

attained one judgment, as on essential principles, so likewise on many important points, within either category; nor, least of all, is it a junction, for some political or philanthropic purpose, between parties who stand aloof on spiritual grounds, but who have found out some affinities of opinion on matters of temporal moment. No! our union, as we desire it to be, might almost be described as the precise reverse of this last. It is an union of those who are spiritually and vitally one; though externally, on account of some lingering differences of belief, worship and church-procedure, constrained for very peace's sake to divide. It speaks them undivided in, and for God. It is formed on the ground of the Christian Confession, under the attractions of the Spirit, beneath the shadow of our Saviour's Cross; it is formed that we may cherish His mind, maintain His honours, and feel after His further will. Whatever may be its ulterior views, it certainly has none, and, from the composition of this pattern-meeting, can have none, beyond the theatre of a Scriptural Catholicity. For the present, and in itself, it is simply "Declarative of our Fellowship in Christ." It is to be interpreted as the not unhumble, nor unanxious, assertion on the part of each church-fessing believers, whose representatives are present, of a claim of membership in His mystical Body; and as a most cordial recognition of that claim by all the rest,—a recognition, which we respectfully extend to all, in every place, and of every name, who, as the Apostle exhorted the church at Philippi, "Mind the one thing." Solemnly and joyfully believing in One Holy Ghost, not only as the Lord, but as the giver of spiritual life,—and in One Catholic and Apostolic Church, which His inspiration created and which His grace sustains, in Christ,—we would show forth the Communion of Saints. Amen!

ON MARRIAGE.—The institution of marriage originated with the Governor of the universe; and it is designed to administer to man's comfort, as well as to propagate our species. Marriage forms a union mysterious as it is beneficial—an alliance which, when formed in the fear of the Lord, blends two souls into one, and harmonises all the hopes, fears, joys and sympathies of the individuals who are its subjects. An unhappy marriage is, perhaps, one of the most severe afflictions an individual can suffer in this life, because it may be protracted for years, and only ends with the reformation or death of one of the parties—it is emphatically a curse. If there be one change in life which more than another requires prudence, consideration and prayer, it is the change from a single to a married state. The Christian especially should be cautious in choosing a partner for life; no circumstances or considerations can justify a departure from the apostolic command, "Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers." That person is indeed to be pitied who allows passion or avarice to influence him in making a choice, on which so much of felicity or infelicity depends.

Nor is it sufficient to be guided by moral and religious considerations alone. The natural constitution of him or her who is chosen as a companion for life, should receive attention; the neglect of this has frequently entailed much sickness in families, and, what is worse, has transmitted hereditary diseases down through many generations.

These hints are thrown out in the hope that they may prevent, though it should be but in one instance, the unhappy consequences attending a hasty matrimonial alliance.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We beg respectfully to inform our readers, that Chap. 5 of "The Saviour's Bright Example," will appear in our next—press of matter compelling us to omit its insertion in this number.

"Twilight Musings, No. 1," (poetry) is also unavoidably deferred till our next.

\* \* \* Communications, Letters on Theological Subjects, and Books for Review, may be addressed (post paid) to the care of Mr. C. GORELL, Post Office, Montreal—who has kindly consented to act as Agent for the CHRISTIAN MIRROR.

### ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

#### MEMOIR OF SIR CHARLES METCALFE, THE NEW GOVERNOR OF CANADA.

(Written for the Christian Mirror.)

We believe, firmly believe, in the doctrine of a Divine providence—that providence extends not only to the affairs of humanity generally, but to each and every specific individual. And in this light we view the much lamented indisposition of His Excellency Sir Charles Bagot, and his intended return, if spared, to our native land. Whatever may be the diversity of opinions among our readers, of the policy of Sir Charles Bagot, all will, assuredly, give him credit for integrity of motives, uprightness of character, and sterling honesty in the discharge of unusually responsible duties. The political horizon is somewhat gloomy, but the darkened clouds have not arisen from the policy, the measures, or the judgment of his late Excellency. There have been other and various causes—the depression of mercantile pursuits in the old country—the stagnation of all kinds of business, and, consequently, in this colony, the unusually low prices of produce—prices, which all but ruin the industrious farmer, and do not by any means benefit the intelligent and enterprising merchant. It is a matter, too, of deep regret that the recent severe (but we hope now amended) ill health of his late Excellency has retarded the progress of measures intended by him to promote the welfare of this colony. Every rightly constituted mind will have felt deeply grieved, not only on account of the Governor himself, but for the retardment of the progress of measures which, to say the least, might have claimed a fair trial amongst the colonists. Sincerely do we desire and earnestly do we pray that the God of Heaven will watch over and perfect the health of His Excellency Sir Charles Bagot, that he may be spared to see his native land in safety and renewed strength; and that, if he must for the future, walk amid the envious scenes of domestic privacy, he may there exemplify virtues and excellencies which exalt character, whether humble or elevated in society.

We have extracted the following from the *Colonial Gazette*, to which we beg to call the attention of all our readers, especially those who are young men, inasmuch as we shall presently have to observe, that the character of Sir Charles Metcalfe, the newly elected Governor, is important specially to them and to their future interests.

The Right Hon. Sir Charles Theophilus Metcalfe, Bart., G.C.B., is the second son of Sir Theophilus Metcalfe, the first baronet, who was in the military service of the East India Company, and who became a Director of the Company on his return to this country.

Sir Charles was educated at Eton, from which school he brought away a strong relish for classical literature; and he entered at a very early age, about 1801, into the civil service of the East India Company. His promising qualifications for the public service immediately attracted the attention of Lord Wellesley, who employed him, in the first instance confidentially, in what was called his "private office;" and shortly afterwards attached him, as his agent, to Lord Lake's army in the field,—a distinction greater, perhaps, than was ever conferred, even in India, upon one so young in years. But his conduct in this delicate office proved Lord Wellesley's sagacity in selecting him for it. He was shortly afterwards appointed Resident at Delhi, with extensive powers in relation to the states on our North-western frontier. In this capacity he negotiated the first treaty of the British Government with the late Runjeet Singh, the sovereign of the Punjab. That able and ambitious monarch had at-

tempted to bring under his power some petty independent States on the banks of the Sutlej, lying between his boundary and that of British India. Mr. Metcalfe was sent by Lord Minto to apprise him that he must either withdraw his troops within his own territory, and cease to meddle with the States under our protection, or prepare for immediate conflict with the British power.

The declaration of the resolution of the British Government evidently excited him extremely. He flung out of the room, and presently Mr. Metcalfe beheld him careering on the plain below, at the head of a small band of horsemen. After galloping about for some time, he returned to the conference, and announced his unwilling determination to withdraw his troops. Mr. Metcalfe remained at Delhi till he was called down to Calcutta as Secretary to the Supreme Government in the political department, and private secretary to the Marquis of Hastings, about the year 1818. In 1821 he went as Resident to Hyderabad, and returned to Delhi with the charge of Rajpootana, and the whole North-western frontier, on the retirement of Sir David Ochterlony, about 1827. Thence he was summoned to Calcutta, to take his seat in the Supreme Council; his term of service in which was specially extended, in consideration of his eminent usefulness, from five to seven years. For a considerable part of this time he was Vice-President of the Council, during Lord William Bentinck's absence from Calcutta. On the constitution of a new Presidency in the North-western provinces by the Charter Act of 1834, Sir Charles Metcalfe was appointed the first Governor of Agra, and, provisionally, Governor-General on the death or resignation of Lord William Bentinck. In March, 1835, that nobleman resigned the Government to Sir Charles Metcalfe (who succeeded to the Baronetcy on his brother's death, about 1823). Sir Charles filled this high office till the arrival of Lord Auckland, in March, 1836, when he resumed the Government of Agra, which he resigned, and returned to England in 1838. In 1839 Lord Melbourne's Administration selected him, at a very critical moment, for the Governor-Generalship of Jamaica, from which he returned to England last year. The Grand Cross of the Bath was conferred upon him when he made over the Governor-Generalship of India to Lord Auckland, and he was appointed a member of the Privy Council on his accepting the Governor-Generalship of Jamaica.

To be concluded in our next.

#### FOR THE CHRISTIAN MIRROR. CHAPTERS FOR THE YOUNG.

##### NO. I.—THE ETERNAL GOD THE GUIDE OF YOUTH.\*

"Wilt thou not from this time cry unto me, My Father be thou the guide of my youth."—JER. iii. 4.

MY DEAR YOUNG FRIENDS,—I have been requested by your kind instructor, to address a few words to you; and I do so, the more cheerfully, because it reminds me, very forcibly, of the period when I listened, like you, Sabbath after Sabbath, to a kind and affectionate teacher. O that I could tell you how anxious he was for our eternal salvation. Well do I remember his looks, his voice, his kind expressions, his earnest entreaties, his persuasive arguments, and his intense anxiety for our best interests. And, surely, there are some of you at least who are concerned that your kind teachers' instructions may be a lasting blessing as they are of infinite importance to you.—Will you, then, kindly listen to me while I attempt to talk to you as a friend, a sincere friend, who desires your present and everlasting welfare. And I would commend to you, a subject the most interesting, and at the same time of unspeakable solemnity and importance. "Wilt thou not from this time cry unto me, My Father, be thou the guide of my youth."

This world is one of danger, perplexity, and trial. You are all seeking for happiness. Oh, how you toil and labor and pant for it, and doubtless, many of you are looking forward to it as an object to be possessed at a distant period in your history; but let me undeceive you—this is fallacious; if you are happy at all, now is the season, now is the period—you have now the least care and anxiety—you have now the best opportunities of receiving instruction, and of retaining the knowledge which you have so received. Be-

\* The subject of this paper was addressed to an interesting band of youth at a Bible class in this city. The writer has desired its appearance in print, under the fervent hope and earnest prayer that it may be useful to his young friends; and if permitted, intends occasionally to continue a series of papers specially prepared for them.