

not be learned. Until, by long preparation, the social soil was fit for the seed, it could not grow. Imperfect statutes alone could befit imperfect Israel. They were not the best, but the best possible, considering 'the hardness of their hearts.'

I think it not inapt, therefore, to conclude that the marvellous insight which penetrated the fluent secret of this mysterious complex of nature and humanity long before such vision could come in the order of natural development—which saw the whole plant, leaf, flower, and fruit in the seed 'before it grew,' was somehow at least touched with an element incommensurate with known and explored causes.

Is it rash to suggest that the eye which gets to-day telescopic help beyond itself to range among the stars may then have been enlarged by Him who 'made the stars also,' and who 'formed the eye?'

THE LATE REV. DR LACHLIN TAYLOR.

Within the last month our Society has lost two of its Vice Presidents, two of its oldest and best friends, by the deaths of the Rev. Dr. Taylor and A. T. McCord Esq. Dr. Taylor had been one of the Society's Vice Presidents for twenty years, having been elected as such in 1861 on his resignation of the office of agent, which he had filled with so much zeal and energy from 1851, when he succeeded the Rev. James Richardson (afterwards Bishop Richardson). In the account of its last meeting on page 7, our readers will see the minute passed by the Board of Directors in reference to his death. It is an interesting coincidence that, when that minute was read and passed, it was almost exactly thirty years from the date of the meeting at which he was appointed agent which was on the 22nd Sept. 1851. Dr. Taylor was born in Argyleshire, on the 18th of June 1815, the day on which the battle of Waterloo was fought. He himself intended for some time to enter the army; but while he was yet quite a lad his family came out and settled near Lachute, in Lower Canada, where he was converted, and two years afterwards entered the ministry in the Methodist Church, in which he laboured with much acceptance up to the time of his entering the service of the Society. It has been claimed for him, and we think with justice, that "though other agents have been equally zealous in their devotion to the interests of the Society, none of them have carried into its service an equal amount of energy, or succeeded in investing it with such a degree of importance in the public estimation." He was indeed an incomparable agent. Perhaps his energy did not surpass that of his predecessor, or of some of his successors; but his enthusiasm and eloquence made it more effective, and in this his Highland blood and Highland tongue were of no small advantage to him. In his first report he bears witness to the value of the labours of his predecessor thus: "For the present prosperous condition, and enlarged operations of the Society in this Province, much praise is due to your former agent, the Rev. James Richardson, who for eleven years discharged the duties of agency with unwearied fidelity and devotedness. There is scarcely a village or settlement from Amherstburg to Kingston,