

THE WESLEYAN.

For the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, &c.

"HOLD FAST THE FORM OF SOUND WORDS."—SCRIPTURE.

VOLUME II.

HALIFAX, N. S., MONDAY, MARCH 11, 1839.

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Biographical.

MEMOIRS OF THE LATE CHAS. WESLEY, ESQ.

The following particulars of this extraordinary man are extracted from the Wesleyan-Methodist Magazine.

To the Editor of the Wesleyan-Methodist Magazine.

THE notice of Mr. Charles Wesley's death, inserted in the last number of the Wesleyan-Methodist Magazine, brought to my recollection some particulars respecting that very excellent and remarkable man which cannot fail to interest your readers. He was the eldest son of Mr. Charles Wesley, and the nephew of the Founder of Methodism. The father was not more distinguished by his genius as a writer of hymns, than the son as an organist. The following account of his early life, and of the development of his musical talents, was written by his father, and given to the Honorable Daines Barrington, by whom it was published in his "Miscellanies," in the year 1781.

"Charles was born at Bristol, Dec. 11th, 1757. He was two years and three quarters old when I first observed his strong inclination to music. He then surprised me by playing a tune on the harpsichord, readily, and in just time. Soon after he played several, whatever his mother sung, or whatever he heard in the streets.

"From his birth she used to quiet and amuse him with the harpsichord; but he would not suffer her to play with one hand only, taking the other and putting it on the keys, before he could speak. When he played himself she used to tie him up by his backstring to the chair, for fear of his falling. Whatever tune it was, he always put a true bass to it. From the beginning he always played without study or hesitation; and, as the masters told me, perfectly well.

"Mr. Broadrip, organist of Bristol, heard him in petticoats, and foretold he would one day make a great player.

"Whenever he was called to play to a stranger, he would ask, in a word of his own, 'Is he a musicker?' and if answered, 'Yes,' he played with the greatest readiness.

"He always played *con spirito*. There was something in his manner above a child, which struck the hearers, learned or unlearned.

"At four years old I carried him with me to London. Mr. Beard was the first that confirmed Mr. Broadrip's judgment of him, and kindly offered his interest with Dr. Boyce, to get him admitted among the King's boys.

But I had then no thoughts of bringing him up a musician.

"A gentleman carried him next to Mr. Stanley, who expressed much pleasure and surprise at hearing him; and declared he had never met with one of his age with so strong a propensity to music. The gentleman told us, he never before believed what Handel used to tell him of himself, and his own love of music, in his childhood.

"Mr. Madan presented my son to Mr. Worgan, who was extremely kind; and, as I then thought, partial to him. He told us, he would prove an eminent master, if he was not taken off by other studies. Mr. Worgan frequently entertained him with the harpsichord. Charles was greatly taken with his bold, full manner of playing, and seemed even then to catch a spark of his fire.

"At our return to Bristol we left him to ramble on till he was near six; then we gave him to Mr. Rooko for a master; a man of no name, but very good-natured, who let him run on *ad libitum*, whilst he sat by, more to observe than to control him.

"Mr. Rogers, the oldest organist in Bristol, was one of his first friends. He often set him on his knee, and made him play to him, declaring that he was more delighted in hearing him than himself."

To this account Mr. Barrington adds, "What follows contains the strongest and fullest approbation of Mr. Charles Wesley's manner of playing on the organ by the most eminent professors; to which commendation they who have the pleasure of hearing him at present will give the most ample credit."

So perfectly was his mind absorbed in music, that he seemed incapable, through the greater part of his life, of directing his undivided attention to any other subject. During his boyhood he received the rudiments of a classical education under the tuition of his father; but he was only able to learn his Latin grammar by setting his lessons to music.

He had a younger brother, of the name of Samuel, who now survives him. He exhibited the same propensities in early life; and excited great attention by his extraordinary musical compositions when very young. As the brothers advanced in life they acquired the highest celebrity as performers, and their concerts presented attractions to the first personages of the land. Their father cherished a full persuasion that music was their providential calling; but their uncle strongly expressed an opposite opinion.

King George the Third is well known to have been very fond of music, particularly of that of Handel; and as Mr. Charles Wesley excelled almost every

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other man in playing the compositions of that great master, he became a special favourite with His Majesty, and received many marks of kindness from him, and from other members of the royal family. At one time he offered himself as a candidate for the vacant situation of organist at St. Paul's cathedral; when he met with a painful repulse. On appearing before the Ecclesiastics, with whom the appointment lay, and presenting his claims to their confidence, they said to him, with less civility than decision, "We want no Wesleys here." The King heard of this unseemly act, and was deeply grieved. He sent for the obnoxious organist to Windsor, and expressed his strong regret that he should have been refused in such a manner, and for such a reason; adding, with his own frankness and generosity, "Never mind. The name of Wesley is always welcome to me."

After the King had lost his sight, Mr. Wesley was one day with His Majesty alone, when the venerable Monarch said, "Mr. Wesley, is there any body in the room but you and me?" "No, your Majesty," was the reply. The King then declared his persuasion that Mr. Wesley's father and uncle, with Mr. Whitefield and Lady Huntingdon, had done more to promote the spread of true religion in the country, than the entire body of dignified Clergy, who were so apt to despise their labours.

Mr. Wesley was once dining with a venerable Prelate, remarkable for his theological learning, and the zeal and ability with which he has defended the principles of Protestant Christianity. In the company was a young Clergyman, who seemed desirous of attracting attention by the avowal of his partialities as a Minister of the established Church. "My Lord," said he, addressing the Bishop, "when I was passing through ———, I saw a man preaching to a crowd of people in the open air. I suppose he was one of John Wesley's Itinerants." "Did you stop to hear him?" rejoined the Bishop. "Oh no!" said the Clergyman; "I did not suppose that he could say any thing that was worth hearing." The Bishop effectually ended the conversation by saying, "I should think you were very much mistaken, Mr. ———. It is very probable that that man preached a better sermon than either you or I could have done. Do you know, Sir, that this gentleman," pointing to Mr. Wesley, "is John Wesley's nephew?"

Mr. Wesley used to speak of George the Fourth as an admirable judge of music. He was very partial to Mr. Wesley, not only on account of his abilities as a performer; but because such was the tenacity of his memory that he scarcely ever had occasion to refer to his books. Whatever favourite composition His Majesty might call for, Mr. Wesley was prepared to play, without delay or hesitation. In one of his visits to Carlton palace, one of the pages refused to admit him by the front entrance; and ordered him to go round, and seek admission by some less honourable way. He obeyed: the King saw him approach, and inquired why he came to the palace in that direction. Mr. Wesley explained; and his Majesty, sending for the page, gave him such a rebuke as he was not likely

soon to forget; and commanded that, whenever Mr. Wesley visited the palace, he should be treated with all possible respect.

As a performer upon the organ Mr. Wesley has rarely been equalled, and perhaps never surpassed. Those who have never heard him can form but a very inadequate conception of his powers. The instrument, under his hands, really seemed to speak, and to be endued with intelligence and feeling; while the entranced hearer appeared to be transported beyond the precincts of the material creation, and placed in those regions of purity and love where are heard "thousands of blest voices uttering joy." In every mind that was capable of being affected by hallowed sounds, he produced sensations of wonder and delight, resembling those which Milton cherished when he sung,—

"But let my due feet never fail,
To walk the studious cloister's pale,
And love the high embow'd roof,
With antique pillars massy proof,
And storied windows richly dight,
Casting a dim religious light.
There let the pealing organ blow,
To the full-voic'd choir below,
In service high, and anthems clear,
As may, with sweetness, through mine ear,
Dissolve me into ecstasies,
And bring all heaven before mine eyes."

It does not appear that Mr. Wesley ever devoted much time to musical composition. A few of his pieces are known, and are admired by all competent judges, for their correctness and beauty; but his principal attention, through life, was directed to the performance of the best productions of the great masters. In this he doubtless judged right; since few men have ever been known at once to excel in composition and in execution. One or two of his tunes have appeared in "The Youth's Instructor;" and he corrected his uncle's "Sacred Harmony," for the use of the Methodist congregations. A new edition of this admirable collection of congregational music, revised by Mr. Charles Wesley, was published in the year 1821, with a beautiful preface, written by the late lamented Mr. Watson. But perhaps the best original production of Mr. Charles Wesley's genius was the music which he composed to his father's fine "Ode on the Death of Dr. Boyce," written February 7th, 1779. As that ode is at present little known, and shows the light in which the father and the son viewed the nature and uses of sacred music, it is here subjoined:—

"Father of harmony, farewell!
Farewell for a few fleeting years!
Translated from the mournful vale;
Jehovah's flaming Ministers
Have borne thee to thy place above,
Where all is harmony and love.
Thy gen'rous, good, and upright heart,
That sigh'd for a celestial lyre,
Was tuned on earth to bear a part
Symphonious with the warbling quire,
Where Handel strikes the golden strings,
And plausive angels clap their wings.
Handel, and all the tuneful train,
Who well employed their art divine,
To announce the great Messiah's reign,
In joyful acclamations join,

And springing from their azure seat,
With shouts their new-born brother meet.

Thy brow a radiant circle wears,
Thy hand a seraph's harp receives,
And singing with the morning stars,
Thy soul in endless rapture lives,
And hymns, on the eternal throne,
Jehovah and his conquering Son."

Mr. Wesley was never married; but in early youth he formed an attachment to an amiable girl of inferior birth. This was strongly opposed by his mother and her family, who mentioned the subject with much concern, to his uncle, Mr. John Wesley. Finding that this was the chief objection, the venerable Founder of Methodism, who was superior to every feeling of this kind, said, "Then there is no family blood? I hear the girl is good, but of no family." "Nor fortune either," said the mother of poor Charles. Mr. John Wesley made no reply; but sent his nephew fifty pounds as a wedding present; and there is reason to believe he sincerely regretted that the youth was ultimately crossed in his inclination.

After Mr. Wesley was deprived of his parents, he lived with his sister to the period of her death in 1828; and indeed he greatly needed the care of such a friend. He presented in his character several of the eccentricities of genius; and through the whole of his life seldom succeeded in dressing himself, so as not to disturb the gravity of strangers who might happen to see him, unless he was assisted by some friendly hand in the adjustment of his wig and apparel. His sister, the late Miss Wesley, was a lady of a most elegant and cultivated mind; and for many years, in a great measure, supported the family by the productions of her pen, although she was not in the habit of connecting her name with her publications. For a considerable time she wrote under the direction of the late Dr. Gregory; and there is reason to believe that some of the works which bear his name were her compositions. She and her brother were both below the middle stature. Neither of them had any extraordinary partiality for modern fashions; and when they walked abroad together in London, as they frequently did, their singular and antique appearance attracted the attention of many a passenger, who seemed to regard them as the relics of a former age, without being aware of the peculiarities of mind by which they were both distinguished.

Few professors of music have passed through life with a more pure and upright character than that which Mr. Wesley maintained, or have applied that sublime science to more hallowed and salutary purposes. Like the early masters of music and song, he "handled the harp and the organ" especially for devotional purposes, and the advancement of piety. For this

"his volant touch,
Instinct through all proportions, low and high,
Fled and pursued transverse the resonant fugue."

Thus imitating the holy angels, of whom our great poet says,

"Their golden harps they took,
Harps ever tuned, that glittering by their side
Like quivers hung, and with prestable sweet

Of charming symphony they introduce
Their sacred song, and waken raptures high,
No voice exempt, no voice but could well join
Melodious part, such concord is in heaven."

Mr. Wesley's powers of memory were prodigious. He was perfectly familiar with nearly the whole of Handel's music, as well as with the most admired compositions of other eminent men; and scarcely ever had occasion to make the slightest reference to his notes. This gave him a great advantage as a performer. It is said that the late King, when once at Brighton, asked one of his musicians to play a particular piece, who apologised for his inability to fulfil the royal command, saying that he had not the book with him. The King replied, in a tone of mortification, "Mr. Wesley never wants a book. He can play from memory every thing that I request, after a few moments of recollection."

We sometimes meet even with religious people who speak contemptuously of music and of musical performers; but this generally arises from one of two causes: either there is a defect in their ear, which renders them in a great measure incapable of those emotions which arise from "gushes of sweet sound;" or they do not discriminate between music and its abuse. One distinguished scholar of modern times has even charged "the sweet singer of Israel" with corrupting the worship of the Jewish church by introducing musical instruments in connexion with it; thus forgetting that David was a Prophet, and in effect striking out of the sacred canon, as uninspired, those psalms in which the use of such instruments is recommended! "See," said good Richard Baxter, "what this over-doing comes to." In our present state we know little of heaven; but we learn from the New Testament that its happiness consists greatly in holy music and holy love; and the piety of the church on earth would be improved, and our worshipping assemblies more nearly resemble heaven, if due attention were paid to psalmody. Would that all the light and airy tunes by which modern barbarity spoils our public devotions, were burned, and their places supplied by the fine melodies of the old masters, the men who understood music as a science! The true use of musical instruments in religious assemblies, I conceive to be to guide and assist the congregation in singing the praises of God, and not to overpower, much less to supersede, the voices of the people, whose business it is to "sing with the spirit and with the understanding."

I conclude with two poetical compositions of the Rev. Charles Wesley, the father of the esteemed musician whose death has called forth these remarks. The latter of these pieces, I believe, never before appeared in print; and the first is at present little known.

THE TRUE USE OF MUSIC

LISTED in the cause of sin,
Why should a good in evil end?
Music, alas, too long has been
Prest'd to obey the roaring fiend:
Drunken, or light, or lewd the lay
To thoughtless souls destruction flow'd,
Widen'd and smother'd the downward way,
And strew'd with flowers the infernal road.

Who on the part of God will rise,
Restorer of instructive song,
Fly on the prey, and take the prize,
And spoil the gay Egyptian throng?
Who will the powers of sound redeem,
Music in virtue's cause retain,
Give harmony its proper theme,
And vie with the celestial train?

Come let us try if Jesu's love
Will not its votaries inspire:
The subject this of those above,
This upon earth the saints should fire.
Say, if your hearts be tuned to sing,
What theme like this your song can claim:
Harmony all its stores may bring,
Not half so sweet as Jesu's name.

His name the soul of music is,
And captivates the virgins pure,
His name is health, and joy, and bliss,
His name doth every evil cure:
Jesu's name the dead can raise,
Can ascertain our sins forgiven,
And fill with all the life of grace,
And bear our raptured souls to heaven.

Who hath a right like us to sing,
Us, whom his pardoning mercy cheers?
Merry the heart, for Christ is King,
And in the brighten'd face appears:
Who of his pardoning love partake,
Are call'd forever to rejoice;
Melody in our hearts we make,
Return'd by every echoing voice.

He that a sprinkled conscience knows
The mirth divine, the mystic peace,
The joy that from believing flows,
Let him in psalms and hymns confess,
Offer the sacrifice of praise,—
Praise, ardent, cordial, constant, pure,
And triumph in harmonious lays,
While endless ages shall endure.

Then let us in the triumph join,
Responsive to the harps above,
Glory ascribe to grace divine,
Worship, and majesty, and love:
We feel our future bliss begun,
We taste by faith the heavenly powers,
Believe, rejoice, and still sing on,
And heaven eternally is ours!

AN APOLOGY FOR THE ENEMIES TO MUSIC

Men of true piety, they know not why,
Music, with all its sacred powers, decry,
Music itself (not its abuse) condemn,
For good or bad, is just the same to them.
But let them know, they quite mistake the case,
Defect of nature, for excess of grace:
And while they reprobate the harmonious art,
Blamed, we excuse, and candidly assert
The fault is in their ear, not in their upright heart.

Didymus.

JOHN KNOX.—“The house of Knox,” says the well known G. Thornburn, “is now occupied by two barbers—one below, and the other up stairs. I got shaved on the ground floor, and paid one penny. Next day, as I was curious to see as much as possible of this notable house, I got shaved up stairs, and they charged me two pence,—“How is this?” said I, “your neighbour below charged me only a penny yesterday.” “O ho!” said he “but this is the very room that John Knox used to study his sermons in; and that is the very winnoch he used to preach ou’n to the folks on the street.” “Well,” said I, “this being the case, I think myself it is worth a penny.”

Theological.

STUDY OF THE SACRED SCRIPTURES.

BY THE REV. ALEXANDER W. McLEOD.

(Continued from page 4.)

THE nature of the truths the Sacred Scriptures propound should, likewise, claim especial consideration. The truths or doctrines they contain are worthy of God, from whom they emanate, and infinitely transcend the unassisted intellectual powers of the most gifted of mortals. They teach what philosophy, with all its pompous array of wisdom, could never teach, and has never taught: a proof of which is found in the fact, that subjects of the greatest interest to man, such as, the nature, character, attributes, and worship of God, the cause and seat of evil, the grounds and assurance of divine forgiveness, and the renewal of heart, the immortality of the soul, the resurrection of the body, and state of future rewards and punishments,—on each and all of which, the opinions of the ancient philosophers, though furnished with many rays reflected from the Jewish Scriptures, and skilled as they were in dialectical science, were extremely erroneous, absurd, uncertain, bewildering and confused,—are made level to the understandings, and form a portion of the intellectual treasury of persons of the meanest capacity who are familiar with the Sacred Scriptures. Whence, then, had their writers this wisdom?—When the Egyptians, with all their boasted learning, were so debased in their religious views and practice, as to pay divine honours and worship to reptiles and four-footed beasts, how did Moses become the teacher of so pure, so sublime, so spiritual a system of Theology? Or when renowned and classic Greece and Rome, with their “wise men,” philosophers, and orators, were so ignorant of the One God, his nature and worship, as to deny them *in toto*, or connected with their belief of these such other views as entirely to destroy all moral or religious effect, and were found prostrating themselves before, and sacrificing to “lords many and gods many,” to

“Gods, hateful, changeful, passionate, unjust,
Whose attributes were rage, revenge or lust:”

How came the Apostles, to say nothing of our great prophet Jesus Christ, in the possession of such noble, and honourable views of God, of his perfections and government, and of all the subjects enumerated above? The query can only be solved by admitting the fact that God himself, by the inspiration of his own Spirit, unlocked to them the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, and that, thus aided, they penned thoughts, which otherwise had never have passed a mortal's brain, and truths, which otherwise had forever escaped the grasp of human investigation or discovery. On all subjects of the most vital importance to us, as fallen, sinful, exposed, yet redeemed, creatures, the Sacred Scriptures contain the most ample, satisfactory and certain information. Their value to us, is, on this account, incalculable: their loss could never be supplied. Beautifully and sweetly does the Psalmist give in his testimony respecting the worth of the

Scriptures in his day extant, and with increased propriety will it apply to the entire canon ;—"The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul : the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever ; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea than much fine gold : sweeter also than honey, and the honey comb. Moreover by them is thy servant warned : and in keeping of them is great reward."

The Sacred Scriptures *have claims on the most serious attention of every person* : they, therefore, are, or should be, interesting to all. In the doctrines they disclose, all are personally concerned. They come with a message to every one—a message from God to every responsible creature. To all and each they bring this address—"Hear ye the words of the Lord"—hear his solemn enunciations on subjects the most vital, and which interest you as sinful beings, and liable to the agonizing sufferings of eternal woe. In them alone are proclaimed the way of escape—the means of reconciliation—and the terms of salvation. Turning from them to other sources we gather clouds of darkness and error over our minds, obstruct our prospects, reject the light of heaven, and "walking in the light of our own fire, and in the sparks that we have kindled, this shall we have of God's hand, we shall lie down in sorrow." On the serious attention, of every individual, the word of God has claims, powerful and irresistible : "Search the Scriptures ; for in them ye think ye have eternal life : and they are they which testify of me." What THE FOUNDER OF METHODISM felt and expressed respecting the precious Bible should be felt and expressed by every person : "I have thought," says the venerable Wesley, in the preface to his sermons, "I am a creature of a day, passing through life as an arrow through the air. I am a spirit come from God, and returning to God : just hovering over the great gulf ; till a few moments hence, I am no more seen ; I drop into an unchangeable eternity ! I want to know one thing,—the way to heaven ; how to land on that happy shore. God himself has condescended to teach the way : For this very end he came from heaven. He hath written it down in a book. O give me that book ! At any price give me the book of God ! I have it : Here is knowledge enough for me. Let me be *homo unius libri*, "a man of one book."

(To be continued.)

EDUCATION.—Education is the guardian of liberty and the bulwark of morality. Knowledge and virtue are generally inseparable companions, and are in the moral, what light and heat are in the natural world, the illuminating and vivifying principle. . . . Every effort ought to be made to fortify our free institutions ; and the great bulwark of security is to be found in education—the culture of the heart and the head, the diffusion of knowledge, piety, and morality. —*De Witt Clinton.*

Natural History.

THE CAOUTCHOUC TREE.

THE remarkable substance known as caoutchouc or India rubber is produced from several different plants of the same genus as the common fig-tree. The number of species of *Ficus* is indeed considered to be as great as that of any other aborescent plant, but they flourish only in tropical countries or in the warmest regions of the temperate zone. Some creep like the ivy, while others rear their heads as high as any of the trees of the forest, their large leaves affording a thick shade and delightful shelter from a tropical sun. For a man to sit under his own fig-tree in the climate where those trees are indigenous conveys associations of the pleasantest kind. Fraser speaks thus of what he saw of their habits in the forests of Moreton Bay in New Holland :—"I observed several species of *Ficus* upwards of 150 feet high, enclosing immense iron-bark trees, on which originally the seeds of the fig-trees had been deposited by birds. Here they had immediately vegetated, and thrown out their parasitical and rapacious roots, which, adhering close to the bark of the iron-tree, had followed the course of its stem downwards to the earth, where, once arriving, their progress of growth is truly astonishing." Some of the genus are remarkable for throwing out roots from their branches, which, on reaching the ground, establish themselves there, and an individual tree thus extends itself over a considerable space of ground, forming a series of leafy alcoves. The banyan-tree (described in No. 22) is an instance of this peculiar habit. The *Ficus religiosa* is planted near houses in India for the sake of its grateful shade. The Hindu deity Vishnoo is fabled to have been born under its branches.

The juices and produce of the *Ficus* genus possess various qualities, some species yielding deadly poison, and others cooling and refreshing fruits. The milk of the common fig is extremely acrid when the fruit is in an unripe state, but in its progress towards maturity the chemical elements of which it consists enter into new combinations, and fortunately lose the acrid quality which would otherwise render them unfit for the consumption of man. A species of the fig-tree in Sumatra, is known to botanists as *Ficus toxicaria*, and in Tanjore, another tree of the same class is termed *Ficus demona*, from the virulent character of their juices. The Upas of Java, which contains most deadly poison, is of the *Ficus* genus, and so also is the American cow-tree, which on the other hand yields a cool and agreeable beverage resembling milk. The leaves of some of the *fici* are tonic ; in others they act as an emetic ; in some as a caustic. The bark of others is used in tanning, and in several it may be taken as a tonic. Nature seems to have been profuse in investing the genus with an extensive range of qualities beyond almost that of any other class of plants ; but nearly all of them yield caoutchouc.

The *Ficus elastica*, from which caoutchouc is chiefly obtained, is a native of South America and India. "It has shining, oval, pointed, thick leaves, small axillary uneatable fruits of the size of an olive, and long pink or red terminal buds composed of the stipules rolled together. This species inhabits the Pundua and the Juntipoor mountains, which bound the province of Silhet on the north, where it grows to the size of an European Sycamore, and is called *Kasmeer*. It is chiefly found in the chasms of rocks, and over the declivities of mountains, among decomposed rocks and vegetable matter. It produces when wounded a great abundance of milk, which yields about one third of its weight in caoutchouc. It grows with great rapidity ; a tree is described as being twenty-five feet high, with the trunk a foot in diameter, when only four years old. The juice of this valua-

ble plant is used by the natives of Silhet to smear over the inside of baskets constructed of split rattan, which are thus rendered water-tight. Old trees yield a richer juice than young ones. The milk is extracted by incisions made across the bark down to the wood, at the distance of about a foot from each other, all round the trunk or branch, up to the top of the tree, and the higher the more abundant is the stuff said to be. After one operation the tree requires a fortnight's rest, when it may be again repeated. When the juice is exposed to the air it separates spontaneously into a firm elastic substance and a fetid whey-coloured liquid. Fifty ounces of pure milky juice taken from the trees in August yielded exactly 15½ ounces of clean washed caoutchouc. This substance is of the finest quality, and may be obtained in large quantities.* The *Ficus elastica* may often be seen in the hothouses of this country.

The use of caoutchouc with which we are most familiar is that of removing the marks of lead pencil from paper, and its most common name is Indian rubber. It is not much more than a century since it was introduced into Europe, and the manner of its production was at first unknown. In 1735 some members of the French Academy of Science visited South America, when they found it was the thickened juice of a Brazilian tree, and in the following year an account of its preparation was given to the Academy. The best time for obtaining the greatest quantity of caoutchouc is in the rainy season, when the trees being pierced, a thick juice, having neither taste nor smell, exudes, which, on its first appearance is of a yellowish white colour, and afterwards becomes darker by exposure to the atmosphere, and also becomes solidified. Several coatings of caoutchouc being successively applied to the exterior surface of clay models of bottles, they are dried over fires, in the course of which each stratum of caoutchouc becomes blackened by the smoke. The lines usually visible on the exterior of a bottle of Indian rubber are traced by a blunt tool. After being exposed to the drying effect of fire for a sufficient length of time, the clay is crushed and shaken out of the bottles, which are then ready for exportation. The Indians had long been in the habit of making boots of caoutchouc, which were perfectly waterproof, and the inhabitants of Quito were accustomed to employ it in the manufacture of cloth. Caoutchouc gives a soft and beautiful light, and before the demand in Europe became so great the South Americans were in the habit of employing it in flambeaux. One of these an inch and a half in diameter, and two feet long, would burn during twelve hours. The caoutchouc obtained from India is prepared in a different manner from that which is followed in South America, being, when imported, in a solid flat state, and not blackened.

The chemical properties and affinities of caoutchouc, which adapt it for a great variety of purposes, must be treated in connection with its uses as a substance of growing importance in the manufacture of an increasing variety of articles.

PEARLS.

The enormous value attached in ancient times to some extraordinary pearls seems to be almost fabulous; much of this must of course be attributed to the caprice which will pay any price however excessive, for whatever is unique in its kind, the possession of which may be an object of competition; and the manufacture of artificial pearls had not then lowered the price of the real jewel. But though no longer so extravagantly valued, the pearl must always be a favourite; its delicate and silvery lustre, in the words of an admirer, "relieves the eye after

gazing at the brilliancy of the diamond, as the soft brightness of the moon after the dazzling fire of the sun."

The finest pearls are found in the neighbourhood of India, and the Hindus poetically ascribe their production to drops of dew which fall into the shells of the fish in which they are formed. A Brahman told Mr. Le Beck that the fish rises to the surface of the sea in the month of May, to catch the drops in his shell, and that he thus received the germ of a pearl, which is then impregnated by the heat of the sun.

Pliny had probably received some version of this Indian idea, and, as usual, he improved the story by the addition of something of his own. He says, "The pearls vary according to the quality of the dew by which they are formed; if that be clear, they are also clear; if turbid, they are turbid; if the weather be cloudy when the precious drop is received into the shell, the pearl will be pale-coloured; if the shell has received a full supply the pearl will be large; but lightning may cause it to close too suddenly, and then the pearl will be very small; when it thunders during the reception of the drop, the pearl thence resulting will be a mere hollow shell of no consistency."

Agurello, an Italian writer of the fifteenth century, has introduced the idea in a Latin poem in these words:

"Cum se summo pandunt in marmore conchas
Ut genitalis eas anni stimulaverit hora
Implenturque levi conceptu roris hiantes,
Et gravidæ certo mox edunt tempore fetus,
Ætheriusque illis fit candens unio partus."

("When the shells open on the surface of the deep, excited by the genial season, they are filled by the light fertilizing dew; thence in due time they bring forth their young, and the brilliant pearl is the ethereal produce.")

The truth is much less poetical than the fiction. The pearl is generally admitted to be a sort of disease, a morbid concretion produced in the body of several species of molluscous fishes. How it begins is not precisely known; probably a grain of sand, or other minute substance may have found its way into the shell; and there produced irritation; the efforts of nature, if unable to expel the cause of uneasiness, would be excited to render it less injurious by covering it with layers of calcareous matter, and thus the pearl might be formed. That it is injurious to the animal appears from the observation of pearl-fishers, that the smooth shells rarely, if ever, contain pearls, while the distorted shell is seldom or never without one.

Pearls are found in Asia, Europe, and America. The Romans procured them from Britain almost two thousand years ago, though not of excellent quality; and in modern times, considerable quantities have been furnished from Scotland. It is stated that the rivers of Perthshire supplied the London market with pearls to the amount of 10,000*l.* annually for several years, about the middle of the last century. In Russia they are produced in the province of Novgorod, Tver, and Pskov, and until the year 1776 they were considered imperial property wherever they were found. Several rivers of Saxony, Bavaria, Bohemia, and Silesia, afford pearls, and it has been remarked that in several cases the production extends to a small part only of their course. Thus, the little river Elster, which rises in the Erzgebirge of Saxony, on the borders of Bohemia, contains many pearl shells from its source to the town of Elsterberg, a distance of fifteen miles; beyond this none are to be met with; the cessation is with much probability attributed to the confluence of the river Triblerbach, which in its course turns several large mill-wheels used in mining operations. This supposition is corroborated by the fact that Triblerbach itself produced pearls previous to the erection of the machines upon it.

* Penny Encyclopedia art. Ficus

In America the fishery has chiefly been confined to the Gulf of Mexico and to the eastern coast of California; in the Gulf, the principal places were the arm of the sea between Cabagua and Coche, and the mouth of the river de la Hacia. The Isles de las Perlas, in the Gulf of Panama, also received their name from their furnishing pearls. All these places formerly supplied large quantities, and they were fished by the natives before their discovery by the Europeans; but the beds now appear to be exhausted, and the produce is now scarcely worth any thing.

Asia is more exclusively the land of pearls, and the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf, and the Indian Ocean are the chief places of their production. Asia still furnishes the great majority of the pearls worn in Europe.

Some attempts have been made to produce pearls artificially; we do not mean by this to express the manufacture of mock pearls, which has been brought to a high pitch of perfection, but to cause by means of art the growth of pearls in fish. This the Chinese are said to carry into effect with success, by making small beads of mother-of-pearl, which they thread upon fine silk and fasten within the shells of pearl oysters when they rise to the surface of the water in the beginning of summer; the fish are then replaced in their beds, where the beads are soon covered with calcareous excretions from the body of the animal, and do in fact become genuine pearls. The experiment has been tried in Europe, and it has proved that the fish may thus be compelled to produce pearls; but in the majority of instances the attempt has destroyed the animal, and even when it has succeeded the produce has been of inferior quality. Linnæus communicated to the Swedish government a plan having the same object, which he had formed from the observation that a variety of parasitical animals were frequently found fastened to the shells of the pearl mussel, and that these little creatures sometimes pierced holes through the shells, within which a pearl was often found: his proposition was to imitate this process, by piercing little holes through the shells when fresh caught, and again to deposit them in their original beds. The experiment was tried, but did not succeed.

A good pearl should be either globular or pear-shaped; according to Jeffries, a celebrated jeweller, "their complexion must be milk-white, not of a dead and lifeless, but of a clear and lively hue, free from stains, foul spots, specks, or roughness." He condemns all coloured pearls although the Hindoos prefer a yellow tinge, and some nations admire the red. He values them according to their weight, in the following manner:—a pearl of one carat (three grains and one-fifth) is valued at eight shillings; one of two carats at four times that amount; one of three carats at nine times, and so on in a square proportion, multiplying the number of carats by itself, and the product by eight shillings; but the price set upon some pearls of ancient days exceeds this estimate enormously; and even now a pearl of very extraordinary beauty would most probably receive a valuation upon other grounds than its weight.

We shall conclude with a list of some extraordinary pearls mentioned by old authors, and of one or two of modern times.

First, the often-mentioned pearls of Cleopatra, one of which that celebrated queen drank dissolved in vinegar, whilst the other, saved from a similar fate, was slit into halves to form ear-rings for the statue of Venus in the Pantheon.

Julius Cæsar presented to Servilia a pearl valued at six million Sesterces, or nearly 50,000*l.* of our money.

A pear-shaped pearl from Panama was presented to Philip II. of Spain in the year 1579, of the size of a pigeon's egg; it was valued at 4000*l.*

The pearl belonging to the Shah of Persia, seen

by Tavernius in 1633, was valued at 23,000 tomans, equal at that time to double the number of pounds sterling. This pearl is believed to be the one which was in the possession of the late king of Persia, Fatch Ali Shah.

A pearl presented by the republic of Venice to Soliman, the emperor of the Turks, was valued at 16,000*l.*

The large pearl in the crown of the emperor Rodolph II. weighed 30 carats, and was the size of a pear. (?)

Pope Leo X. bought a pearl of a Venetian jeweller for the sum of 14,000*l.*

A lady at Madrid in the year 1605 wore an American pearl which cost 31,000 ducats.

A large Java pearl, curiously set, was shown at Madras a few years ago. It was made to represent a siren, or mermaid, dressing her hair; the body was formed of the pearl, which was of a long oval form and beautifully pure white; the head and arms were of white enamel, and the lower extremity, forming the fish, of green enamel. The whole was finely carved, and on the girdle were the following words:—"Fallunt aspectus cantusque syrenis."

The most beautiful pearl known is in the museum of Zosima in Mosco; it weighs very nearly 28 carats; it is perfectly globular, and so beautifully brilliant that at first sight it appears transparent. It was bought by Zosima at Leghorn, of a captain of an East India ship. This splendid pearl, which has been named the Pellegrina, is one of the objects of a visit to Moscow.

ADMONITION TO THE RICH.—One of the tests of faith of Christians is, that we should give our money to our needy brother, and not *trust in riches* for "tomorrow;" saying, "What shall we eat? or what shall we drink? or wherewithal shall we be clothed? (for after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things—O ye of little faith!" Jesus further saith—"How hard is it for them that *trust in riches* to enter into the kingdom of God!" Some conclude from this text that it is not wrong to possess money, provided we do not trust in it; and, therefore, get as much as they can, endeavouring to persuade themselves that they do not trust in it; whilst every needy brother's unheeded supplications are registered in heaven, as tests that the truth is not in them, and will be unfolded in the day of retribution, when they may hear the Condemnator's words "Inasmuch as ye did it not unto the least of these, ye did it not unto me." Whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of *compassion* from him, *how dwelleth the love of God in him!* If Christians would exercise more vigilance over the flock, and remonstrate with those who heap up treasures to themselves, and yet have a place amongst them, urging the impossibility of serving God and mammon, and warning them that they should have faith to dispense these freely to the poor and needy, many a misguided wretch would be saved from the hands of the public executioner; and then would it be demonstrated to the powers of this world, that the true way of preventing crime is "to overcome evil with good," by teaching the ignorant, feeding the hungry, and clothing the naked. Hence, in whatever country a gibbet is found, we see a monument which marks the degraded state of the morals of all classes of society—the deficiency of salutary laws—the depravity of the national government—the paramount negligence of the religious world; nor is it less evident, that the blood of every man who suffers capital punishment, in some measure, rest upon the heads of the rich and faithless professor of Christianity.—George Pilkington, late Captain, corps of Royal Engineers.

Poetry.

THOUGHTS IN SICKNESS.

BY LORD JOHN MANNERS.

I know not how it is—but man ne'er sees
The glory of this world, its streams and trees,
Its thousand forms of beauty, that delight
The soul, the sense, and captivate the sight,—
So long as laughing health vouchsafes to stay,
And charm the traveller on his joyous way.

No! Man can ne'er appreciate this earth
Which he had lived and joyed in from his birth,
Till pain or sickness from his sight removes
All that in health he valued not, yet loves!
Then, then it is he learns to feel the ties
Of earth, and all its sweetest sympathies.

Then he begins to know how fair, how sweet
Are all those flowers that bloomed beneath his feet,
Then he confesses that, before, in vain
The wild flowers blossomed on the lowly plain;
Then he remembers that the larks would sing,
Making the heavens with their music ring,
And he, unmindful, never cared to hear
Her tuneful orisons at day-break clear,
While all the glories that enrich this earth
Crowd on his brain, and magnify its worth,
Till transient fancy quits the couch of pain,
To rove in health's gay fields and woods again!
But when some pang his wandering sense recalls,
And chains the sufferer to his prison walls
What to his misery adds a sharper sting,
And plumes the feathers on affliction's wing?
What, but the thought, that in his hour of health,
He slighted these for glory, power, or wealth?
And oh! how trivial when compared with these,
Seem all the pleasures which are said to please!

At morn, when through the open lattice float
Wild hymns of love from many a warbler's throat,
The sick man turns with pained and feverish start,
And groans in abject bitterness of heart.
Whence, say ye vain ones, whence that soul-drawn groan?
Comes it from anguish, or from pain, alone?
Think ye, Reflection was not there?
Born on that sunbeam—wafted by the air
That speaks upbraidings in its balmy breath,
Though whispering sweetly of returning health?

So feel I now; and if bright health once more
Glow in my frame, as it hath glowed of yore,
Oh! may I prove my thankfulness! and show
I feel the glory of all things below!

Literary.

NIGHT MUSING.

WHAT stupendous phenomena surround mortals, without attracting a moment's observation, from more than one in a thousand. The circumambient air, the variegated and varied earth, the abyss of ocean, are each vast magazines of mysteries. Some of these attract investigation; others, by their indefinite impalpable character, defy the clumsy touch of man; and others, by their frequent occurrence, and apparent simplicity, are not heeded as they pass in review. Creation, in all its laws, and materials, is one stupendous wonder,—an emanation from that Hand whose power we talk of, but cannot comprehend,—an exhibition claiming the continued scrutiny and admiration of man, the lord of earth.

The return of night—What more familiar than

this phrase?—It merely denotes, to common ears, the resting-hour of the labourer; the noon of drawing-room life; the dawn of the vicious,—who, wrapping themselves in shade, prowl abroad, free from crime-abashing light, and from the myriad eyes of a scrutinizing world.—Who notices the day's decline, except as the termination of business, the commencement of rest, or recreation?—Yet this hour, as well as the devotion-inspiring dawn, should lead to heart-stirring, heart-ennobling thoughts.

To the First Man how solemn was the first night-fall. Was nature relaxing into its primeval sleep? Had the sun indeed sank into unimaginable depths? Would the fair face of earth, the green fields, the blue waters, never more throw off this sable mantle? To the contemplative man of every age, how continually interesting are the evening shades. They speak eloquently of the ever-active superintendance of the Maker,—of laws of nature still inflexible,—of the great globe having once more revolved on that axis, whose unknown centre, some say, is water; some fire; and some marble thrice compressed! Once more has its vast circumference—with all its mountains and oceans, and the thousand features of each—spun round, equable as the top of the school-boy, bearing its vast tribes unconsciously along!

In the solitudes of nature, where the wanderer stands alone,—where the marsh is too tangled for the bittern,—the forest too savage for the wild fox,—the plain too arid for the agile deer,—where dusk produces an unfamiliar chaos,—and the hum of that which is called profound silence, is as the noise of innumerable conflicting atoms,—what a chilling annihilating feeling pervades the Night,

But in a rural district,—by the fragrant garden and the pebbly brook, and the cottage-shading tree, the hour of darkness comes in its gentlest guise. The blending of the characteristics of nature and art, of solitude and society, produces that delightful state between gloom and gaiety, that semi-melancholy akin to cheerfulness, which is so favourable to the pathos of enjoyment.—The deep bay of the village mastiff, answering the guardian of another hamlet,—the trumpet note of the lord of the hen-roost, bidding defiance to some scarcely heard fellow in a rival farm yard,—the monotonous gurgle of the mill race, and perhaps the intermitting murmur of the billows on a distant beach;—the perfume which rises from the hay-field, the hawthorn hedge, the blossoming bean-rows, and the thousand aromatics which the home-stead collects;—the outlines of the cottage, visible against the less dark sky,—the serrated grove which gets massiveness and depth from the indistinctness,—the fine blossoming swell of the half seen half imagined hill; all these indications of a picturesque scenery, calling on the imagination by a thousand delicate suggestions, soothe, and interest, and temper the loneliness, and chasten the gaiety of him who watches the night among the fields.

Neither is the strongly contrasting City without its romance of the night watches. The scenes and sounds of evening have passed away;—the domestic lights

are extinguished:—no longer the playing boys usurp the thoroughfares of business; and nought but the lonely passenger's footfall on the deserted pave, breaks the stillness. The houses rise, on each side, dark and silent as the cliffs of a mountain ravine;—but how much more romantic than any such ravine is the avenue of the streets: on either side, mute, dark, as if immured in tombs, lie the population of the commonwealth? The image of death has obtained possession of them, but the resurrection of the coming morn is confidently expected, and the deep gloom of death does not attend its image. What a collection of all that is precious in life is ranged on each hand: families amid their possessions, enjoying the comforts and securities of civilization, when all living signs of that civilization have disappeared.

Who watches over the sleepers? Who represses the emissaries of the powers of darkness in this their hour? Who provides for the wonderful renovations of sleep, and for the renewed life at the balmy dawn? Who has ordered this mysterious state of things—mysterious, yet seeming simple from its frequent recurrence—in which half darkness and half light, half the repose of death, and half the activity of life, make man's existence? Instead of this delightful round of days and nights, each one a life and death in miniature,—why not one unbroken state of activity, one sudden step to dissolution?

Wherever the watcher is,—whether on the lonely mountain, in the precincts of the balmy hamlet, or in the sleeping city's centre, one magnificent object is prepared by night, for his contemplation; one scene unspeakably grand, visible to his sense, yet baffling the utmost vigour of his soul:—the *Starry Heavens*,—the system of suns, and moons, and worlds, amid which, the vast earth moves—a speck in creation, and which, in their natures and uses and destinies, are so supremely attractive and sublime. Yon twinkling star is a world, no doubt, inhabited;—by whom? Will we ever know, will another state of things familiarise us with its scenes? That other more glowing spark is a mighty sun! What moons does it illumine, what worlds does it vivify?

What an atom does man shrink into, as he contemplates those mighty works,—until he recollects the energies of his aspiring intellect. Pride is crushed, but self-respect and dignity are exalted; a feeling of bodily imbecility is overcome by the expansion of that emanation, within, which proceeded from Him who dwelleth in unimaginable glory, and whose goodness is as unlimited as his power.—*Selected.*

SELMO.

Obituary.

MISS E. THOMPSON.

DIED, at Cornwallis, on the 5th day of January last, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. Elijah Thompson, aged seventeen years. She was a child of an amiable disposition and unassuming manners, and consequently had much endeared herself to her parents, and all

who knew her. From these and other circumstances her fond parents were naturally induced to look forward to her approaching maturity, with feelings of pleasing anticipation;—but, alas! they, like many others, were doomed to feel a mournful disappointment. Elizabeth, when a child, was very healthy, but for several months previously to her decease, had been the subject of various complaints, which terminated in a dropsy and an internal ulcer. That her sufferings were great will be readily believed; but that she bore them with patience and resignation to the divine will, I have much pleasure in recording, although she was three times obliged to submit to surgical operations.

My first visit to her was immediately after the first of these operations. She was extremely weak, and presented an affecting sight for the contemplation of a parent; but my visit to her was one of mercy, and to relieve as much as possible the extreme anxiety of her afflicted friends, relative to her eternal welfare. "Ah! Sir," said they, "we have given up all hopes of our daughter living; all we long for is to know that she is going to a better inheritance." Elizabeth was indeed a stranger to experimental religion; though amiable in disposition she was as yet unconcerned in heart; I was happy to find that she felt herself a sinner, and sincerely desirous of obtaining the mercy of the Lord Jesus. It was therefore my pleasing duty to assure her, by reference to the word of God and the experience of others, that Jesus Christ was now willing to pardon all her past sins, and adopt her into his heavenly family; and further, that the happiness consequent thereon would far exceed any thing which she could previously conceive. From the liberty I felt while pleading her cause at the throne of the heavenly grace, I was assured that the Lord would hear prayer in her behalf, and communicate to her soul the blessing she needed.

She partially recovered from her extreme weakness, and I had the opportunity of several communications with her, on the great concerns of her soul. Although her mind appeared to be increasingly susceptible of religious influence, yet there was not that clear and decisive change of heart which we earnestly desire to behold in all that are so nearly approaching the eternal world. However, after a third operation had been performed, she became so fully convinced that she had but a few days to remain on this side eternity, that she cried earnestly to God for the salvation of her soul. He soon manifested his willingness to save, by inspiring her with confidence in the atoning blood; she was enabled to believe with her heart unto righteousness, and to declare that God, for Christ's sake, had forgiven all her sins.

Knowing the extreme anxiety of her father for her spiritual welfare, she communicated the pleasing news to him in appropriate and unequivocal language, assuring them she was now truly happy in her soul, and was not afraid to die. She praised and blessed the name of the Lord, for his many mercies towards her, and encouraged others to do the same. This happy event took place six days before her death; so that she

had ample time to testify for Jesus; which she did, in exhorting her dear brothers and sisters to become religious, and to meet her in heaven,—and in declaring to all around, her unshaken confidence of a blissful immortality, through the merits of her adorable Saviour.

I had not the privilege of seeing her until within a few hours of her death. A mortal paleness was on her cheek, but celestial glory beamed in her eye, while she assured me that her soul was happy, and that she was going to heaven. This was to me a happy moment. My feeble efforts and humble prayers were crowned with success. Another trophy of redeeming love was before me; and angels would soon welcome their sister spirit to the paradise above! I longed to tarry and witness the last struggle, and cheer her happy spirit in her passage to "glory;" but duty compelled me to leave her in the hands of him who said—"Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

I am informed that her bodily sufferings were extreme; to the last not a murmur or a complaint escaped her lips, but prayer and praise with unshaken confidence in Jesus marked her passage to the skies. Her end was not only peaceful, but triumphant joy.

Thus died Elizabeth Thompson. May all the juvenile readers of this short memoir be induced to seek, while in health, the salvation of their souls, that their end may be as happy as her's. And may all praying parents be induced to persevere in their duty, and in the exercise of a lively faith in the promised blessing to themselves and to their children.

WILLIAM CROSCOMBE.

Horton, 20th February, 1839.

Original Communications.

AFFLICTIONS ARE BLESSINGS IN DISGUISE.

Man in general is actuated by present events; if in prosperity, he fancies his case will never be otherwise, not remembering that, although to-day he may be in the possession of thousands, to-morrow by some unforeseen circumstance he may be deprived of all his possessions wherein he trusted; to-day he is in perfect health, to-morrow he may be laid on a bed of languishing, or, what is still more awful, he may be the inhabitant of a world of spirits: So uncertain is the tenure by which all sublunary things are held; yea, life itself. One of old must have had a deep consciousness of the uncertainty of life, when he declares that our life is but as a vapour, that just appeareth and then vanisheth away. On the other hand, is he the subject of affliction, he is generally cast down, always imagining the worst, unless strongly influenced by the grace which enables him to keep his soul stayed upon God, exultingly exclaiming in the language of Habakkuk: Although the fig-tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines, the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat, the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls,—yet I will rejoice in the Lord, and joy in the God of my salvation. Thus influenced he feels that the

Lord is his everlasting strength, and is conscious that he will be his portion forever,—thus influenced, if called to suffer affliction in common with others of the followers of Christ, he, with Moses, can say: I choose rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin which, at most, are but for a season. And why? Because he has respect to the recompense of reward; hence it is said, that afflictions for the present are not joyous, yet, nevertheless, afterward they yield the peaceable fruits of righteousness to them who are exercised thereby. David must have felt this when he could exclaim, It was good for me that I was afflicted, for before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I have respect unto thy commandments. How amply do the above cited testimonies, with many others that might be adduced, prove the reality of the head of this article to those who fear God. But notwithstanding what has been said, the truth of this doctrine may be doubted, nay, be disputed, by the worldling; and no marvel, when we consider that the world is their god. They rise early, sit up late, who eat the bread of carefulness, striving in every possible way to augment their worldly possessions, while they live altogether neglectful of that Being who is daily loading them with benefits; yea, living as if all depended upon their exertions independent of the blessing of the Almighty, not remembering that the earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof.

In order to the more particular elucidation of this subject, I would proceed to point out some of what I conceive to be the reasons why afflictions may be called blessings in disguise. And first, I would remark, that afflictions may be called blessings when we remember the author or dispenser of them. That Being who looks (speaking after the manner of men) into futurity, who knows what is best for all his creatures, who is too wise to err, and too good to be unkind,—although he afflicts, we may rest assured that he does it not willingly, but for our good; this he has declared in his word. Our spiritual and eternal good having more weight with him than any thing of a temporal nature. Secondly, I would remark that afflictions, especially sickness, may be called blessings, because they remind us of our latter end. In health and prosperity we are too apt to forget that we are dying creatures, but are continually proposing to ourselves length of days. Although death may come near, yea, enter our dwellings, still, while we are in the enjoyment of health, we are too apt to remain insensible of our approaching dissolution; but when personally visited by sickness, then we are reminded more particularly, that we are mortal, that this clay tenement must soon mingle with its mother dust, and our naked spirits appear before the bar of God, to answer to the deeds done in the body; we are convinced that this is not our abiding-place, that here we have no continuing city;—which reflections, of course, will lead us to see the necessity of seeking a city which hath foundations, whose maker and builder is God,—will lead us to discover the necessity of becoming prepared for eternity: remembering that it is recorded, that without holiness

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no man shall see the Lord,—that in the grave to which we are hastening, there is neither wisdom, knowledge, nor device, consequently, that a preparation is necessary while in life; and until convinced of this, we will never be led to enquire the way in which we are to prepare to meet our God, viz., repentance towards God, and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Being now made sensible of our state and condition, we will be led to sue for mercy, trusting alone in Christ, as our surety, standing between the offended God, and us, offending man: receiving him thus, we will be enabled to lay hold of him by faith as offered in the Gospel, free without money and without price; thus believing upon him, and exercising faith in the merits of the blood of atonement, we are justified, freely accepted of God through Christ. Our condition now becomes changed; inasmuch as before, viewing him as angry with us, having fearful apprehensions of death and judgment, we now feel that we have peace with God, being justified freely by the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, we can rejoicingly adopt the language of the poet:—

My God is reconciled,
 His pardoning voice I hear;
 He owns me for his child,
 I can no longer fear.
 With confidence I now draw nigh,
 And Father, Abba Father, cry.

And then will that happy soul exclaim, It was good for me that I was afflicted, yea, afflictions have indeed proved blessings to me. This is not a picture of the imagination. Thousands now in heaven can bless God for afflictions, and thousands upon the earth can testify to the truth of these remarks. I would ask, reader, whether thou hast never yet been made partaker of the blessings here spoken of? Hast thou at no period of thy life been convinced by afflictions of the necessity of giving thy heart to God? If not by sickness, have not thy friends been taken from thee? Hast thou not often been disappointed in thy expectations? O reader! all this is to lead thee to seek happiness in God: that happiness which the world can neither give nor take away. Thirdly. Afflictions may be called blessings, inasmuch, as they have a tendency to wean our affections from the world. The placing our affections upon the things of the world, is sinful in the extreme, and an awful preventative to religion—adoring the creature more than the Creator. Upon whatever worldly object our affections are placed, the most of our time will be employed in meditating upon the pleasures and enjoyments to be derived therefrom; consequently religion will be nearly, if not wholly, neglected. By afflictions, losses and crosses, &c., we will discover the folly of trusting in the riches or honours of the world, and such convictions, if rightly improved, will lead us to lay up treasure in heaven. The attention will be given to the things of religion, the one thing needful, thus proving blessings of a lasting nature. Fourthly. Afflictions may be called blessings, inasmuch as they have a tendency to promote a growth in grace. Those who have tasted of the good word of God, who have felt the powers of the world to come, have often reason to complain of the coldness

of their affections towards God: having to do with the world and the things of it, causes the Christian's love (unless particularly watchful) to grow cold, afflictions have a tendency to produce serious reflections, whereby we are led to look to the Lord for help, and by receiving that help, our hearts become warmed by his love, producing love in return; our graces become strengthened, and we come forth from under the afflicting hand of God, as gold seven times tried. Much more might be said;—however, the writer feeling his inability to say any thing to advantage upon so important a subject, and hoping that some person competent to do the subject that justice which its importance demands, may be induced to take it up, would conclude by earnestly praying that all, who are or may be the subjects of affliction, may experience the benefits (which he is confident is intended if daily improved) resulting therefrom. S.

Missionary Intelligence.

DEFEAT OF INTOLERANCE IN STOCKHOLM.

To the Editors of the Watchman.

Stockholm, Nov. 20 1858.

DEAR SIRS,—It is, at length, my happy privilege, to communicate to your numerous readers, who feel interested in the struggle between religious liberty and consistorial intolerance which has been proceeding in Stockholm, that a decision has been pronounced by the Government, granting all that we asked in our memorial, and not even noticing the restrictions proposed, and with such violence and persevering importunity urged, by the Consistory of Stockholm. The principal features of these restrictions were, as you may remember, to prevent the Wesleyan Missionary from conducting divine service in any other language than the English, or on any other days than Sabbaths and holidays; as also from extending any kind of religious aid to others than his own countrymen. The confirming of any one of these would, in all probability, have led to the removal of the preacher from this place, as he cannot have anything like a sufficiency of employment if confined to English work. In the Gazette of Saturday evening, the 17th of November, the royal resolution of the previous day appeared, containing the sanction of his Majesty to the request of the Wesleyan Methodists, for permission to erect a chapel in Stockholm for the public worship of God, without imposing any new obstruction of any kind. Thus the Lord took our part with them that helped us, and his right hand hath done valiantly. To describe the burst of sacred joy which ascended to God, last Sabbath, from an unusually crowded audience, when the glad tidings were communicated, is utterly impossible. To me, it was a rich reward for all that I had previously suffered. The following notice of that memorable evening may be deemed not unworthy of an early place in your journal, more particularly as I know many friends, in various quarters, are anxiously looking out for the result. We read, as our lesson for the evening, the 118th Psalm;—the words in the 25th verse, "O Lord, I beseech thee, send now prosperity," forming the subject of discourse. After sermon, the congregation was addressed as follows: (I deemed it a necessary precaution to write previously what I wished to say on the subject.)

"Save now, I beseech thee, O Lord; O Lord,

beseech thee, send now prosperity." To-day, beloved hearers, we are particularly called to offer up, with humility and thanksgiving, the prayer before us. It is not too much for me to say, rejoicing in the Lord who 'worketh all in all,' that it is my decided conviction that many fellow-christians have been assisted to spiritual prosperity, by the blessing of God on the Swedish services conducted here, without their relationship to their own national church being at all injured thereby; yea, to use the language of David, 'the Lord shall count when he writeth up the people,' that this and that man was born here. And the only source of sorrow connected with these opportunities arose from the insufficiency of the sanctuary to admit the many, of all classes, who desire to avail themselves of them. But when aid towards an enlarged place was obtained, it appeared that these unassuming services, which were by no means inimical to the interests of the Swedish Church, had occasioned displeasure and awakened suspicion in a quarter where we had every reason to expect encouragement and support; and a mighty, a zealous, a persevering attempt was made to obtain a Government order interdicting my preaching in the Swedish language. I will not enlarge on the painful anxieties, the heart-sickening sufferings, through which I have passed during the last six months. I would gladly forget them all; seeing the Lord has sanctified them to the good of my soul,—the time of trial has proved purifying and exalting,—the extended cup, drank to the dregs, has been, though bitter, most salutary, and I praise my God that I have seen affliction.... I confined the result to the Lord, for it was his own cause, and only his might could conduct it to a favourable issue. And 'he hath done all things well.' It is my happiness, my exceeding great joy, to have it this day in my power to declare unto you, *that all the hindrances thrown in the way of the continuance of these services are removed.* A mild and paternal government, well knowing the uninjuriousness, yea the beneficial tendency of these services, has graciously sanctioned all that was desired, without giving any heed to the restrictions proposed with the design of putting an end to the Swedish worship. May the blessing of God rest upon a Monarch who has the will and the power to guard and promote that which is good! Present him, his momentous duties, his beloved house, before God, in ardent, grateful, believing intercessions. But forget not to praise the King of kings, whose watchful eye, supporting hand, and directing grace, have been so gloriously manifested in the whole of this affair. Declare with the royal psalmist, 'This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.' 'Save now, I beseech thee O Lord; O Lord, I beseech thee, send now prosperity;' may the projected, commenced sanctuary, be continued, finished and consecrated to thy service, and the salvation of many, without further obstruction. I ought not certainly to feel undue concern about the deficiency of funds necessary for the Chapel to be erected, or on account of the losses sustained by the detention of the work. The silver and the gold are the Lord's, and he can, by his grace, convince such as have the power to contribute, how reasonable it is, that the people who are to enjoy the advantage should share also in the expense." But, oh, my beloved hearers, we cannot hope for prosperity in this undertaking, unless such as wish its success, imbibe and exhibit the meek, lowly, and forgiving spirit of the Lord and Saviour. Let us beware of judging the motives of those who have opposed our reasonable request. They under-

* I could not, at the time and in the place, express myself otherwise; but conversations already had with persons of influence, convince me that few indeed of such as have anything to contribute will be disposed to place themselves in that personal opposition to the Archbishop, which a donation in support of this great enterprise would include. If, therefore, England does not help us, my anxieties will be neither few nor small.

stood not, and consequently, suspected, the design of these Swedish services, and they thought they did God service by seeking to put a stop to them. They found it difficult to comprehend how the love of Christ could constrain an English preacher to employ disinterestedly his leisure time in promoting the edification of his Swedish fellow-christians; and they feared, therefore, that some purpose inimical to the interests of the Swedish national Church was concealed under these. The Lord forgive them their opposition, seeing they did it ignorantly! And should misrepresentations, perverted statements, unfounded aspersions, be hereafter spread, regarding Methodism and Methodists, let us pray to God to enable us, by his grace, to manifest another spirit, 'not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing,' remembering who it was that 'when he was reviled reviled not again; when he suffered, threatened not; but committed himself to the care of him, that judgeth righteously;' 'leaving us an example that we should follow his steps.' May the Lord grant us grace, thus to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour and follow peace with all men! And now beloved, let us, with grateful hearts, unite in singing a hymn of praise to that God who has helped us, and comforted us, and shown us a token for good."

A suitable Swedish psalm was given out, and truly "the voice of rejoicing and salvation was in the tabernacle of the righteous." Had the King witnessed the faces beaming with cheerfulness, and the soul-stirring heartiness with which the psalm was sung, by a mass of at least 500 human beings, literally packed together in a place which ought not to include more than 300, he would have reaped a rich reward for his noble deed. The documents connected with this question have, I understand, been published in the German Augsburg, and in Dutch, at Amsterdam; an English Edition may soon be expected, and will, I have no doubt, circulate extensively, and be read with interest, affording, as they do, an important contribution to modern ecclesiastical history, and throwing much light on the state of religion in this part of the continent.

Believe me yours truly,
GEORGE SCOTT.

The Wesleyan.

HALIFAX, MONDAY, MARCH 11.

THE BOUNDARY QUESTION.—Considerable excitement has been raised in the public mind, since the appearance of our last, from the circumstances which have transpired between the adjoining Province and the neighbouring State of Maine, respecting the occupancy of the disputed territory—a portion of the important documents relevant thereto will be found in our selection of local intelligence.

The first news that arrived, led to considerable fears that the peace, which has been maintained between Great Britain and the United States for the last 24 years, was about to be broken, and that we were upon the eye of a war between the two countries;—the later intelligence received, in some measure has alleviated fear, and restored public confidence. A despatch from Governor Harvey to His Excellency of Maine, was productive of a reply from the latter, as impertinent, as it was unsupported by the opinions of the neighbouring states. The Legislature of Maine voted \$800,000 for the expenses of the war, and pro-

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MARCH 11.

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vided for the embodying and training of 10,000 militia; this was followed by a suitable provision of £100,000 in this Province, and the raising of 8000 militia, and by a provision in the other Province, similar in its character, but smaller in its proportion; the exigency, we trust, appearing less in its character, in proportion to the nearness of the scene of difficulty. We have no question but that there would have been a war, had the rash example of the Governor of Maine been followed, or supported, by Massachusetts, or the federal government: but it has not. The matter we trust has been settled by the following temporary negotiation.

MEMORANDUM.

Her Majesty's authorities consider it to have been understood and agreed upon by the two Governments that the territory in dispute between Great Britain and the United States, on the North-eastern frontier, should remain exclusively under British jurisdiction until the final settlement of the boundary question.

The United States Government have not understood the above agreement in the same sense, but consider, on the contrary, that there has been no agreement whatever for the exercise, by Great Britain, of exclusive jurisdiction over the disputed territory, or any portion thereof, but a mutual understanding that, pending the negotiation, the jurisdiction then exercised by either party, over small portions of the territory in dispute, should not be enlarged, but be continued merely for the preservation of local tranquillity and the public property, both forbearing as far as practicable to exert any authority, and, when any should be exercised by either, placing upon the conduct of each other the most favorable construction.

A complete understanding upon the question, thus placed at issue, of present jurisdiction, can only be arrived at by friendly discussion between the governments of the United States and Great Britain; and, as it is confidently hoped that there will be an early settlement of the question, this subordinate point of distinction can be of but little moment.

In the mean time the Governor of the Province of New-Brunswick and the Government of the State of Maine will act as follows:—Her Majesty's officers will not seek to expel by military force the armed party which has been sent by Maine, into the district bordering on the Aroostook river; but the Government of Maine will voluntarily, and without needless delay, withdraw beyond the bounds of the disputed territory any armed force now within them; and, if future necessity should arise for dispersing notorious trespassers, or protecting public property from depredation by armed force, the operation shall be conducted by concert, jointly or separately, according to agreements between the Governments of Maine and New-Brunswick.

The civil officers in the service, respectively, of New-Brunswick and Maine, who have been taken into custody by the opposite parties, shall be released.

Nothing in this memorandum shall be construed to fortify or to weaken in any respect whatever, the claim of either party to the ultimate possession of the disputed territory.

The Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty having no specific authority to make any arrangements on the subject, the undersigned can only recommend, as they now earnestly do to the Governments of New-Brunswick and Maine, to regulate their future proceedings according to the terms herein-before set forth, until the final settlement of the territorial dispute, or until the Governments of the United States and Great Britain shall come to some definite conclusion on the subordinate point upon which they are now at issue.

JOHN FORSYTH,

Secretary of State of the United States of North America.

H. S. FOX.

H. B. M. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary

By the steamer Great Western, arrived at New York on the 16th ult. in 19 days from Bristol, London papers have been received to the 26th January.

The whole country was in a state of excitement on the Corn Laws: public meetings had taken place in

the principal cities and towns, for the purpose of petitioning Parliament on the subject. Lord John Russell, Lord Brougham, and the Earl of Durham, have expressed themselves favourable to a change, and the general opinion is, that a material reduction of duty will take place.

The exportation of Corn had given rise to serious commotions in several parts of France—the worst at Rochelle. The King had in consequence issued a decree, prohibiting the exportation from any of the western ports.

Some of the London papers speak with confidence of the early marriage of her Majesty to her cousin, Prince Albert, of Saxe Cobourg.

The Indian Government has declared war against the Burmese.

Mr. Bedard, one of the suspended Canadian Judges, has had an interview with Lord Glenelg.

Considerable improvements have been made on board the Great Western since her former trip. She had 105 passengers, one of whom was a Messenger with despatches for the British Minister at Washington.

NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 25, 1839.

The steam packet-ship Liverpool, Capt. Fayrer, arrived at 7 o'clock this morning, from Liverpool. Captain F. left Liverpool at half-past 3 o'clock on the afternoon of the 6th; consequently she has made her passage in eighteen and a half days.—We have our regular files of London papers to the evening of the 5th of February, and Liverpool to the 6th, both inclusive. We are also indebted to Captain Fayrer for files of the latest date.

From the London Standard of the Evening of Feb. 5.

The business of the second session of Parliament during the reign of her present Majesty was opened to-day by a speech from the throne.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Queen arrived at the House of Lords about two o'clock, which was announced by a discharge of Cannon. Shortly afterward Her Majesty, attended by the great officers of State, entered the house, and took her seat on the throne. The foreign ambassadors were in the full costumes of the countries they represented.

In a few minutes the Commons appeared at the Bar, headed by the Speaker. The space below the bar was crowded with members. After silence had been obtained, Her Majesty in a clear and audible voice read the following most gracious speech:—

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"I rejoice to meet you again in Parliament. I am particularly desirous of recurring to your advice and assistance at a period, when many matters of great importance demand your serious and deliberate attention.

"I continue to receive from foreign powers gratifying assurances of their desire to maintain with me the most friendly relations.

"It is also urgent that you should apply yourselves to the prosecution and completion of those maxims which have been recommended by the ecclesiastical commissioners of England, for the purpose of increasing the efficiency of the established church, and of confirming its hold upon the affections of the people.

"The better enforcement of the law, and the more speedy and certain administration of justice, are of the first importance to the welfare of this community, and I feel assured that you will be anxious to devote yourselves to the examination of the measures which will be submitted to you for the purpose of obtaining these beneficial results.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons.

"I have directed the annual estimates to be prepared and laid before you.

"Adhering to the principles of economy, which it is my desire to enforce in every department of the State, I feel it my duty to recommend that adequate provision be made for the exigencies of the public service. I fully rely on your loyalty and patriotism to maintain the efficiency of those establishments which are essential to the strength and security of the country.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"It is with great satisfaction that I am enabled to inform

you that throughout the whole of my West India possessions the period fixed by law for the final and complete emancipation of the negroes has been anticipated by acts of the Colonial Legislature, and that the transition from the temporary system of apprenticeship to entire freedom has taken place without any disturbance of public order and tranquillity. Any measures which may be necessary in order to give full effect to this great and beneficial change will, I have no doubt, receive your careful attention.

"I have to acquaint you, with deep concern, that the province of Lower Canada has again been disturbed by insurrection, and that hostile incursions have been made into Upper Canada by certain lawless inhabitants of the United States of North America. These violations of the public peace have been promptly suppressed by the valour of my forces and the loyalty of my Canadian Subjects. The President of the United States has called upon the citizens of the Union to abstain from proceedings incompatible with the friendly relations which subsist between Great Britain and the United States.

"I have concluded with the Emperor of Austria a treaty of commerce, which I trust will extend and improve the intercourse between my subjects and that of the Emperor.

"I have also concluded a treaty of the same kind with the Sultan, calculated to place the commercial relations between my dominions and the Turkish Empire upon a better and more secure footing.

"I have directed copies of these treaties to be laid before you.

"I have been engaged, in concert with Austria, France, Prussia and Russia, in negotiations, with a view to a final settlement of the differences between Holland and Belgium.

"A definitive treaty of peace, founded upon anterior arrangements which have been acceded to by both parties, has in consequence been proposed to the Dutch and Belgian governments. I have the satisfaction to inform you that the Dutch government has already signified to the Conference its acceptance of that treaty, and I trust that a similar announcement from the Belgian government will put an end to that disquietude which the present unsettled state of these affairs has necessarily produced. The unanimity of the five allied powers affords a satisfactory security for the preservation of peace.

"I lament the continuance of the civil war in Spain, which engages my anxious and undiminished attention.

"Differences which have arisen have occasioned the retirement of my minister from the Court of Teheran. I indulge, however, the hope of learning that a satisfactory adjustment of these differences will allow of the re-establishment of my relations with Persia upon their former footing of friendship.

"Events connected with the same differences have induced the Governor General of India to take measures for protecting British interests in that quarter of the world, and to enter into engagements, the fulfilment of which may render military operations necessary. For this purpose such preparations have been made as may be sufficient to resist aggression from any quarter, and to maintain the integrity of my eastern dominions.

"The reform and amendment of the municipal corporations of Ireland are essential to the interests of that part of our dominions.

"I have directed full information upon all these matters to be laid before you, and I recommend the present state of these Provinces to your serious consideration. I rely upon you to support my firm determination to maintain the authority of my Crown, and I trust that your wisdom will adopt such measures as will secure to those parts of my Empire the benefit of internal tranquillity, and the full advantages of their own great national resources.

"I have observed with pain the persevering efforts which have been made in some parts of the country to excite my subjects to disobedience and resistance to the law, and to recommend dangerous and illegal practices. For the counteraction of all such designs I depend upon the efficacy of the law, which it will be my duty to enforce, upon the good sense and right disposition of my people, upon their attachment to the principles of justice, and their abhorrence of violence and disorder.

"I confidently commit all these great interests to your wisdom, and I implore Almighty God to assist and prosper your counsels."

Boston, Feb. 16.

ANOTHER EARTHQUAKE.—Letters from Martinique dated Jan 15th, say that the Earthquake which has already been announced as having occurred on the night of Jan. 11, with such frightful effect, was repeated on the nights of the 12th and 13th, and greatly increased the damage. The whole island was injured more or less, and Fort Royal more especially. In that city eighty houses were thrown down, including the Government House, Hospital, Treasury, Churches, and other large edifices. Not a house escaped injury more or less. Six hundred persons were killed; and the rest who were able had fled to the low ground. In Gaudaloupe and St. Lucia great damage had been done. Two schooners had arrived at Martinique from Gaudaloupe laden with wounded persons, seeking for hospitals; but the inhabitants were compelled to turn them away, as they had more than their hands full of their own wounded.

QUEBEC, February 15.

UPPER Canada papers to the 8th, make no mention of any further visits, either projected or made, by the brigands.

The weather to-day is extremely mild, the thermometer having risen to near the freezing point. A few days of this kind of weather would make a mighty inroad on the dominions of hoary-headed winter.

KINGSTON.

EXECUTION.—Lyman L. Lewis, alias Leech, one of the Prescott Brigands, was hanged in this place on Monday morning last, agreeably to his sentence.

Four deserters from the United States Army made their appearance in town yesterday morning. They wore their uniform, and came direct from Sacketts Harbour.

THE Gazette of Wednesday laid before the public intelligence of much importance, received from New Brunswick—the determination of the State of Maine to attempt to wrest, by force, from the possession of Great Britain, the territory claimed by the United States as its North Eastern Boundary.—A force of 10,000 has been ordered to be raised for this purpose, and the sum of \$900,000 voted by the Legislature for their support.

The American papers, since received, state that a portion of the force above named are organized at Bangor, and that a body of 500 men were to proceed immediately to the Orostock.—The Governor of Massachusetts has very properly declined any interference in the matter, leaving it to the General Government, to whom it constitutionally belongs, to settle.

We can see no other effect these hostile proceedings on the part of Maine can have, than to increase the difficulties which already exist to an amicable settlement of the question; for she may rest assured, that, whatever Great Britain may be disposed to do by amicable negotiation, she never will allow one inch of the disputed territory to be wrested from her.—*Journal*

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Monday, Feb. 25.

Mr. Forrester reported from the Committee on Public Expenditures.

Mr. A. Archibald and Mr. Dickson asked leave to present petitions from Overseers of the Poor for the towns of Truro and Pictou respectively—which was not granted.

Mr. Lewis presented a Bill for the better regulation of Dogs.

Mr. Desbarres obtained special leave to present

petitions from Country Harbour respecting Post Communications, and roads.

The Hon. Mr. Dodd introduced a Bill in aid of the Academy at Horton, the object of which was to secure a grant for a term of years to that institution upon condition that certain sums should be contributed for its support by general subscription and from the funds of the Baptist Education Society. The Bill was read a first time.

The House then went into consideration of the two Bills respecting the affairs of the Town of Halifax, both of which were disposed of. By a motion to refer the Grand Jury's Bill to the Committee on Bills, and an amendment to refer the Corporation Bill to Committee, both were brought fairly before the House, and the remainder of the day was occupied in discussing their respective merits.

Wednesday, February 27.

At three o'clock to-day, the House in a body waited upon his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor with the Resolutions passed yesterday, and the Speaker having presented them,—his Excellency was pleased to make the following gratifying reply :

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

It is impossible for me to convey to you in language sufficiently energetic, the sentiments of admiration and satisfaction with which I receive the spirited and loyal Resolutions of the House of Assembly. They will show our fellow-subjects in New Brunswick that the people of this Province are determined, and ready, to join them, heart and hand, in repelling any outrage or aggression that may be attempted by any Foreign State upon our soil, or to occupy any part of that Territory which has, since the Peace of 1793 been acknowledged as under the jurisdiction of Her Majesty.

It is hardly possible that the General Government of the United States can be a party to, or uphold or justify the Legislature and Governor of Maine in, the outrageous proceedings they have resorted to, in invading a State with which they were at peace; but, should they unhappily do so, they will find the inhabitants of British North America are, one and all, prepared and ready to repel from their soil any armed force which may attempt to occupy it. And they may rely upon it, that should it be found necessary, the whole strength of the British Empire will be brought forward, to guard, or to avenge, the faithful subjects of Her Majesty in North America.

For my part, Gentlemen, you may rest assured that my best exertions shall be used in giving full effect to your unanimous Resolutions, by putting the Militia of this Province in an efficient state; and the confidence with which you have placed at my command so large a sum for that purpose, is most gratifying, and acceptable, and every precaution and economy shall be used in its application.

It will be a most pleasing and satisfactory duty to me, to convey to Her Majesty's Government sentiments so honourable to the Legislature of this Province.

Hon. Mr. Uniacke introduced a Bill relating to public cemeteries.

Thursday, February 28.

Mr. Young moved for the second reading of the Bill introduced by him relative to the Judiciary of the Province, the object of which was to abolish the Inferior Courts. The Bill was read accordingly, but after considerable discussion, deferred until next session.

Saturday, March 1.

The House went into Committee of Supply, voted the following sums, viz :—100*l.* for the road between Liverpool and Annapolis—200*l.* for the Bridge over Kennetcook river in Hants—200*l.* for La Have

Bridge; 27*l.* 5*s.* to Peter Furlong, drawback on Malt; 30*l.* to the Mechanics' Institute; 20*l.* to the Mechanics' Library; 15*l.* to Reuben Nickerson, to assist in providing accommodation for travellers between Shelburne and Barrington; 8*l.* to R. K. Marsters, for Province notes destroyed; 8*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* to James Whalen, drawback on rum lost by leakage; 50*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, drawback of duties on articles for the Western Stage; 20*l.* to an oat mill in each county; 50*l.* for counties in which more than one oat mill is erected; 10*l.* to each county for obtaining new breeds of rams and sheep.

Saturday, March 2.

The Bill for regulating the inspection of pickled fish was taken up with the amendment sent down from the Council. The House made other amendments to those of the Council, and the Bill was ordered to be sent up again.

The House then adjourned till three o'clock, to allow the Committee on the Militia Law to prepare to report.

The House met again at three o'clock, went into Committee of Supply.

Mr. Howe moved that 1000*l.* be put into the hands of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Delegation to England—which, after some discussion, was agreed to.

LOWER CANADA.—We have the Montreal papers of Friday, the 22*d.*

Despatches had reached Sir John Colborne, brought by the Great Western, confirming his suspension of Judges Bedard, Panet, and St. Real, and declaring their issue of *habeas corpus* illegal.

The power of the Special Council to alter the criminal law of the province, is asserted by the law officers of the Crown, the Special Council being held to possess the same authority as the superseded Legislature.

The proceedings of Sir John Colborne, in constituting the court martial, and of that court in trying the prisoners, are sanctioned and approved.

AN EXPRESS arrived this morning from Canada. We learn that Sir John Colborne, at the earnest solicitation of Sir John Harvey, has ordered the 11th regiment to the Madawaska Territory.—*Nbr.*

One wing of the 23*d* Regt. are under orders for New Brunswick.

An account of the loss of the Elizabeth, transport, which sailed hence on the 24th ult. was brought by P. Kaulback, Esq. of Lunenburg, yesterday forenoon. The following particulars of the disaster, are given in a letter dated—

SHELBURNE, March 4.—The Transport Barque Elizabeth, from Halifax bound to St. John, N. B. put in here in distress (very leaky and lost rudder) with the Head Quarters of the 68th Regiment, who have landed and procured comfortable billets. The ship struck on the Brazil Rock on the night of the 27th ult. and was assisted off by a brig—The schr. Victory from Halifax bound to St. John, took the ship in tow, and succeeded in getting her in here.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Letters have been received from Rev. H. Pope, Rev. W. Smith, N. F. Langley, Esq. Lewis Marshall, Esq. E. J. Cunningham, Esq. and a New Subscriber. Also, from T. W. Wood, Esq. with remittance, Rev. R. Knight, do. and Rev. A. W. McLeod. The papers have been regularly sent to Digby; we thank our Correspondent for his attention; the additional copy is enclosed The Memoir from Liverpool in our next.

POSTSCRIPT.

The New York Christian Advocate and Journal of March 1, announces the death of the Rev. Dr. Fisk. Accounts have reached town this morning of the death of Admiral Sir Charles Paget, on his passage to Bermuda in the Tartarus steamer.

The Congress of the United States has voted \$10,000,000, to be at the disposal of the Government, to raise 50,000 men.

Varieties.

From the British Magazine.
AN EVENING AFTER A SNOW STORM.

The wind and snow, which on the hedge-row clings,
Have been at play, and shapes of beauteous mould
Their tricks of vagrant fantasy unfold;
Haply in semblance of celestial things,
O'er all the Sun his parting lustre flings,
Careful to spare, innocuous and cold;
He sees all silvery here below, and brings
His skies in gentle rivalry to gold,
Purpling the clouds which tend his evening lower.
O Lord, if thus so marvellously fair
The things thou dost for one fleeting hour,
No delicately gentle, soft, and pure,
Then, what must be those scenes which shall endure,
And those Thy mansion which eternal are!

MELANCHOLY DEATH OF MRS. McLEAN, LATE MISS LONDON, OR L. E. L. AT CAPE COAST, WESTERN AFRICA.—We have been furnished with the following extract from a letter of the Rev. Thomas Freeman, Wesleyan Missionary at Cape Coast, containing the announcement of this calamitous event. The sympathy of a large portion of the public, as well as of her immediate friends, will be awakened by the circumstances of the death of this talented and estimable lady:—"Cape Coast Town, Oct. 16th, 1838.—Here I would gladly close my letter, but, alas, alas! I feel it my painful duty to record the awfully sudden death of Mrs. McLean,—not occasioned by any sickness peculiar to this climate, (her general health having been very good from the day she landed until yesterday morning,) when she was found dead in her room, lying close to the door, having in her hand a bottle which had contained Prussic acid, a portion of which she had taken, (as was proved by the surgeon,) the remainder being spilled on the floor. She had been seen, a short time before, in apparent good health and spirits. A letter was found, which she had written to a friend in Scotland, dated the same morning, in which she expresses herself as satisfied and pleased with Cape Coast and its inhabitants, and as finding every thing here much better than she had expected. (She told me the same eight or ten days ago, or thereabouts.) On the body being thus found, a jury was immediately summoned, composed of the European merchants of the town, (I was not among them,) and the nature of the evidence given was such as they considered would authorize them to give a verdict to the following effect:—"It is thought that she was seized with spasms in the stomach, (with which she was often troubled, being subject to them,) and took an over dose of prussic acid, as she was found dead on the floor of her bed-room close to the door, with the small bottle in her hand. It is supposed she was suddenly seized, and putting the bottle to her mouth, took an over-dose which killed her."—Mr. McLean had been very ill with the same complaint, (the spasms) while she only felt them for a short time at once, not enough to make her ill. Indeed, whenever I have seen her, (which was often) she always appeared in high health and spirits. We all deeply deplore the event. She was a person of an amiable disposition. To me she was very kind, especially during my late illness, in sending me any little thing (such as dried fruits, &c.) which I stood in need of. I fondly hoped she would have been spared; for though her literary pursuits would most probably have hindered her from paying much attention to our poor degraded Fantee females, yet even the mere presence of an European lady is of vast importance in this place. I have dwelt longer than I ought, perhaps, on this melancholy catastrophe, because I feared lest it should operate injuriously on the minds of any Missionaries, or their wives, whom the committee may intend to send to this station."

*The spasms are by no means peculiar to this climate; the only complaints which are peculiar and dangerous here, are the fever and dysentery. Epidemics are scarcely known at Cape Coast.

A PRACTICAL CONCLUSION.—Mr. Chick, an excellent artizan, sent out by the London Mis. Soc. in 1821, was the first European smith who settled in the interior of Madagascar; and to him the natives of Ankova are specially indebted for their improvement in the art of working in iron. He reached the capital in 1822, and fixed his residence at Amparita, where he erected his shop, and fitted it up in the European style, as far as circumstances would admit. Mr. Chick was himself a powerful man; and the tools, the bellows, the anvil and the large sledge hammer which he used, filled the natives with the greatest astonishment. The report of his great strength soon reached the palace; and shortly after he began his work, the king, with a number of his officers, paid him a visit. Mr. Chick's boys were at work at an anvil of a middling size. A spare one, of considerable weight, was standing on the floor in another part of the shop; and the king, after looking about with admiration for some time, told his

officers to lift the anvil which was standing on the floor; each in his turn put forth his utmost strength, but could not raise it from the ground. "What!" said the king, "are you all conquered? Let me try." His majesty then laid hold of it with all his might, and tried to raise it from the ground, but with no better success than all his officers. Aoka izay (said the king,) itelao mba atao ny anazaha ankehitriny—"Enough; let the white man try now." Mr. Chick then lifted the anvil to a considerable height from the ground, to the great surprise of all present; and it is singular to notice the first impression which this evidence of the superior strength of the Englishman produced on the minds of the king and his suite; they all concurred in declaring that it would be dangerous to fight with such men.—[Ellis's History of Madagascar.

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