

THE
CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

VOL. VI.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1860.

No. 8.

"WE NEED TO BE REVIVED, WE CAN BE REVIVED, AND WE WILL BE REVIVED."—*J. A. James.*

The oft recurring theme of a revival of God's work among us, has in its interests of such overwhelming importance, that to a heart alive to the salvation of men, it comes not as a stale subject, but fresh, weighty and absorbing. Mere talk can accomplish nothing. We feel therefore sure, that if we could see into the hearts of many of God's people in Canada at the present time, there we would find the subject of revival had made itself a home. Highly honoured is that instrumentality that succeeds in drawing forth the latent energy of the Churches. The fire that burns, while we muse over the wonders of grace wrought in many lands in our day, is not to be pent up in our own hearts. It should blaze forth in faith, in zeal, in prayer, in love.

The discovery that we **NEED** to be revived is a great step in the way to its attainment. Are we rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing? Is this a time to dream of ambitious projects and worldly interests? The spiritual condition of hundreds and thousands around us, may well fill our minds. They are on the way to the chambers of death. Day after day dawns on our neighbours and friends, without their perception of the beauties of the Sun of righteousness. Night after night they retire, to lie down under the frown of a forgotten God.—The eternal state of the lost bears to be pondered over, to arouse the dormant energies of slumbering churches. How soon these whom we may now influence, shall pass from the scene! The time is short. "Our hearts like muffled drums are beating funeral marches to the tomb." Salvation is to be sought and found before the night cometh, when no man can work. This then is a matter that may well possess our affections. There is room for the deepest feeling. The fountain of tears may well break up, in view of dying men. Break, hearts of stone. Unfeeling professor, what is thy profession but an empty form? Can you stand in sight of thy perishing brother, and say, it is nothing to me? There are points of divine truth which ought to sway our judgment—heaven and hell—Christ and salvation—the soul and eternity—these in their practical bearing on the state of our fellow-countrymen, so awaken our consciences, that the need of an outpouring of the Spirit of God, to bring these realities with power to the hearts of thousands, becomes felt. A deep, burning, all-consuming love of souls will recognise the need of revival. "Give me souls or I die." Is this feeling merely to be cherished by ministers? Does it not fairly claim the hearts of all the followers of Jesus? See what might be done, if every member of all the churches would so.