

vate life, and these are the results of female education.

THE SISTER'S OFFICE.—The sister's is one of the beautiful offices which it is given to woman to fill. She is the guardian spirit of her brothers, the teacher and friend of her sisters, second in both these relations to the mother alone. She must be affectionate, obliging, persuasive. She must acquire knowledge, accomplish herself, refine her sentiments, discipline her feelings, and enrich the material home with every charm that may bind the wavering brother there before his character is ripened and his principles fixed so as to resist temptation. She is the companion of the brother abroad. Her youth enables her to sympathise with him, while her strong affection and purity should in the absence of her mother make her daughter the representative to strengthen his integrity, to exalt his sense of truth and honor, and by a lively but unostentatious care preserve him from temptation. She may aid the mother likewise in cultivating a love of knowledge. By means of her own intelligence she may do much during the early years of a boy to prepare him for intercourse with the world. She may enrich her mind by her industry, and at the same time preserve him in his weakest hours from the evil to which the world invites him. What a noble being is a pure-minded, high-souled and affectionate sister! Whose heart does not warm under her influence! What a beautiful opportunity does her station present to plant with her own hand flowers that shall bud and blossom on her tomb!

As the daughter, woman's duty is unflinching kindness and reverence. It is not by great deeds of sacrifice and heroism that she will best prove her filial love and fidelity, but by the thousand little attentions which in a daughter so much minister to the sober happiness of the meridian and evening of life. No voice so gentle as hers, in the sick chamber of her mother. No ear so keenly open to the wants of the aged father, no step so light in his service. She is the link between his bright morning and his fading twilight.

It affords us much pleasure to hear of the effort made by our countrymen abroad in aid of the efficiency of a Gospel ministry. We extract notices of the completion and opening of two newly built places of worship in connection with the Church in Canada.* The liberality and zeal of the two congregations, so honourably mentioned in the subjoined accounts, reflects the highest credit upon their pastors and themselves, testifying that they have learned to devise "liberal things," and that they set a due and becoming regard upon the ordinances of grace. We trust that the Divine blessing may richly accompany these and similar efforts; and that, in the experience of the worshippers, the houses of prayer, reared with difficulty and through much self-denial in a distant land, may indeed prove to those who assemble in them, to be as "the gate of heaven."—*Home and Foreign Record.*

THE MOTHER'S FATAL MISTAKE.—Who among the children of men requires so much wisdom as the mother of a family? The statesman requires wisdom that he may so advise or direct as to secure the happiness or prosperity of the nation; but should one statesman act unwisely, another may step in to repair the evil, and so his country may be saved from impending ruin. The merchant needs wisdom and skill, foresight and tact, that he may guide his affairs with discretion; but, should his plans be all frustrated, and riches make themselves wings and fly away at one period of his life, he may have them restored at another, so that at the close of his life he may leave his family in ease and comfort. The farmer needs wisdom in cultivating his land and arranging his stock so as to bring him the best return for his labour and toil; but, should he fail one year to realize his hopes, the next may make up the deficiency. The navigator needs wisdom

to guide his frail bark over the trackless deep, so that he may escape the rocks and whirlpools which may lie in his way; but, should he be unfortunate, and become a wreck, he has a chance of being saved by holding on by the rigging or in his boat, and in this painful situation he may find timely help from another voyager. But the Mother!—if she makes a mistake in her mighty work, the probability is that it will be fatal. Her little bark, which has just been launched in the ocean of life, will find many roads and quicksands and whirlpools in its way; she, the mother, is to be pilot for the most important part of the voyage, and, if she fails to guide it aright, dreadful will be the wreck, when it dashes over the precipice of time into eternity! There will be no kind hand to help, no returning seasons to repair the injury: the work is done, and done badly; and eternity will echo and re-echo the dreadful tale of a child lost through a mother's neglect.

EVERY fresh communication received from the Colonies by the Committee may be said to disclose the same melancholy particulars regarding congregations whose members are ardently attached to the Church of Scotland, but who are feeling the deprivation of any regular administration of Religious Ordinances. The more closely the field is observed, the more strongly apparent is the need of laborers; and the more forcible is the appeal made for the sympathies, prayers, and personal efforts of all who have it in their power thus to contribute to the advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom, and to the Spiritual prosperity of their brethren resident in distant parts of our Colonial territories.—*Home and Foreign Record.*

PROGRESS OF THE KINGDOM SILENT.—The Spiritual kingdom of God, like His kingdom of Nature, is advanced by influences which are as still and as secret as they are great. What can be more soft and still than the influence of light on the material world? Millions of rays falling on the infant in his cradle do not awake it from sleep; yet those rays convey fertility and beauty to every tree and shrub, and flower and blade of grass; nay, they unbind the frosts of winter, they unlock our rivers in the Spring, they cause a general resurrection of the vegetable kingdom, and, by the abundant harvest they procure, fill the hearts of countless millions with food and gladness. Without light the earth would become unfit for the habitation of man, the entire race would soon perish. But light makes no noise, no tumult, no parade of power. The earthquake, the volcano, the hurricane, with thousand-fold more noise, exert not a thousandth part of its influence on the condition of the world. Just like light, was designed to be the influence of the Gospel; silent, soft, gentle, unobtrusive, yet penetrating, far-reaching, powerful, saving. We, my Christian friends, are called the light of the world; let us be such in the place where we reside. The perfection of machinery is evinced by its noiseless movement. Ordinarily, the more noise there is in Religion, the less truth.

THE JEWS.

THE existence of the Jews, as a people, living in the heart of all the great nations of the world, yet entirely distinct and separate from the indigenous occupants of the same territories, is a moral phenomenon, not to be accounted for by any of the principles that regulate the course of human affairs. They have not only their name perpetuated in a living people, but their lineage transmitted pure and uncorrupted, and their very features unmistakably marked; nay, although they have no longer a temple and a capitol, whither the tribes can go up, yet they continue to be governed by the same laws, to observe the same customs, and to perform the same rites as their ancestors did eighteen centuries ago. They are, in fact, the only living people who form a link between the present and the past; who carry us through their own line of descent back to the earliest ages of the world; and surely no reflecting mind can witness such a spectacle in coun-

tries where the manners of our forefathers are as unknown, and would appear as strange to us, as if they had lived in another hemisphere;—countries, moreover, where different forms of religion have successively prevailed amongst the inhabitants, where Idolatry and Druidism have been succeeded by Popery, and that again supplanted by all the various sects of Protestantism;—we say, no reflecting mind can witness the spectacle of the long-continued preservation of the Jews, and their unchanging adherence to all the peculiarities of their social manners and religious observances, but must pronounce it a perpetual miracle, which can be ascribed to nothing short of the Power and special providence of God.—*Edinburgh Christian Magazine.*

POETRY.

There is a great deal of truth embodied in the following lines. How many have made shipwreck of their hopes and sunk into a dishonoured grave, because, when solicited to participate in guilty pleasures, they lacked courage to give utterance to the negative, which at the bidding of conscience hung trembling on their lips.

"No."

BY ELIZA COOK.

Would ye learn the bravest thing
That man can ever do;
Would ye be an uncrowned king,
Absolute and true?
Would ye seek to emulate
All we learn in story
Of the moral, just and great?
Rich in real glory
Would ye lose much bitter care
In your lot below?
Bravely speak out when and where,
Tis right to utter "No."

Men with goodly spirits blest,
Willing to do right,
Ye who stand with wavering breast
Beneath Persuasion's might,
When companions seek to taunt
Judgment into sin:
When the loud laugh fain would daunt
Your better voice within,
Oh! be sure ye'll never meet
More insidious foe;
But strike the coward to your feet
By Reason's watchword "No."

Ah, how many thorns we wreath
To twine our brows around,
By not knowing when to breathe
This important sound!
Many a breast has ruled the day
When it reckoned less
Of fruits upon the moral "Nay,"
Than flowers upon the "Yes."
Many a sad repentant thought
Turns to "long ago,"
When a luckless fate was wrought
By want of saying "No."

Few have learn'd to speak this word
When it *should* be spoken;
Resolution is deferred,
Vows to virtue broken.
More of courage is required
This one word to say,
Than to stand where shots are fired
In the battle fray.
Use it fitly, and ye'll see
Many a lot below
May be schooled and nobly ruled
By power to utter "No."

*Simcoe and Scarborough Churches.