

teemed friend for his zeal and diligence in contributing to our pages.

But we cannot for a single moment believe, as he has hinted in former communications, and openly and boldly stated in this day's paper, that the observance of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is needful, nay "essential to salvation." We are extremely sorry that he has advanced this erroneous doctrine, a doctrine better suited to superstitious devotees in the dark ages, than to enlightened Protestants in the nineteenth century. We cannot, in this brief and imperfect notice, undertake to draw a complete and exact line of distinction between what may be considered as essential and non-essential to salvation. There are several highly important features of the Christian character, which are represented in the Sacred Scriptures as belonging to all true believers and inseparable from endless felicity.

Regeneration is a change which all the children of God must sooner or later experience, "For except," says the Saviour, "ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter the Kingdom of Heaven." Faith in Jesus Christ is necessary to our acceptance with God, and the enjoyment of future happiness, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life, and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him."

Repentance also, although a duty performed by us, as well as a disposition wrought in us, is a saving grace. "For except ye repent," says the true and faithful witness, "ye shall all likewise perish." And we are exhorted by an inspired apostle, "to follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." But we can never consider any external duty, however solemn and important in itself, or however frequently and devoutly performed, as necessary and essential to salvation; "for in Christ Jesus, neither circumcision availeth any thing nor uncircumcision," and may we not add, neither Baptism nor the Lord's Supper are of any avail, "but a new creature."

If any religious ordinance could sustain this high character, and accomplish this desirable object, it must be the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, which is undeniably one of the most solemn and important ordinances of Christianity, and one of the most delightful and profitable means of grace. But Mr. HANNAY in his communication has, we think, clearly established, both from the standards of our own Church, and from the Sacred Scriptures, that the Lord's Supper is not essential to Salvation, and we consider ourselves therefore warranted to conclude, that no other religious ordinance is entitled to such a high distinction.

It is readily admitted, that all the ordinances of Christianity are necessary and profitable, and ought to be regularly and devoutly observed, as unto the Lord and not unto men, but to maintain that the observance of any one, or of all these ordinances is essential to salvation, is, we apprehend, an unscriptural, and a dangerous doctrine, calculated to undermine and to subvert that foundation, which God has laid in Zion, as it ascribes that merit to our own imperfect services, which is due only to Immanuel's obedience and sufferings, and leads professing Christians to go about to establish their own righteousness, instead of submitting to the righteousness which is of God, by faith in Jesus Christ. If such an opinion were correct, and if the observance of the Lord's Supper were really essential to salvation, then indeed the state of many professing Christians would be still more alarming and hopeless than it actually is, and their continual neglect of this ordinance must seal their condemnation.

Far be it from us, to undervalue any of the ordinances of our gracious Saviour. We love and delight to observe all of them. But whilst hypocrites and unbelievers eat and drink judgment to themselves when they do sit down at a communion table, not discerning the Lord's body, we are bound to maintain that all who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ

shall be saved, although we are grieved to think that there are so many professing, and we hope also some sincere Christians, who from indolence, fear, worldly conformity, or some other improper motives, are prevented from confessing Christ before men, and habitually neglect to obey his dying command, "Do this in remembrance of me." Still we think that there are sufficiently numerous and powerful reasons, in the word of God, to constrain true believers to a regular and devout observance of the solemn and delightful ordinance of the Lord's Supper, without representing it as essential to salvation, and however desirous we may be to persuade others to "walk in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless," we must never attach undue importance to any external rite of Christianity, or "do evil that good may come."

We are happy to observe, by an article in the Pictou Mechanic and Farmer, that the Sabbath School in connection with the Rev. Mr. McKinlay's congregation, in that place, is in a flourishing condition; the total number of pupils being 218, and the average attendance about 185; who are divided into 22 classes, 12 of Girls and 10 of Boys, under the superintendance of 10 female and 12 male teachers. About 300 volumes of valuable works are stated to have been added to the Library during the two last years; and the sum of £19 7s. 7d. has been collected during 1839.

From the Pictou Observer.

AUXILIARIES OF THE EDINBURGH BIBLE SOCIETY.

The following contributions have been received since 25th December last, and been transmitted to the Parent Society:

West and Middle River Auxiliary, per Rev. D. Mackintosh,	
West River, £33—Middle River, £31, £64	0 0
East River and W. Branch Auxiliary, per Rev. J. McRae,	
E. River £17 1s.—W. Branch £19 2s.9d.	36 3 9
New Glasgow Auxiliary, per Rev. J. Stewart,	43 18 3
McLennan and Blue Mountain Auxiliary, per Rev. A. McGillivray,	16 7 6
Sections of Pictou Congregation (vacant.)	
Scotch Hill, per John McInnes,	£ 5 3 3
Carriboo, per William Graham,	10 4 9
Lochbrook, per Robert McKay,	1 7 1—16 15 1
Earlton Auxiliary per Rev. William Sutherland,	6 6 6
Rogers Hill, Cape John, Mount Dalhousie, &c. per Rev. D. MacConnachie,	20 10 0

Total received, 29th January, 1840. £203 11 11
JOHN STEWART, General Treasurer.

The above contributions to the Bible cause are well worthy of notice and commendation, as indicating both the preference of Scotchmen to their native land, and their love of the circulation of the pure Scriptures. With little more than a month's notice the sum of £203 11 11 currency has been collected, and remitted to Edinburgh, an offering well calculated to cheer the hearts of the good men, employed in the circulation of the word of God throughout the world. The offering is the more enhanced in value, when it is considered that this amount has been collected in situations, where forty years ago the wild beasts of the forest roamed for their prey; where a human dwelling could scarcely be seen, but now private altars are raised, for the worship of the God of the Bible, around which thousands assemble to join in family prayer and praise, and churches are erected, where thousands from Sabbath to Sabbath listen anxiously and attentively, to the lessons and demonstrations of the Bible. Truly the words of the prophet are in a great measure verified here, "The wilderness and the solitary places are made glad, and the desert is made to rejoice and blossom as the rose."

But the above contributions are also an admission, that the Bible is not so plentiful among us as it ought to be. It is cheering, however, to know that the want is felt, and that a response to an urgent call for its possession, is to be found in the minds of our countrymen; and the men who have done so nobly in the cause of God, will not be wanting in supplying us with means, to uphold a regular and efficient ministry in the land. When so much has been done in the space of a few days, may we not augur well to the cause of Theological learning, which in a short time will be submitted to the consideration of a Christian public. Yes, the men of the rivers, and mountains and vales, will do their duty, and we shall leave behind us a memorial of Christian philanthropy, which

will be a blessing to our children and our children's children to the latest posterity. J. S.

MONTREAL, FEB. 6.

At a meeting of the Presbyterians of this city, held in St. Gabriel Street Church, the Hon. Peter McGill in the chair, and Mr John Bruce acting as Secretary, after an address from the Hon. Chairman on the object of the meeting, the following Resolutions were proposed and adopted:—

Moved by the Rev. H. Esson, seconded by John Fraser, Esq. of Sherbrooke, and

Resolved, 1st. That this meeting do cordially approve of the design of founding a Presbyterian College in connection with the Established Church of Scotland; and are desirous to contribute, by voluntary subscriptions, towards its erection and endowment.

Moved by the Rev. Dr. Mathieson, seconded by Mr. Alex. Ferguson, and

Resolved 2d. That an immediate appeal be made, to the liberality and public spirit of the Presbyterian inhabitants of Montreal and its vicinity; and of all who are friendly to the cause of religion and education generally, to aid in furtherance of this design.

Moved by the Rev. Mr. Findlater, seconded by Mr. James Fleming, and

Resolved 3d. That a Committee, composed of the Sessions of the three Churches in this city, in communion with the Church of Scotland, and the following gentlemen, with power to add to their number, be now instructed to adopt the most prompt and effectual means of obtaining subscriptions for the purpose.

Moved by John Fisher, Esq. seconded by Robert Armour, Esq. and

Resolved 4th. That said Committee shall cause a list of the subscribers' names, and of the amount of their several subscriptions, to be published monthly in the journals of this city; and that the monies received, shall be placed in the hands of the Hon. Peter McGill.

The subscription list was then opened, and headed by the Chairman by a munificent donation, in money and land, of £500. Several amounts of £50 and £25 followed, and the total put down at the meeting was £1150.

FEBRUARY 11.

It affords us sincere pleasure to learn that the subscription in this city to Queen's College, is proceeding with great spirit and liberality; and that, though nearly last in the field, we shall not be backward in aiding the proposed establishment—an establishment which, we hope, will reflect enduring credit upon the Canadas. One of the most gratifying incidents connected with this subscription, or with any subscription of the kind that we have ever heard of, is the praiseworthy fact, that the Rev. Mr. Esson has handed in to the Committee, the sum of £8 8s. which had been placed in his hands by two Sergeants of the Royal Regiment, now in garrison here, as a contribution from the Non-commissioned Officers and Privates of that gallant and ancient Scottish corps.

We learn from the *Cobourg Star*, that the meeting which was held at that place for promoting the erection, and endowment of Queen's College at Kingston, was very numerously attended, and its object supported with unprecedented spirit and success.—The subscriptions at the meeting amounted to £323.

We are also happy to learn, that at a meeting of the Presbyterians of LACHINE, convened to aid, by subscription, in the endowment of Queen's College at KINGSTON, after a suitable address by the Rev. JOHN TAYLOR, the sum of £310 10s. in money and lands, was promptly subscribed upon the spot, while a considerable number have yet to put down their names. It is but right to add, that the handsome sum of £250, was, with characteristic liberality, subscribed by JAMES KEITH, Esq. whose example, we have no doubt, will be followed by the many other SCOTCHMEN of the Hon. HUDSON Bay Company.

The Bill empowering the authorities to lease the Hospital at KINGSTON, as a temporary place of meeting for the Presbyterian College, passed the House of Assembly on the 6th, and little doubt was entertained but that it would receive the Royal assent.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, Feb. 21.—The Council having gone into consideration of the Despatches, Mr. Wilkins reviewed the letter, addressed by the Assembly's Delegates, to the Speaker, impugning, from facts stated both from recollection, and from notes taken at the interviews in Downing Street, the accuracy of the statements made, in that letter, in disparagement of the correctness of the report, rendered by the Council's Delegates, the responsibility for which report, the Hon. Gentleman took wholly upon himself.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Monday, Feb. 17. Continued.—Mr. Doyle moved the appointment of a Committee, to enquire of His Ex-
For the Remainder of Halifax Head See page 286.