

To the Patrons of the People's Almanack.

THE season having again arrived for the Publication of the Calendar for the ensuing year, I present my Small Annual as heretofore to the countenance and support, of those who love truth, and desire at all hazards to uphold it. To expose error especially long established and deeply rooted error, is always an ungracious task. He who has the temerity to do it will be assailed by every weapon which the armoury of darkness can provide. The polished shaft of learning will assail him on the one hand, the rude missile of ignorance on the other. But it matters not if his feet rest upon the firm basis of the truth, if he build upon the rock of inspiration—and if he himself be well clothed with the armour of righteousness. The Author of this Publication seeks not honour or victory for himself, but for Truth; he seeks earnestly to be tested in all things by Truth; and he knows that the progress of Truth—however slow is sure, and that the triumph of Bible Truth is not only certain, but will in the end be honourable and glorious.

BE BOLD FOR TRUTH.

Be bold for Truth—though all the world despise;
Be strong for Right—though all the world oppose;
Be free in Love—though all men are thy foes,
And God, in love, will bless the sacrifice.

And blest of Him, each good shall be thy lot—
He's "All in All" to those that love his truth;
His blessing shields the aged and the youth—
Though foes are "legion," they shall harm thee not.

The year which has passed away has been fraught with events of unusual weight and interest. "Famine, Pestilence and Troubles."—"Wars and rumours of War," "Distress of Nation with perplexity" have been abroad in the earth; the judgments of God have been teaching its guilty inhabitants righteousness. In the British Isles, the Demon of Priestcraft has appeared under a new aspect, and with the connivance of the State, has laid hold of the fountains of youthful instruction. The spirit of liberty aroused by this device of the enemy has taken a higher position for defence, and has prepared for a new—a bold and an aggressive movement. The entire separation of Church and State is now determined. The crimes of the National Priesthood in league with unprincipled statesmen—their combined injustice and hypocrisy, their intolerance and robbery—all under the mask of christianity,—have made the cup of their iniquity to overflow. The National Church, that monstrous counterfeit of the Christian Church, the intelligence and spirit of the British people have determined, as a public nuisance, to remove. The late election of members of the House of Commons indicates that the moral Hercules of the Anti-State Church Association, begins already to exercise its nerve and muscle to some good purpose.—Never indeed since the passing of the Reform Bill have such changes been effected in the British Parliament as now. Religion labours to be emancipated from all artificial restrictions, and must be made free—free at home—free in all the Colonies, and there are men in Parliament who will now speak in its behalf. The National Hierarchy "a root bearing gail and wormwood," must, with all its branches of corruption, be entirely destroyed, if we desire liberty—true liberty—or peace. Its scions in Canada must be educated in the doctrines of christian justice and equality, of which they are willingly ignorant. The age demands it. In the language of an eminent advocate of civil and religious freedom.

"Time is the touchstone of all institutions. All human systems of Ecclesiastical Polity, in the march of truth, must ultimately be left behind, giving place to that of the Scriptures. The beauty, the glory of the New Testament system is, its perfect adaptation to all times, all places, and all circumstances. So just, so liberal, so entirely popular, it has nothing to fear, but everything to hope from time. In dignified security, and with a spirit of patience, which bespeaks its origin, it waits the arrival of the Nations, which, in the greatness of their strength, at various rates of progress, are all travelling on to it. There will be no repose for the earth, till all its governments be based on this great principle; they must come up to it; they cannot go beyond it. Perfect civil liberty is the offspring of true spiritual liberty. A world of Saints will be a world of citizens. Despotism will perish, and both hemispheres will become temples of freedom."

ANDREW MARVEL,

Toronto, November 1st, 1847.