

JEREMY TAYLOR.*

A poet should be the critic of Jeremy Taylor, for he was one himself; and hence needs a poetic mind for his interpreter and eulogist. Bald criticism becomes still more barren, (by contrast), when exercised on the flowery genius of the prince of pulpit orators.

There was a period, when the volumes of Taylor lay comparatively neglected; when the Blair taste was dominant. This sensible but cold critic, does not even refer to Taylor in his lecture on pulpit eloquence.

Undoubtedly, Taylor is a first rate genius, of the descriptive kind. His strength lay in that. And his rank, too, was universal. He painted every scene and every varying phase of any one.

Taylor has been called the "Shakspeare of Divinity;" a parallel that requires some limitation. If, by this, it be meant, that, compared with other preachers, he had a richer fancy, greater copiousness of poetic sentiment, and an unequalled profusion of beautiful metaphor, the praise is just; but, if it be intended to express, that, like Shakspeare, he was gifted with an union of wonderful and various powers, almost superhuman, the criticism is extravagant, if not absurd.

Taylor is the painter: inferior to Barrow, in point of reason, and to Clarke, in reasoning: without a tynthe of South's wit or epigrammatic smartness; less ingenious than Donne: he has a fancy and a style far more beautiful than any prose writer before his time, and perhaps since. It has been called "unmeasured poetry."

Such, however, is not a scene congenial to Taylor's temper. In his description, he most affects the tender and pathetic notes of humanity. He plays admirably on every chord of passion; but on some much oftener, and more artfully than on others. He is both "a son of thunder, and a son of consolation."

His landscape is oftener quiet and in repose, than savage or deserted. His favourite breezes are rather zephyrs, than

The wind Euroclydon;— The storm wind.

His florid genius, like his sweet disposition, delighted

* From the Church Record. † Dr. Rush speaks of his conversation as having all the pleasantness of a comedy, with all the usefulness of a sermon.

in heavenly lays, and doubtless his piety was not a little the offspring of his temperament and genius.

Taylor, in his pictures, further resembled Spenser in the proflixity of his style: dwelling on minute points, and carefully finishing every trait. He had none of Milton's concise force, that painted a picture by an epithet or a line. If Taylor had the building of Pandemonium, he would have occupied six times the space Milton took for its construction.

It may be proper here to notice a peculiarity of Taylor's illustrations; they are almost always for ornament: he does not employ a simile to clinch his argument: he does not make even his fancy logical; but describes and paints for the pleasure of the picture.

Taylor, in his frequent and curious quotations, is almost a Burton. A reason for this deference to foreign testimony may be gathered from the fact of the respect for authority cherished by the early divines.

BISHOP RYDER.*

Born of a noble family, familiar from his youth with the best society, naturally kind and affectionate, he united to gentlemanly ease and polish, a peculiar suavity of demeanour and manners. He left the University of Cambridge, where he completed his education, an elegant scholar; and literature, both classical and general, never ceased to form, in subservience to higher and professional pursuits, one of the pleasures of his existence.

Few bishops have been more zealous, or successful in promoting the building of new churches in populous or neglected districts of their dioceses, and none according to his means contributed more liberally to their erection and endowment. His labours as a preacher, even after he became a bishop, were incessant, and exceeded those usually undertaken by active parochial clergymen.

During his residence at Wells, he usually preached twice on the Sunday, once at the cathedral, and again in the large parish church, which was then destitute of any evening service, except when he thus voluntarily officiated. The crowded auditoriums on these occasions attested his powers as a preacher. His sermons were truly impressive and composed in a strain of simple, persuasive, and affectionate eloquence.

Observing, on various occasions, that on Tuesday morning, when at Wells, the bishop disappeared at a very early hour, and did not join the party again till dinner time, inquiry was made into the cause, and it appeared that the two large parishes of Mark and Wedmore, forming part of his peculiar charge as dean, the former distant from Wells twelve miles, the latter eight, were in a state of much spiritual destitution, from the distance of a great part of the population from their respective churches, as well as from the want of church room.

The state of these parishes had so deeply affected his feelings, that he could not be easy to bestow upon them only a barren sympathy; and finding that the prompt and effectual remedy would be to act the part of curate to them himself, he undertook and discharged this office with equal zeal, he cheerfully every other week for many successive years, during his official residence at Wells. Early in the morning of the day mentioned, he mounted his horse or drove over thither, in order to give the full service of the church in each; and so much was his heart interested in this labour of love, that no weather, however unfavourable, no guests, however distinguished, were allowed to interfere with it.

* From the London Christian Guardian.

deanery of Wells, he perfected this work of charity by raising a sum of money to establish a second full service every Sunday in the parish of Mark, where also he built a National School. In the parish of Wedmore, aided by the contributions of the public and the landholders, he was the means of building and endowing two chapels in the hamlets of Blackford and Theale, and also of founding a school. In his Tuesday pastoral visits, the instruction of the children was not overlooked. His benevolent care was repaid by the affectionate gratitude of those who were its objects; and so long as any among the inhabitants survive, who personally attended his ministry, the name of Bishop Ryder will not cease to be pronounced with a heartfelt blessing.

ST. ANTONY.

From Palmer's Church History.

Antony was born in Egypt, A. D. 251; and being left an orphan at an early age, he gave his paternal lands to the inhabitants of the place where he resided, and, having sold the rest of his possessions, he distributed them among the poor. Then associating himself with those who were zealous in religion, he emulated all their virtues, and finding a religious life delightful in practice, though difficult at the commencement, he continually devised new methods of devotion, self-denials, and temperance. His food was bread and salt, and water for drink; and he frequently remained fasting for two or three entire days.

Whatever profession, though not in itself directly unlawful, yet leads men needlessly into many and strong temptations to sin, will always, if possible, and if he is not under any pressing necessity, be avoided by a man who is sincerely desirous to do all things to the glory of God. Every innocent profession may equally and indifferently be chosen by any good man; but yet, even in that choice, his main and ultimate end will be the exercise of right and truth, and the mutual comfortable support of men in justice, faithfulness and charity.

BESANCON.

From a "Tour through Europe," by W. Nixon.

Besancon being, in the time of Charles V., the chief town of the Spanish possessions in France, became the place of residence of Cardinal Granvelle, the minister; and his house is still a conspicuous edifice in the city. It has a front of 160 feet; presenting three stories, each of which is ornamented with a cornice, supported by a row of doric pillars, running the whole length of the building. The entrance, in the style of that period, leads directly into a quadrangular court, surrounded by a colonnade and covered gallery.

The department of the Doubs counts among the eminent names it has produced, Tissot, Marshal Moncey, Victor Hugo, and Cuvier; of the last, a colossal statue has been placed in the public library.

the government,—the lecturers being officially appointed and paid. Among the awards for the present year, was a medal to the author of an essay, the best of many which were written to prove that the proper observance of Sunday is, apart from the obligations of the commandment, essentially useful, both in a moral and physical point of view.

Among the literary men at Besancon, is the celebrated linguist, Monsieur Franck; in whose society and acquaintance, it is needful for me to say, we have had much pleasure. This gentleman, a proficient in many languages, is a member of the Asiatic Society of Paris, and is considered one of the first Hebrew scholars in Europe.

The Garner.

RELIGION INDEPENDENT OF CIRCUMSTANCES.

Many are very apt to imagine, if they had lived in some other place or age of the world, if they had been placed under some other circumstances than they are, if they had lived in our Saviour's days and at a time when one rose from the dead, (Luke xvi. 31), the principles of religion would have had a very different effect upon them, from what they now have.

ADVANTAGES OF ARTICLES OF FAITH.

To say that "the church would be sufficiently secured by subscribing only to the Scriptures at large," is a mere pretence, far too thin to conceal the cloven foot which lurks beneath. Arians and Socinians profess to believe the Bible. Papias, Arminians, and Pelagians, profess the same. So does every sect which affects to shelter itself under the name of Christianity.

CHOICE OF A PROFESSION.

Whatever profession, though not in itself directly unlawful, yet leads men needlessly into many and strong temptations to sin, will always, if possible, and if he is not under any pressing necessity, be avoided by a man who is sincerely desirous to do all things to the glory of God. Every innocent profession may equally and indifferently be chosen by any good man; but yet, even in that choice, his main and ultimate end will be the exercise of right and truth, and the mutual comfortable support of men in justice, faithfulness and charity.

REPROOF, THE DUTY OF THE CLERGY.

The pride, forwardness, and humours of men, will many times mind as [the clergy] of this duty. Usually men will expect to be pleased and flattered, when, indeed, they ought to be reproved by us. Our relations unto them, our dependencies upon them, will tempt us to forbear unwelcome truths lest we forfeit our reputation with them, our supplies from them.

A GOOD MINISTER.

When a minister walks conscientiously and exemplarily before his flock, his doctrine gains a mighty advantage to work upon them by his life. This is building up the Church of Christ with both hands, showing them both the equity and the easiness of that holiness which he persuades them to, by his own practice. When he reproves, his reproofs break in upon the consciences of his hearers with conviction and authority; and if they do not reform, yet at least daunt and terrify them, and make them self-accused, and self-condemned.

Advertisements.

W. M. STODART & SONS, PIANO-FORTE MANUFACTURERS TO HER MAJESTY AND THE ROYAL FAMILY, No. 1, GOLDEN SQUARE, LONDON.

H. & W. ROWSELL, having been appointed Agents by Messrs. STODART & SONS for the sale of their PIANO-FORTES in Canada, will be happy to receive orders for any of their Instruments, to be imported from England. The following is a list of the various Instruments, with prices in Sterling money, to which 50 per cent. must be added for cost of packages, difference of exchange, freight, insurance, &c.

Table listing piano models and prices: Mahogany, Fine Mah. Rosewood, Guineas. Patent Horizontal Grand Piano-Fortes, with 6 octaves, polished, 120 125 140.

One-fifth of the price must be paid on ordering the instrument, and the balance on delivery, in Cash, or approved endorsed notes, at 90 days, with interest, for which 10 per cent. discount will be allowed. A discount of 15 per cent. will be deducted, if the whole amount is paid at the time of giving the order.

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THE CANADA SPELLING BOOK, BY ALEXANDER DAVIDSON. An introduction to the English Language, with an Appendix, containing several useful Tables, and a Glossary of Geography, a comprehensive sketch of Grammar, with Morning and Evening Prayers for every day in the week.

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Just Published, and for sale by HENRY ROWSELL, Bookseller and Stationer, King-Street, Toronto, and Brock-Street, Kingston. CAMERON'S ANNUAL DIGEST OF DECISIONS IN THE QUEEN'S BENCH AND PRACTICE COURT FOR 1840. Price 2s. 6d. Toronto, Feb. 20, 1840. 336f

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

A Meeting of the Committee, held on Thursday, January 28, 1841. It was resolved, That twenty-five per cent. being the first instalment upon the Donations and Subscriptions towards building St. George's Church, be called in on the first of April next, payable to the account of the Treasurer, E. T. Billings, Esq., at the Bank of Upper Canada; and that the Donors and Subscribers be requested to furnish Notes, to be given at Three, Six, and Nine Months, for the balance.

TO SUNDAY SCHOOLS, &c. Just published, & for Sale by H. & W. ROWSELL, King-Street, Toronto, and Brock-Street, Kingston.

NEW EDITIONS OF THE FOLLOWING: THE CATECHISM OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND, taken from the Book of Common Prayer. Price One Penny each, or Six Shillings per Hundred. THE CATECHISM OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND INQUESTIONS AND ANSWERS, with the Answers at length, to which is appended a Glossary, &c. Price Three-pence each, or Two Shillings and Six-pence per Hundred. SUNDAY SCHOOL CARDS, No. 1, containing Alphabets, Figures, Lord's Prayer, Child's First Prayer, and Grace before and after Meals. Price Three-pence each, or One Shilling and Three-pence per dozen. SUNDAY SCHOOL CARDS, No. 2, containing Lessons in One and Two Lessons, Elementary Scripture Questions, and Answers, Morning and Evening and other Hymns. Price 2d. each, or Two Shillings per dozen.

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SUCH as is used in the printing of this Newspaper, imported from London, in kegs, 24 pounds each, and for sale by the keg, at 2s. 6d. per pound, by

H. & W. ROWSELL, Stationers and Booksellers, 41 King Street, Toronto, and Brock Street, Kingston.

TRADE AND HOME DISTRICT GRAMMAR SCHOOL. THIS school will be re-opened, after the Christmas recess, on Monday the 4th of January, 1841.

Mr. Macdon's Seminary will also re-open on the 6th of the Wednesday following. M. C. CROMBIE, Principal. Toronto, Dec. 28, 1840.

STEAM BOAT NOTICE.

THE Steamer GOLE will further notice, leave Toronto for Rochester every Sunday and Wednesday evening, at 9 o'clock, and Rochester for Toronto every Tuesday and Friday morning, calling at Cobourg both ways; commencing on Sunday evening the 4th inst. Toronto, 2nd April, 1841. 39

HAT, CAP, AND FUR MART.

CLARKE & BOYD, grateful for past favours, respectfully announce the arrival of their Fall and Winter Stock of LONDON HATS, from the most approved makers, and of the very latest London and Paris fashions, with a choice stock of FURS, suitable for the climate. King Street, Toronto, 18th Sept., 1840. 11-1f

AXES! AXES! AXES!

THE Subscriber respectfully informs his friends and the public, that he has returned to his former business, he has commenced the manufacturing of CAST STEEL AXES, of a superior quality, which he can recommend with confidence, as they are manufactured under his own inspection, by first rate workmen.

Apply to B. Douglas, Esq., Belleville, or to Robert Elliot, Cobourg.—If called for, sent by express, at the usual rate. Every Axe not equal to the guarantee will be exchanged. SAMUEL SHAW, 120, King-Street, Toronto, 16th October, 1840. 15-1f

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D. R. CAMPBELL will attend to professional calls at the house occupied by the late Dr. Carllie. Cobourg, June 15th, 1840. 61-1f

The Churchy

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