excesses of cruelty of which the opposers of the truth can be guilty; and of the tremendous moral ruin, from which the redeemed of the Lord are delivered. Men believing all this sometimes find it difficult to postess their souls in patience, and realise the truths which they admit; and magine that God's justice is slow, and the promises very long in being fulfilled. It may be that God's justice is slow, but it is sure and