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For the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, &c.

"HOLD FAST THE FORM OF SOUND WORDS."—SCRIPTURE.

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Poetry.

THE DEATH OF THE RIGHTEOUS.

How fair and how lovely it is to behold
The sun in its splendour approaching the west ;
Its race is near run, and, refulgent as gold,
It glides through the ether, as hastening to rest.

It sinks,—but in sinking 'tis only to rise.
Its splendour and glory afresh to display ;
It sets,—but in other and far-distant skies
It rises and reigns in the brightness of day.

Yet far more resplendent than this is the scene
Of the good man approaching the confines of time :
All loving, all peaceful, all calm and serene,
He passes away with a brightness sublime.

He dies,—but no pencil can ever display
The splendour and glory that burst on his sight,
As, guided by angels, he speeds on his way,
Through the portals of praise to the temple of light.
Wesleyan Magazine.

Biographical.

MEMOIR OF CATHARINE HAWKINS.

BY THE REV. C. CHURCHILL.

There are few works more sought after by young readers—especially those who are seriously inclined—than the memoirs of persons of known piety ; additional interest is generally excited when the individual whose case is narrated, died in early life ; still more so, when remarkable circumstances are connected with either their life or death ; and still more, when they have been individuals who have lived in our own times, or with whose history we have been in any way acquainted. The union of the three points here referred to in the following case, has induced the publication of this brief narrative, which we trust will be read with interest and profit—at least by the young.

CATHARINE AMELIA was the third daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Hawkins. She was born at Halifax on the 29th of June, 1818. In the earlier part of her life she had not the advantages and privileges of attending the house of God ; as she might otherwise have had if she had been brought up in the place of her birth—the first sixteen years of her life being passed in a residence under her parents' roof at Cole Harbour, to which place they had removed while she was an infant. But an event took place when she was twelve years old, which was to her of the highest importance.

In the year 1830 she came to town on a visit to her friends, at which time there was a remarkable revival of religion in the Wesleyan Society at Halifax ;—she

attended the various meetings which were held,—her heart was pierced with conviction for sin,—young as she was, she found she was not too young to die,—and she felt that for death she was unprepared ; feeling herself a sinner both by nature and by practice, she sought for the mercy of God in Christ Jesus, and it was not long before she found the pearl of great price, and enjoyed the sense of sins forgiven.

Shortly after her return home, being deprived of the spiritual assistance she had received, exposed to many youthful temptations and snares, and assailed with persecution on account of her profession,—she lost her confidence in God, yielded to the temptations so common to the youthful mind, and sought comfort in the things of the world. But, although she thus forsook the fountain of living waters, and hewed out to herself broken cisterns which could hold no water, she still felt the strivings and convictions of the Holy Spirit working in her mind ; or, as she expressed herself, "The still small voice often said, 'Daughter, give me thine heart.'"

In her sixteenth year she removed to Halifax to reside with a relation, with whom she continued till the time of her death. And although she was deeply sensible that she had lost the sense which she formerly enjoyed of the favour of God, and although in consequence her mind was attracted by the pleasures of youthful associations,—yet she never evinced the folly of youth, so manifest in many who "run to do evil;" her natural disposition was pleasing, her temper mild and forgiving, and she frequently resolved to follow the example of the returning prodigal ; but as frequently her resolution failed, and the commencement of the year 1838 found her still a wanderer from God.

About the commencement of the year her mind was powerfully impressed by a dream ; and she freely expressed her conviction that she should shortly die. On the evening of Jan. 28, she listened to a sermon addressed to backsliders from these words—"Return ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings ; behold we come unto thee, for thou art the Lord our God." Jer. iii. 22. Under this appeal she was again powerfully convinced of her state. She went home, and though naturally reserved, she spoke freely of the distress of her mind, and her firm resolve now to seek peace with God : being assured she had received her last call, and was soon to die.

On the Wednesday following she was taken seriously ill ; but her distress of mind was greater than her bodily affliction. She freely told her medical attendant that her soul was in danger, and this was her chief concern ; and though the nature of her complaint was