

*Observer*, correcting the proof of a contribution he had furnished to that paper; he was soon afterwards seized with illness, which put a period to his useful life on the morning of the following Sunday. He died at the early age of twenty-seven, much to the regret of an affectionate congregation who were looking forward to years of service on his part, and of pleasure and benefit on theirs. His was an honourable departure, closing a life of much activity, and of no little success in winning souls to Christ. In his last hours he felt the sustaining power, and the rich consolation, of the principles upon which he was accustomed to dwell with holy fervour and delight throughout his ministerial course. The love of God was in his heart, and heaven in his eye, while the hope of glory, enlivened by his near approach to it, enabled him to "depart in peace." His memory is still fragrant in the affections of his friends in Montreal, by whom the recollection of his talents, his zeal, and his piety, will be long and ardently cherished.

Mr. Christmas was unquestionably a man of no ordinary class. He stood high in mental power, and varied acquisition; and his ministerial qualifications were conscientiously employed in the service of his Lord and Master. In his person he was uncommonly agreeable and interesting, and his manners were engaging, and distinguished for Christian simplicity. As a scholar he was more liberally furnished than most of his brethren of equal years, and but few among his seniors were superior to him. He was favoured with abundant opportunities for improvement, and how diligently and successfully he availed himself of them, his attainments gave satisfactory proof. He was familiar with the Hebrew, Greek, Latin, and French languages: Mathematics, Natural and Mental Philosophy, Logic, Rhetoric, and the various de-

partments of natural Science, were subjects to which he had devoted much time and thought, and in which he had made considerable proficiency. But Theology was his study; preaching the gospel to lost sinners, his business. His sermons were rich and varied, judicious, solemn, and impressive: in his pastoral labours, he was kind, courteous, devout, and faithful. He had the happy faculty of gaining the confidence of children, and of persons in the humble walks of life. He was remarkably successful in winning over the opposers of religion, and in bringing them from rancorous opposition to temperate and calm enquiry. In all his intercourse with the world, he had great purity of character. In the domestic and social relations, and in all the virtues that belonged to private friendship, he disarmed suspicion, and commanded affection and confidence. His piety was sweet and humble. In his early life he had struggled with difficulties, and during his last few years, it was evident God had chosen him in the furnace of affliction. He was "nursed in storms," and "cradled in the tempest;" and there he grew strong and high, and shot his branches toward heaven. He was amongst the brightest ornaments of the church below, and was quickly ripened for the glory above.

During his residence in Montreal, Mr. Christmas published the substance of two sermons he had preached in his church, on *The Nature of that Inability which prevents the Sinner from embracing the Gospel*, in which he displayed much acuteness and discrimination, and a thorough mastery of the subject within the limits to which he extended the discussion. After being compelled by ill health to relinquish his charge, he addressed to the people *A Farewell Letter*, from Danbury, in Connecticut, in September, 1828. In this letter he gives them important "Valedictory Admonitions," in a style of the truest