

mother. Perceiving that she sat near him he became calm, and soon afterwards uttered a little prayer she had taught him in the cradle. The lady had already lost two children, to which affliction she alludes in her own supplication to heaven. This child recovered, and still lives.

THE MIDNIGHT PRAYER.

'Mid the deep and stifling sadness, the stillness, and the gloom,  
That hung a veil of mourning round my dimly-lighted room,  
I heard a voice at midnight, in strange tones of anguish, say,  
"Come near me, dearest mother! Now, my God! oh, let me pray."  
And, soft as vesper music, wailing sadly through the aid,  
In plaintive utterance, then tolled forth his simple evening prayer,  
The same sweet hymn his lisping tongue so oft to me had said,  
When but an infant still, he knelt beside his cradle bed.  
Methought the Almighty's love must bless that gracious little vine,  
Whose budding tendrils I had taught around His throne to twine.  
Methought an angel's gentle hand the silver chime did toll.  
That called to prayer each thought within the temple of his soul.  
And by the tearful beaming of his eyes I seemed to trace  
The spiritual worshippers within that holy place,  
As solemn light will sometimes through cathedral windows pour,  
And reveal the pale nuns kneeling upon a marble floor.  
A radiance seemed to gather o'er his mournful face the while,  
Like starlight stealing sadly down a consecrated aisle,  
And, round his pale high forehead, hung a halo, soft and faint,  
As falls from holy tapers on the image of a saint.  
And that frail, suffering, patient child, so full of faith divine.  
His soul lit up with holiness—that saint-like boy was mine;  
And, like the broken chrysalis, my heart was only probed  
To see its nursling heavenward spring, in shining vesture robed.  
He prayed—and, dumb with anguish, did my trembling spirit wait,  
Till that low wail had entered at the everlasting gate;  
And then I cried, "Oh! Father, throngs of angels dwell with thee,  
And he is thine—but leave him yet a little while with me.  
Two buds has Azrael plucked from out the garden of my love,  
And place them in the living wreath that spans thy throne above;  
Twice o'er love's consecrated harp have swept the cold dark wings;  
And when I touch it now, alas! there are two broken strings.  
Twice have his strong, sharp arrows pierced the lambs within my  
fold,  
And now in his unerring grasp another shaft behold!"  
Two prayers went up at midnight—and the last so full of woe,  
That God did break the arrow set in Azrael's shining bow.

Educational Intelligence.

CANADA.

— UNIVERSITY OF TRINITY COLLEGE.—On Wednesday the 1st inst., a meeting of the Convocation of the University of Trinity College was held in the College Hall, for the purpose of conferring degrees. Sir John Beverley Robinson, Bart. Chancellor of the University, presided, and the Lord Bi-hop of Toronto was also present.—The following gentlemen were admitted by the Chancellor to the honorary degree of D. C. L.

The Venerable Alexander Neil Bethune, D.D., Rector of Cobourg, and Archdeacon of York.

The Rev. Thomas Brock Fuller, D.D., Rector of Thorold, and Rural Dean.

The Rev. Francis Evans, Rector of Woodhouse, and Rural Dean.

The Rev. Henry Patton, Rector of Cornwall and Rural Dean.

The Rev. Samuel S. Strong, D.D., Incumbent of Ottawa, and Rural Dean.

The Rev. William McMurtry, D. D., Rector of Niagara.

The Rev. A. F. Atkinson, Rector of St. Catharines.

The following Degrees were also conferred:

(*ad eundem gradum.*)

The Rev. Stephen Lett, LL.D., Trinity College, Dublin.

The Rev. John Travers Lewis, LL.D., Trinity College, Dublin.

The Rev. William Bernard Lauder, LL.D., Trinity College, Dublin.

The Rev. John Walker Marsh, B. A., King's College, Toronto.

M. A., The Rev. John Walker Marsh; B. A., Henry Hall.

The following gentlemen have competed successfully for Scholarships:

Bethune, Charles Jas. Stewart.....Wellington Scholar.

Cayley, Edward.....Burnside Scholar.

Wood, John.....Allan Scholar.

—Colonist.

— THE REV. DR. JENNINGS.—The honorary degree of D.D. was conferred on the Rev. John Jennings, of the United Secession Church, Toronto, at the twenty fifth annual commencement of the New York University, on the 1st instact,

— SCHOOL APPARATUS FREE OF DUTY.—His Excellency has been pleased to declare that the exemption from duty of "Philosophical Instruments and Apparatus" was intended to be and is confined to such Philosophical Instruments and Apparatus only as are imported for the special use of Philosophical Societies, Universities, Colleges, Public Schools and Institutes.

— WOODSTOCK LITERARY INSTITUTE.—On Tuesday, the twenty-third ultimo, the ceremony of laying the Corner Stone of the Canadian Literary Institute was celebrated. Shortly after twelve o'clock a number of people met at the Town Hall, and, accompanied by the Woodstock Band, the Victoria Fire Brigade, and the children of some of the schools, marched in procession to the site of the building. Colonel Whitehead, the master of ceremonies, announced the object for which they were assembled there, and called upon the Rev. James Cooper to open the proceedings with prayer, after which, Rev. R. A. Fyfe of Toronto stated the object for which the Institution was being established. It was an institution which he had long anxiously desired to see established. The name of it indicated its object. It was called "The Canadian Literary Institute," and it was intended to provide a good education for young men and young women. It was not intended to build up a particular class of views, but for the benefit of that large class of farmers who were growing wealthy and desired to give their sons and daughters an education superior to what could be obtained in the Common Schools. It was not intended to supersede the Common Schools, but rather to begin where they left off. Although the institution was being built under the auspices of the Baptist body, and the education would properly be under religious influences, there was to be no test whatever imposed. It was proposed to establish scholarships, and for this purpose a subscription list would be opened some time next fall. The idea was to give for a scholarship a four years' course of training to one pupil, or, if preferred, two years to two pupils, or four pupils one year. The price of a scholarship to be £20, one half of which would be payable on the opening of the institution, the balance as the pupils receive the value of it in attendance at the institute. The documents and papers that will be deposited in the stone are as follows: a copy of the *Journal of Education for Upper Canada*; the Report of the Chief Superintendent of Education for Upper Canada for 1855; the Report of the Chief Superintendent of Education for Lower Canada for 1855; a copy of the *Baptist Register*, a copy of the *Christian Messenger*, a copy of the *Times*, *Sentinel*, and *Gazetteer*; a manuscript copy of the Minutes of the First Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Canadian Literary Institute, containing the names of each member of it; a copy of the Charter of the Canadian Literary Institute; a printed copy of the Constitution and By-laws of the Victoria Fire Brigade; a memorandum of the names of the Architect and the Superintendent of the building. Deacon Burch then proceeded to the business of the day, with the trowel, the square, and the hammer. Having pronounced it "square," and placed it in its position, he mounted upon it, and proclaimed that he laid this corner stone in the name of the "Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost." The Band then struck up "God save the Queen;" after the performance of which George Alexander, Esq. being called upon, he rose and said: That the custom of celebrating the commencement of important public buildings with all the rites of inauguration has long been observed in different parts of the world. Such ceremonies occur very frequently in this country, sometimes upon breaking ground for some contemplated railway, or other great public improvements intimately connected with the progress of our country. The occasion of our being assembled here to-day, would perhaps be an appropriate one for asking ourselves whether, amidst all our progress and all the triumphs of human skill and science, which have added so much to man's comfort and convenience, also to the wealth of our country by the facilities afforded to commerce; I think this would be a suitable moment to enquire whether, amidst all the wonderful discoveries and appliances of mechanism, man himself is becoming *wiser* and *greater*, under all the influences by which he is surrounded. If there is great value and importance to be attached to the steam engine and the electric telegraph, we must value still more the human mind and the social and moral progress of man. Mr. Alexander proceeded to illustrate the great advantages enjoyed by the people of this country, paying a just tribute of respect to Dr. Ryerson, whose never-ceasing exertions had brought into practical operation our excellent school system, with its public libraries of valuable