

close to the Church, and they will be found to illustrate and confirm the experience he has written in his letters and sermons, as the fitting close to a life of toil.

The great evangelist who had preached theology sixty years, who had taught theology to other preachers fifty years, who was known in two hemispheres as one of the most learned and distinguished Professors of *theology of the age*, was now on his death-bed, and he made this observation in the hearing of his friends, and we are permitted to repeat it for the first time, but it will never be forgotten; it will be written and re-written, and repeated a hundred years hence it was a casual remark, but a transcript of the great man's mind and heart, he said: "All my *teachings* *imposed* *in this narrow compass*, *Jesus a* *Christ* *came into the world to save sinners*."

For three days prior to his departure the lamp of life was burning so low in the socket that he was able to converse but little, and few beside the immediate members of the family were permitted to go into the chamber where the good man met his fate, privileged, as it was, beyond the common walks of life, quite in the verge of heaven. Gradually, almost imperceptibly, the silver cord was loosed, and at six o'clock on the morning of Wednesday, October 22nd, 1851, the wheel at the eastern stood still. He fell asleep in *Jesus*—practically that the moment of his spirit's flight was scarce 3.5. He is dejected by the anxious waiters' eye.

And now what remained but to commit the dust of the honoured dead to its kindred dust. On Friday the 23rd October, the borough of Pir was thronged by the great multitude of men, women and children, anxious to testify with the hosts and neighbours, that sense of the general bereavement. The Synod of New Jersey was still in session, embracing 173 ministers and elders from as many churches; not all of them, but a great number were present; with clergy and laymen from New York, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and other cities and places near and more remote; probably a larger number of citizens than were ever assembled on a similar occasion in the country.

No less than 1837 young men have received instruction in Princeton from his lips, and of his large number 1640 are believed to be still among the living. These will extend his influence to the end of time.

"And I am glad that he has lived so long,

"And glad that he has gone to his reward;

Nor deem that kindly nature did him wrong,

So fitly to disengage the vital cord,

When he was called to leave his body, and his eyes

Dark with the mist of age—it was his time to die."

Full of years and usefulness and honour, he has rested from his labours and his works do follow him. The Head of the Church still lives, and will raise up others to take the places of the fathers when they fall asleep.

By far the greater portion of what Dr. Alexander has published, has been found through this Board. The book we ever published was his "Way of Salvation Familiarly Explained," a work written for children, and of which thirteen thousand copies have been circulated. His work on "Religious Experience" has been a closet companion to Christians of every name; it has reached a circulation of 15,000 copies. "The Evidence of Christianity"—regarded as the best work of the size extant on that subject—has been adopted as a text-book in literary institutions under the care of other denominations, and suit has been unannounced sale, 11,000 copies have been printed. "The Practical Sermons," a larger and more expensive work, has attained a circulation of 4000, in the short time that has elapsed since it came from the press.

The remaining books and tracts from the same gifted pen, and the number of copies printed by the Board, are as follows:—*Divine Guidance*, 6,000 copies; *A Brief Compend of Bible Truth*, 6,000 copies; *The Canon of the Old and New Testaments*, (recently published), 1,000; *Universalism False and Unscriptural*, (do.), 2,000; and *The Love Collection*, (in press). *TRACTS*.—*The Duty of Catechetical Instruction*, 3,000; *A Treatise on Justification by Faith*, 3,000; *Christ's Gracious Invitation to the Labouring and heavy laden*, 15,000; *The Immediate Choice*, 6,000; *The Refuge of Lies*, 5,000; *Ruth the Moabitess*, or the Nature of True Religion, 5,000; *Love to an Unseen Saviour*, 5,000; and *A Dialogue between a Presbyterian and a Friend*, 2,000.

The reader will observe that a portion of these works, like the preaching of the venerated author, on practical, experimental religion. How extensively and powerfully they have reached the blessed gospel all over the land, is more than any human mind can tell, but the great good they have already accomplished, is but a drop in the bucket compared with the long and useful work which they are yet to do. The spirit which indited them has indeed left its clay tabernacle, the hand which wrote them has been permitted to leave its earthly home, but the venerated author still lives, and through these pages he continues to speak, and will speak on till time shall end.

Dr. Alexander's example is a powerful illustration of the importance of using the press as a means of doing good. The results of his spiritual, searching, heart-stirring preaching, are unmeasurable, his influence in instructing and forming the characters of a large portion of the ministers of the Presbyterian Church, has probably no greater; and that of other men of his time; but the revelations of his life and work are made known, we feel assured that the good he has done, through his numerous and admirable writings, will be found not to have been second to that accomplished in any other department of his invaluable labours. The Board of Publication is most happy to be the agency for storing up and scattering abroad the treasures of such a spirit as was that of its late and lamented President, Archibald Alexander.—*Home & Foreign Record*.

The Canadian Presbyterian Magazine.

TORONTO, DECEMBER, 1851.

Several Books received for Review. Want of time prevents attention to that department in this number.

We direct attention to the advertisement in the last page, of the Rev. Charles Fletcher. Owing to the state of Mr. Fletcher's health, he has been obliged to decline his charge of the congregation of Godolphin, and, as the most congruous means of providing for himself and family, has opened a Book and Stationery Store in this city. His claims, especially on the sympathy and support of our Church, we trust will be responded to.

It is with much pleasure we give, in this number, the speech of the Rev. Mr. Thomson, and the valuable facts contained in it, as also the statistical table following it, relating to the Jamaica Mission. For the first time we have such a collection of data, as to enable us to form something like an accurate opinion of the condition of that mission branch of the Church. Though the *Missionary Record* has taken no notice of our magisterial existence, as yet, and very seldom of our Church existence, we would advise the Editor to be inhibited to our columns. We may even help him with facts about Calabar by and bye.

A new Church, in connection with the United Presbyterian Church, in the Township of King, and under the pastoral care of the Rev. James Dick, was opened on the 23rd September. The collection amounted to £5 5s.

THE MAGAZINE.

We desire, at this time, to call special attention to what is to us, and should be to all, an all-important matter—the very extensive circulation of the Magazine. We began it with no very high hopes, but these have been realized; for which we are thankful. We have used no exertions, whatever, in the way of agencies to obtain subscribers, but have left it with ministers and others in the Church just to give that support and interest which they thought proper, and have been much encouraged. We made no promises about how we were to conduct it, but only to do the best we could; and are grateful for the generous confidence reposed in us.

We make no promises, even now. This is the sixth number, and those who are to continue as subscribers, or who desire to become so, must judge from the past, and do as in the married relation, and take up for better or for worse. Our own congregation has the first claim on our service and interest, and the character and quality of the several numbers of the Magazine must therefore depend, to some degree, on the spare time at our disposal. We consider the Magazine a most important auxiliary to our cause, and are well satisfied that, even already, it has done good, and we urge, for the sake of the Church, that still greater efforts be made for its circulation.

From several quarters we have been promised large additions by the January number, and in view of this intend to increase the issue, so that there may be no disappointment. However, two things we much desire. First, that all who have spare copies of No. 1, would return them. At this moment we have only one copy to spare, and as most subscribers desire to take from the beginning, we cannot supply them, unless attention be paid to this request.—and not only will subscribers be disappointed, but we shall incur a direct loss. Second, we do not expect to be able to supply all new subscribers with No. 1, even though those now in various hands and unsolicited for were returned; but without dissenting, we could wish that they would begin with No. 2, that we may dispose of that and subsequent numbers which we have in some quantity. Of course, however, we shall enter subscribers for the January number if they expressly desire it, but where this is not distinctly stated, we shall begin them with the back numbers, so far as they can be supplied.

We began on the cash principle, but owing to circumstances, departed from it for the first few numbers. Now, we expect the dollar with the subscriber's name, and our logic is, that it is as reasonable and just that the subscriber trust the publisher to give the dollar's worth, as that the publisher trust the subscriber for his dollar.

In next number we shall give, under the head of the several Post Offices, the initials of the names of all who have paid up to that date.