

overthrow of their common foe, Napoleon. Alexander was amongst them. They visited Portsmouth—and in the dockyard of Portsea, a circumstance occurred, trivial in itself, but pregnant with consequences, which eternity alone will fully develop. The Emperor, whilst standing on the balcony of the tower which overlooks the dockyard, and commands an extensive prospect of the surrounding country, was accosted with great courtesy by a gentleman in black, who offered his Majesty the use of his telescope, and gave him all the information he desired as to surrounding objects. This gentleman was the Rev. Legh Richmond, the author of the "Dairyman's Daughter," a tract now known in all quarters of the globe. On returning home, the good man, revolving the events of the day, resolved on testifying his respect for the Emperor, by sending him a copy of his tract, and accompanying it by a reference in writing, to the unexpected meeting on the dockyard tower. It was sent accordingly, and, on the Emperor's return to Russia, acknowledged by the present from his Majesty of a handsome diamond ring. The tract was given to the Princess M.—by her translated into the Russian language, and a large edition of it published, at his Majesty's expense, for circulation through the empire. This led to a correspondence betwixt the Princess and the author, and this again to her translation and composition of many other tracts, multitudes of which have been and are still scattered in all directions in that land. This was to the Princess a labour of love. She found her chief delight in the practical consecration of all her time and talents to the glory of the Saviour—and in her own conduct as a Christian in all the relations of life, she exemplified the meekness, humility, unaffected gentleness, unrelaxing benevolence, and enlightened and well-tempered zeal, so rarely found as the ornament of a palace. In the year 1820, she was occupying apartments in the Tauridan Palace at St. Petersburg. There the writer became acquainted with this admirable lady, who, by the unvaried labour of her pen, has done so much for her country. There was much of grandeur in her abode, for it was an Imperial Palace, but in her dress, her demeanour, the tone and tenor of her conversation, there was nothing "unbecoming the Gospel," and much, very much, that adorned the doctrine

of God her Saviour. She still survives, and is descending the hill of life as gracefully as she once stood upon its summit. Her daughters, too, it is believed, have imbibed her spirit, and are treading in her steps. Thus, even in Russia, benighted Russia, there are some shining lights which relieve the dense gloom of superstition, and presage an approaching day of moral renovation. Let those Christian females whose position is so much more favourable for the exhibition of Christian character, and the exercise of Christian charity, emulate the enlightened and holy zeal of this distinguished individual, and rebuke in its deceptive workings the spirit of selfishness and sloth, by remembering the sanctified benevolence of the *Pious Princess*.

J. J. C.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, QUEBEC.

FOR THE HARBINGER.

Having occasion to spend Sabbath, the 23d instant, at Quebec, I had an opportunity of observing "the order" of our sister church there, in the ordination of five deacons, (one deacon was already in office,) recently elected by the unbiassed suffrages of the members. The usual services of the Lord's day are conducted morning and evening; but on this occasion a special afternoon service was appointed, at which the members generally were present. The Pastor commenced the service devotionally, and expounded the nature and design of the office. The five brethren knelt, and were solemnly set apart by prayer and the imposition of hands. It afforded me pleasure to address them on the obligations they had assumed, and the Church, on its duties towards them; the service was solemn and interesting. I had the privilege of addressing very attentive and numerous assemblies both forenoon and evening.

This Church, as many of your readers are aware, has recently passed through a scene of trial and affliction, resulting ultimately in the secession of a small number from their fellowship. It would not be fitting for me to pronounce an opinion on any portion of these painful movements, but I may record the pleasure I felt in perceiving that much peace and love now pervaded the church,—that my esteemed brother, their valued Pastor, is much encouraged—and that their prospects in relation to the future are eminently favourable. It should be observed that having erected their beautiful house for worship, and been multiplied in number, they have said to the Colonial Missionary Society: "We propose now, in depen-