

up, and put in prison; hardihood in crime leads to murder and execution. What should hinder your children from taking the same course that so many fall into, if they are not kept from temptation, and taught what is right while they are young? Most poor creatures that die for their crimes, say, that they began to be ruined by not keeping the Sabbath. And how can your children be hindered from this sin, but by being sent to a Sabbath School, and by attending public worship? Whether they are able or not to work at any thing the rest of the week, you cannot, and ought not, to make them work on the Lord's day. The fourth commandment says, "Remember the Sabbath-day to keep it holy: in it thou shalt not do any work: thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter." If you cannot teach your children at home yourselves, the only way likely to keep them from wicked courses, is to send them to a Sabbath School.

Doing this, is likely not only to keep them from harm, but also to do them great good. If they mind what they are taught in the Bible, they will behave well to you, and to every body. Those who are so kind as to instruct them, will take notice of them, and will be glad to employ them as they grow up, or recommend them to persons who can provide better for them. Many poor children have come to be comfortable in their circumstances, and greatly respected, by getting learning, and behaving well; and yours are as likely to do so as others. So, they will not only become more dutiful and useful to you while they are children, but when they become men and women, and you are old and feeble, they will be glad to support and comfort you under your infirmities.

If there were no future life, and no other world but this in which we live, it would be much for your own and your children's interests that they should read and mind the Bible. Among the people you are acquainted with, how much better off are those who are decent, sober, honest and diligent, than those who are idle, drunken, lewd, and dishonest! But the Bible is God's Book. It was written by persons who knew and loved God, and all that they say is true. It pleased God to teach them, and by their means to teach us, that there is another life after this; and that they who know and love God in this world will go to heaven; while they who will not learn and do his will, must go to hell. You and your children will be sure to go to one or the other of these places when you die, and will there be happy or miserable for ever. Now, how shocking will it be, if you and they should be together in hell, and they should tell you "this is because you did not teach us better, nor let others teach us, who wished to do so!" But how happy would it be for you to see your children in heaven, and hear them blessing God for having given them parents who taught them to love and serve him!

Are you not ready to weep at these thoughts? "Yes," perhaps you say, "but what good can that do? I am not fit to go to heaven, nor my children neither. Young as they are, they have already learned much evil; and they are so perverse, that I have no hope they will get better." Too many persons have reason to make this complaint, and too few are aware of it. If this be your case, it is bad indeed; but the Bible teaches us the only way to escape the wrath to come. It tells us that Jesus Christ came to save sinners, that he died for them, and all that believe on him shall have everlasting life. Hence it is that St. Paul wrote to young Timothy, "From a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation." Neither you nor your children can be saved while you neglect the Scriptures. If you read them you will see this to be true; and you will see that God gives his Holy Spirit to them that ask him.

If any of you cannot read, you are much to be pitied; but you may hear the Scriptures explained and preached, and if you do not, you will perish without excuse. But what a happy thing it is, that

the Lord provides means for your children to learn better! The Lord Jesus Christ said, when he was upon the earth, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not." How guilty must those parents be who will not suffer their children to come to Christ; and can they come to Christ if they do not learn the Scriptures, which teach us who he is, what he has done and suffered for us, and how we may be saved?

If your children wish to learn these things, would it not be unkind to hinder them? But you cannot expect them to know what is good for themselves, if you do not tell them. They are likely to love play more than learning; but if you let them have their own way in every thing, you will be sure to ruin them, and to make them torments to yourselves. Whereas, if you take care always to send them to a Sabbath School at the proper hours, they will soon get the habit of going, and of obeying you in other things. Bless God that he has inclined any body to teach them; send them early and constantly to learn; and take care to do and say nothing that would hinder the blessed effects of it for this life, and that which is to come. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

THE WESLEYAN.

HALIFAX, DECEMBER 17, 1838.

WE announced in our last, that an article on the question of the Divine Institution of Episcopacy, would be found in this number; we have now to observe that it was found too lengthy for our columns, and is about to be published in the pamphlet form at our office.

We would beg to remind the Agents for the paper, and the Preachers on the several stations, of the necessity of endeavouring, with the new year, to procure new subscribers for the Wesleyan. Our volume will soon be complete, and we hope to commence the new one with increased attractions.

We shall be glad if the Agents at Lower Rawdon, the Gore, Shubenacadie, and other places where it has not been done, to take an early opportunity of remitting their arrears to the Agent at Halifax.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

LETTERS have been received from St. John N. B. with remittance*; also, from A. H. Cocken, Esq. Rev. W. Smith, Anonymous, "F.," "A.M.," Rev. W. Wilson, and Gamma. ** was received too late for notice. M.S.S. not arrived.

* We find on the St. John List, names fewer in number than the number of copies that have always been sent—we shall in future send according to the List, and if we send too few, we shall be glad to be advised of it.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last Wednesday week, George R. Young, Esq. delivered an able and interesting Lecture, on the advantages of Steam Navigation between Halifax N. S. and the Mother Country.—Last Wednesday evening, the Rev. C. Churchill lectured on Creation. (We have been earnestly requested by letter and otherwise, to apply for the Lecture on Creation, for publication in these pages—and we are now able to announce, that it will be commenced in an early succeeding number.)

CANADA.

INTELLIGENCE, in addition to that contained in our last, is but trifling this week. A cessation from acts of hostility, at least, had occurred in both Provinces, but hopes of the continuance of this do not seem very strong.

On Monday morning last, an express arrived in Halifax, brought by Mr. Buchanan, of the Canadian Volunteers, seven days from Quebec. The result of this message appears to be, the immediate departure of detachments of the 66th