

A sketch of the ancient and modern clergy. By H. Lloyd, merchant, Montreal, 1831. pp. 23. 12mo.

This little desultory tract evinces the good intentions of the author, although some may consider it as not shewing equal good sense either in the principles upon, or the manner in, which he attacks all those who "become religious teachers, for gain or livelihood." Certain it is, however, that the following picture is too true:

"Avarice is equally chargeable on dissenters, (many of whom are such because they can not get into the establishment,) who to obtain a party enter on the crafty stratagem of declamation against this or that practical error in others; and preach up their partition-tenet, perhaps baptism, independant church-governement, patronage, the covenant, or something else, generally any thing but the truth concerning Christ. This would not answer; this would not gather a multitude that, from collections and seat-rents would yield a sum sufficient to maintain the minister in the station of a gentleman. No, the ungodly sordid motive could never be gratified by copying Apostolic doctrine, while something vastly different from Apostolic practice is the moving cause of the procedure: on the contrary, in public, the feelings are wrought upon by the fervour of the preacher; in private, the wealthier part of the audience are visited, and almost suffocated by the designing adulation of the incense-bearing minister. To receive honour from such a quarter is gratifying to the palate of a conceited man; an interest is generated; certain persons are united as managers; they gather subscriptions, borrow money, for which they unite in a bond; a house is built; it is advertised that if ye pay rent for a seat, you will get leave to hear the gospel, or come as a poor person, and you will get leave to hear for nothing. A man whose person is held in admiration because of advantage, is advertised to preach, at which time collections are to be made at the doors. Every means which avarice can dictate or mercenary cunning devise, is employed by what are called preachers. What is called a church are gathered, and the uniting bond, the Queen-bee of the hive, is the minister, the study and consideration of the scriptures is left to him, that is his business, he is paid for it; and the people come to church as to a religious theatre."

MR. MACCULLOH,

I have just arrived in Montreal, on mercantile business, from the wilds of the Upper Province, and whilst in conversation with a merchant, my attention was attracted by a moving figure; upon which my friend, seeing my astonished looks,