

LITERATURE.

POETRY.

THE NATIVITY.

When Jordan hush'd his waters still,
And silence slept on Zion hill;
When Bethlehem's shepherds through the night
Watch'd o'er their flocks by starry light:

Hark! from the midnight hills around,
A voice of more than mortal sound,
In distant hallelujahs stole,
Wild murmur'ing o'er the raptur'd soul.

Then swift to every startled eye,
New streams of glory light the sky;
Heaven bursts her azure gates to pour
Her spirits to the midnight hour.

On wheels of light, on wings of flame,
The glorious hosts of Zion came;
High heaven with songs of triumph rung
While thus they struck their harps and sung:

O Zion! lift thy raptur'd eye.
The long-expected hour is nigh;
The joys of nature rise again,
The Prince of Salem comes to reign.

See, Mercy from her golden urn
Pours a rich stream to them that mourn!
Behold, she binds, with tender care,
The bleeding bosom of despair!

He comes! to cheer the trembling heart,
Bids Satan and his host depart;
Again the Day-star gilds the gloom,
Again the bowers of Eden bloom!

O Zion! lift thy raptur'd eye,
The long-expected hour is nigh;
The joys of nature rise again,
The Prince of Salem comes to reign.

CAMPBELL.

CHRISTIAN ENDURANCE.

Mortal! that standest on a point of time,
With an eternity on either hand,
Thou hast one duty above all sublime,
Where thou art placed, serenely there to stand.

To stand undaunted by the threatening death,
Or harder circumstance of living doom;
Nor less untempted by the odorous breath
Of Hope, that rises even from the tomb.

For Hope will never dull the present pain,
And Time will never keep these safe from fall,
Unless thou hast in thee a mind to reign
Over thyself, as God is over all.

'Tis well on deeds of good, though small, to thrive,
'Tis well some part of ill, though small, to cure,
'Tis well with onward, upward hopes to strive,
Yet better and diviner to endure.

What but this virtue's solitary power,
Through all the lusts and dreams of Greece and Rome,
Bore the selected spirits of the hour
Safe to a distant, immaterial home?

What but this lesson, resolutely taught,
Of Resignation, as God's claim and due,
Hallows the sensuous hopes of Eastern thought,
And makes Mohammed's mission almost true?

But in that patience was the seed of scorn—
Scorn of the world and brotherhood of man;
Not patience such as in the manger born,
Up to the cross endured its earthly span,

Thou must endure, yet loving all the while,
Above, yet never separate from, thy kind,—
Meet every frailty with the gentlest smile,
Though to no possible depth of evil blind.

This is the riddle thou hast life to solve;
But in the task thou shalt not work alone;
For, while the worlds about the sun revolve,
God's heart and mind are ever with his own!

MILNES.

JOURNAL OF EDUCATION.

MONTREAL, (LOWER CANADA) DECEMBER, 1856.

Notice to Teachers.

We deem it our duty, once more, to direct the attention of teachers to the notice heretofore published with reference to the teachers pension fund. Those who desire to be inscribed on the register with the benefit of having all the years passed in teaching since 1858 accounted, should transmit their demand of inscription to this office, before the 31st December instant, enclosing therewith \$8, amount of premium for years 1857 and 1858, deduction to be made for premiums of previous years out of first year's pension to be paid after their retiring from teaching. Teachers whose names were enregistered in 1857, and who shall not have paid their premium for 1858 before the 31st December instant, will be struck off the list.

Penalty under the Amended School Act.

Mr. Isaie Perrault, of the parish of St. Paul, in the county of Joliette, having obstinately refused to deliver up to the School Commissioners, certain papers belonging to them, and which he retained after he had resigned the office of Secretary, was condemned, by the Superior Court, to a penalty of £33 5 0 with costs, amounting to £7 19 5. We mention this fact as a caution to other parties who might feel inclined to follow the same course.

School Furniture.

The interior distribution and the nature of the furniture of a school-house are of such importance that on these two points alone, depend not only the advancement of the children in a great measure, but also their health and consequently their very existence.

If parents were only to reflect, notwithstanding the value they attach to the education of their children, they would still consider it too dearly bought, if paid for at the expense of their lives. It is, however, unfortunately too frequently the case, not only in a great number of our common schools, but also in some of the colleges and academies that the children are shut up in narrow close classes and dormitories, heated to excess, while the passages and corridors are left without any heat whatever. Again, it is evident that the small size of the class rooms, the low ceilings, the absolute want of all proportion compared with the number of pupils that frequent them, together with the absence of all