

P. M, and, with their teachers, walked in procession to the place of rendezvous.

Having taken their place by classes, the President gave out a beautiful hymn, selected for the occasion, and engaged in prayer; on the conclusion of which, cakes and buns of almost every kind, were served in abundance, with a bountiful supply of good water; after which, speeches were delivered, preceded and followed by appropriate pieces sung by the children. Almonds and raisins were then issued, and plentifully supplied to all; after which, the children were allowed to disperse and amuse themselves for half an hour. On the bell being rung, almost all were instantly in their places, and as quiet and orderly as a body of organized adults. Several other speeches followed, with singing interspersed,—among which, was a piece published in your number for August, called "Invitation," by one of the female classes.

Apples and cakes were now distributed; after which the entertainment was concluded with another delightful hymn and prayer, when all separated, highly gratified with the festivities of the day.

I may here remark that this school appears to be in a flourishing condition, numbering eighty six scholars, and sixteen officers and teachers. In this school there are three Bible-classes, one male, and two female, who are receiving a regular course of training to fit and prepare them for the office of teachers and useful members of society.

O. P. Q.

*Bytown, September 18, 1852.*

#### FATAL SEVERITY.

A few weeks before my friend wrote to me, he had buried his eldest son, a fine, manly little fellow, about eight years of age. His death

occurred under circumstances peculiarly painful. A younger brother had been ill for a month with an epidemic fever; every precaution was taken to guard the rest of the family; but this eldest son was so healthy, they did little fear for him: but his father forbade him going into the pools and docks near his school, which he sometimes visited. One evening this father came home wearied with a long day's labour, and vexed with some disappointment which had soured his naturally kind disposition. While he was sitting by the fire in this unhappy state of mind, his wife entered the apartment, and said, "Henry has just come in, and he is a perfect fright; he is covered from head to foot with dock-mud, and is as wet as a drowned rat." "He is shivering over the kitchen-fire: he was afraid to come up here, when the girl told him you had come home." "Tell Jane to tell him to come here this instant," was the brief reply.

Presently the poor boy entered, half perished with cold and fright. His father glanced at his sad plight, reproached him bitterly for disobedience, spoke of the punishment awaiting him in the morning, and in a harsh voice said, "Now, sir, go to bed." "But, father," said the little fellow, "I want to tell you ——" "Not a word: go to bed!" With a peremptory stamp, an imperative wave of the hand to the door, and a frown on his brow, did that father close the door of explanation. When his boy had gone supperless and sad to his bed, the father sat restless and uneasy while supper was prepared, and he ate little. His wife saw the cause of his emotion, and remarked, "I think, my dear, you ought, at least, to have heard what Henry had to say: my heart ached for him when he