

AUTHORITY OF THE BIBLE.—The Rev. Adolphe Monod, in a treatise which we recently noticed, gives the following as an illustration of the benefits arising from the reading of the Bible :

"The mother of a family was married to an infidel, who made a jest of religion in the presence of his own children; yet she succeeded in bringing them all up in the fear of the Lord. One day asked her how she had preserved them from the influence of a father whose sentiments were so openly opposed to her own. This was her answer: 'Because, to the authority of a father I did not oppose the authority of a mother, but that of God. From their earliest years my children have always seen the Bible upon my table. This holy book has constituted the whole of their religious instruction. I was silent, that I might allow it to speak. Did they propose a question? did they commit any fault? did they perform any good action? I opened the Bible, and the Bible answered, reproof, or encouraged them. The constant reading of the Scriptures has alone wrought the prodigy which surprises you.'"

FEAR OF DEATH AMONG THE HEATHEN.—The fear of death destroys the remains of natural affection in the hearts of the heathen. Rev. Dr. Phillips, missionary among the Caffres in South Africa, says:—

"When this fear gets possession of their minds, it destroys all the kindly feelings of the human heart. A case of a very tragical nature occurred a few days ago in this neighborhood. A young Caffre went to visit a kraal where the small-pox had broken out; his family received notice of it in his absence, and when he returned, under night, they would not admit him into their hut. He attempted to force his way, and his own brother, in the presence of their parents, stabbed him to the heart."

"When small-pox makes its appearance in an individual it is no uncommon thing for all about him to leave him to perish. I have heard of a case among the Tambookies, of a young man who was put to death, the people fearing to come near him, or to allow him to live, lest his corrupting body should poison the atmosphere, and spread the disease over the country."

THE CHRISTIAN MIRROR.

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, FEB. 23, 1843.

"THE PEACE OF GOD WHICH PASSETH ALL UNDERSTANDING."

THE great importance to all men of the possession and practice of evangelical piety cannot but be admitted by every individual who is at all conversant with his Bible. Importance, did we say? Oh, were there no stronger inducement to lead men to its pursuit and cultivation—were its benefits limited to our present existence,—then, indeed, might some reason be shown for its neglect. But when it is seen, as it cannot fail to be by every sincere enquirer after truth, that it is INDISPENSABLY NECESSARY, in order to save the soul from the penalty of eternal death, which is its desert, and to secure for it an "inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away, eternal in the heavens," which has been forfeited by transgression,—the mind is forcibly struck with the obstinate blindness and determined hostility to the truth, on the part of those who neglect this great salvation.

Little do worldly men know of the exquisite enjoyment they forfeit while they remain unaffected and uninfluenced by religion. The universal testimony of those who have "tasted that the Lord is gracious," goes to confirm the truth of this remark. To know that Jehovah is my *Friend*, that the world's Architect is my *Father*,—to be fully assured that I am adopted into the family of God, and that Christ is my elder Brother,—to feel that when this "earthly tabernacle" is taken down I shall inhabit a "building not made with hands, eternal in the heavens,"—that when my heart

and flesh fail, God shall be "the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever;"—this, this raises the soul above all sublunary casualties and vicissitudes, and the Christian,

"Like some tall cliff that lifts its awful form, Spreads from the vale and midway leaves the storm—While round its breast the rolling clouds are spread, Eternal sunshine settles on its head."

This it was that enabled the Apostles to "count not their lives dear unto them,"—this caused them to "rejoice in tribulation,"—this made them bold to contend for the "faith once delivered to the saints,"—this gave to the Martyrs calmness and equanimity at the stake,—this has sustained Christians in all ages and under all circumstances.

But there is yet another thought—which is, that in addition to the loss of all the felicity which the religion of the Saviour secures to his faithful followers in this life, the ungodly are constantly exposed to the fearful consequences in another and eternal state of neglecting that merciful provision which has been secured by the atonement and work of the Lord Jesus Christ, and which is now so freely offered to all.

These thoughts passed through our mind while we conversed lately with some, who, through the instrumentality of recent special religious services held in some of the churches in this city, have been brought out of darkness into marvellous light—and the number of such is not small. To God be all the praise.

In a late number of the *Toronto Christian Guardian*, we observe some excellent remarks upon the subject of revivals of religion. We fully agree with the Editor in the sentiments contained in the following paragraph:—

"Religion is the most exciting of all subjects. Here is God becoming man—the God-man dying for men—man's sinfulness and conviction of it—means to be used without delay to obtain pardon and safety—foes manifold and powerful to be met and mastered—constant conflict with them—a hell to shun—a heaven to gain. Talk we of emotion and zeal; the wonder is that men are not the subjects of much deeper impressions; and one of their sins is, that they are not. It is a matter of regret that when that salvation which is to be obtained and retained is so momentous, there is so little feeling and activity. Religion is love; and we have yet to understand how that passion can glow and operate without emotion; and in this case it is love to God, the giver of every mercy, and love to a world perishing around us. Love is not a cold, chilling idea.—It is passion,—hallowed—ardent—quenchless."

GLORIOUS SIGNS OF THE TIMES.—The following paragraph lately appeared in the *Cincinnati Ladies' Repository*. It must afford unmixed pleasure to every lover of Zion:—

"Probably there has never been a period since time began, when revivals of religion were so general and so powerful as now. They spread nearly over the Christian world, and they sway the minds of men in an unusual manner. It seems as though nothing is needed to secure the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, but the appointment of meetings, and a rallying of the friends of Zion to the work of faith and the labour of love. We have enjoyed the privilege of attending some eight or ten protracted meetings since the close of the Ohio annual conference, and at each there was a glorious display of God's saving power. The result has been an addition of more than four hundred to the Church, and the conversion of a large majority of the young members. It is time for all who love Jesus to awake, and enter into the labours of the harvest. The fields are white and waiting for the sickle. The ministers of Jesus should be active. Every energy should be enlisted in this rising cause. It seems that efforts to save souls are, through the ready aid of the Spirit, unusually efficacious and fruitful. What encouragement! Seed now scattered abroad does not 'lie buried in hope.' It soon returns into the hand of the labourer. Is the millen-

nium come? Surely it is not distant. We are in sight of its holy and happy scenes. The light of a new day streaks the heavens; and the Sun of Righteousness is about to become fully unveiled to a dark and perishing world. Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly!"

It is with feelings of unmingled satisfaction, that we notice the publication of a most interesting document by the Merchants of Montreal, entitled, "The Memorial of the undersigned Merchants of Montreal, to British Underwriters, Ship-owners and Ship-masters,"—suggesting the adoption of strict Temperance principles on board of merchant vessels trading to this country, and promising to give "a preference in the way of business" to such vessels. This is a most important movement, and cannot fail to produce a great moral reformation. While on this subject, we take the liberty of suggesting to the same influential body the importance of adopting some active measures towards securing the proper observance of the Sabbath.

We understand that the Friendly Union of Montreal has lately held its third anniversary, and that five hundred children have been instructed in the Bethel school—where, also, Divine worship has been held for seamen and emigrants four times weekly. The Committee appeal to the public for their continued patronage.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S HEALTH.

THE almost miraculous rescue of His Excellency the Governor General, from the jaws of death, is almost the only topic of conversation, in these dull times. It has thrown a little life into society. But although removed from immediate danger, His Excellency is far from being recovered. He still remains exceedingly unwell, and is consequently unable to transact any kind of public business.—*Kingston Whig*.

The improved state of His Excellency's health cannot but afford pleasure to the whole country, who feared that Kingston might be fatally distinguished for the decease within its limits of two successive Governors. Happily such an event need not now be apprehended, and there is good ground for supposing that His Excellency will recover his health.—*Transcript*.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE CHRISTIAN MIRROR.

THE SAVIOUR'S BRIGHT EXAMPLE, A MODEL FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

CHAP. III.—UNQUESTIONABLE PIETY.

"Thy fair example may we trace
To teach us what we ought to be!
Make us by thy transforming grace,
Dear Saviour, more like thee."

MRS. STEELE.

It is an observation of one of our best writers, that to pass our time in the study of the sciences has, in all ages, been reckoned one of the most dignified and happy of human occupations, and the name of Philosopher, or a lover of wisdom, is applied to those who lead such a life. But it is by no means necessary that a man should do nothing else than study known truths and explore new scenes, in order to earn this high title. Some of the greatest philosophers, in all ages, have been engaged in the pursuits of active life; and he, who, in whatever situation his lot may be cast, prefers the refined and elevating pleasures of knowledge to the low gratification of the senses, richly deserves the name of a philosopher.

Religion, the religion of the Bible, ennobles and sanctifies true philosophy; and pours over the pages of scientific discovery, the radiance of her beams, and the glory of her character. Without her, the highest philosophy is comparatively insignificant, and without her, the deepest and most extensive researches are honored and magnified. Religion, while it ennobles the