

Religion

BIBLE SOCIETY, MISSIONARY, AND SABBATH SCHOOL ADVOCATE

E. McLEOD, Editor.

That God in all things may be glorified

through Jesus Christ.—PETER.

TERMS.—ONE

DOLLAR A YEAR, IN ADVANCE

VOL. IV—NO. 47.

ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1857.

WHOLE NO. 203

The Bank of Christ.

Reader, are you startled at this announcement? Are you ready to say, What! has Christ established a Bank in this world?—Yes, he has; and it is no new affair, either. It has been established a long time; for, on a certain occasion, he said, "Wherefore grieve not thou thy money into the bank?" It can never fail, for the proprietor owns "the silver, and the gold, and the cattle upon a thousand hills." It pays far more than ten per cent., for a pound deposited there will soon increase to ten pounds. And when your money is invested there, you can draw the profits not only through life, but through all eternity. Well, now, are you ready to ask, How can I get my money into this safe and profitable bank? Let me tell you. If you lay out your money in sustaining and building up the kingdom of Christ into this bank, then you will be putting it into this bank, and it will yield a large profit.

Let me illustrate how it operates. You see two members of the Church, both possessing property. The one buys lands and stock, builds houses, and has the name of growing rich. But he does very little for the cause of religion. His wealth is a dead stock, as far as the Church is concerned, for his covetous example keeps more money out of the treasury of the Lord than he puts in. But the other gives liberally to the cause of religion. He supports all the benevolent operations of the Church at large, and is especially active in promoting the prosperity of the church to which he belongs. If a church edifice is needed, he takes right hold of it. He does not give a small amount, as if it were a donation, but he puts in a large sum, believing it to be a paying enterprise. And thus he not only invests one, five, or ten hundred dollars for Christ, but his example induces others to give more largely; and more than this, through the good accomplished by him, sinners are converted, who, in their turn, work and contribute for Christ; so that the amount which he at first gave, is constantly increasing, and long before he is called to his account, his pound has become five or ten pounds! The one uses his wealth for himself; it is a dead capital; and in the end he will have it taken away from him. The other lays it out for Christ, and he sees the blessed results of it here, and in the end will receive a glorious reward.

O, what a blessed privilege it is to put your money into the Bank of Christ! And then, in the great day of accounts, he will say to you, "Well done good and faithful servant! Thou hast been faithful over a few things; I will make thee ruler over many things.—Enter thou into the joys of my Lord!" But, O, it will be a fearful account for those who have hoarded up their Lord's money for their own use! It seems to me like a fearful thing for a professing Christian to die rich. To die rich!—that is, to die with a large amount of Christ's property in his hands, which ought to have been laid out for his glory.

Jesus, by his word and by his ambassadors, presents one order after another. He says, I want so much money for this object, and so much for that. But that rich man holds on to it, does with it in his hands, and goes to the judgment! It seems to me, I can almost hear the conversation between him and the Judge. Whence do you come? From the church of—What is the condition of that church? Why, it gets along rather poorly, it is all the time in debt, and very much needs a new house of worship. Well, why did you not give a large portion of your property to pay off its debts and build a house for my glory? I had none to spare. What were your circumstances? I owned one, five, ten, or twenty thousand dollars worth of property. I demand again, why did you not expend a portion of my money for my cause?

And I thought that a hard master; I could not believe it could be a paying investment; I never liked to hear ministers urging the duty of giving money; and so I just kept my money in my pocket, and I was content. I was, and I am now. And then will the Judge answer, O wicked and slothful servant! You knew the strictness of my requirement, and that all you had belonged to me. You might, therefore, have given your time and your money to my cause.

Well, now, dear reader, are you ready to go to the judgment? Have you done all you can? Is the church to which you belong, in the condition that you would like to have it when you go to give an account of your stewardship? O, remember, what you have hoarded up for yourself, you have expended liberally to build up the church to which you belong, and long after you are dead and gone, what you have given will be there yielding a large increase of blessings to your children and children's children, while many a man made rich by his parent's toil, looking down from the vale of profligate bankruptcy, with bitter regret, will curse the day when he became the owner of a fortune which he had never earned.—Presbyterian of the West.

Cannot Afford It.

A voluntary collector for one of the great benevolent interests of the day, called lately, in pursuance of his duty, upon a gentleman with whom he was acquainted, a business man, and a Christian, but one who had hitherto excused himself from making liberal contributions on the plea that he "could not afford it." This plea, from a man of acknowledged wealth, had probably seemed a most

incredible to our friend the collector; but as he now sat in view of the sumptuous suite of parlours, awaiting the appearance of the proprietor, the truth flashed upon him. He felt that the plea had been sincere; the explanation was before him. On the gentleman's entrance, he mentioned the errand on which he had come, adding, "But I see, sir, that you really cannot afford it, and I cannot think of pressing any claim upon you." Such a scale of expenditure as I see indicated by everything around me, can indeed leave you little, if anything, to spare for the cause of Christ. I must look elsewhere for support to our operations. Good morning, sir!" The collector left, but the arrow he had lodged did not. It was not long before the rich steward sought him with acknowledgments for the cutting reproof, which had made a profound and abiding impression upon his conscience. He had made up his mind that he could afford to give, and could not afford to squander. He presented the collector a check for \$1,000, with the assurance that the style of his household should be no longer a scandal nor an incumbrance to his piety.—N. Y. Examiner.

THE MISPECK TRAGEDY.

TRIAL OF YOUNG SLAVIN.

CONTINUED.

TESTIMONY OF OLD SLAVIN.

Attorney General's Address—Judge's Charge—Sentence of Death.

We gave our readers last week the testimony of the little boy John Slavin, Captain Scoullar, and Hugh Green one of the criminals. We now give the evidence of old Slavin who was put upon the stand by the counsel for the defence. A more dreadful deed of cold blooded murder could scarcely be conceived.

PATRICK SLAVIN, Sen. (Great curiosity was evinced to see this person.) He is a short, round shouldered man, aged about 60, with low forehead, overhanging eyebrows, and peculiarly shaped ears.

By Mr. Wetmore. Am willing to tell the whole truth. Am father of this boy. He's between 15 and 16, as near as I can guess. Can't read or write. Was not in the habit of attending public worship. It is not more than a few weeks since I have been in a place of worship. Don't know as I have been half a dozen times in a place of worship in the last half dozen times. Don't think prisoner can say his prayers. Ray is not of a bad disposition. He is of tender feeling. When I was a tender, and I would be all right about it. Know Brown first when we worked on the railway. Was at Frederick. Saw Sally Golly. Went to Brown's suggestion. Went to Ray Sally Golly. That was all the business I had. Murdering Sally Golly was talked of. If I had determined it, I would have put it through. Failing, we returned. Brown put me on to it. Did not fail him. She would have had a bad chance. Went to McKenzies with Brown. I suggested it. He was no backout. Said to him, "What we could make it do. I told him McKenzies was reported to have a good deal of money. He was willing to go. We returned from Frederick, about a month or five weeks ago. We travelled by land. We talked about robbing McKenzies pretty much all along. Spoke of robbing him, but never thought of robbing him. McKenzies's name was mentioned as a man carrying a good deal of money. Don't know as I would have robbed him. When we returned, Brown stopped at my place. Watched it several times over. Polley was living in McKenzies's house. We did not want to injure Polley. Don't know as I would have interfered with Polley. A brother-in-law of Polley's owed me five pounds. I heard he was going to leave the country; got a copy of his name from Sharkey, and my son went up to Polley's all right about it. I and Brown went to McKenzies's and found Leat there. I enquired of Leat to find out whether he was going to leave. I made this enquiry so that there might be less trouble; Brown knew all this. He stopped a night with Leat, as much to find out when he was going to leave as any thing else. Brown said Leat's father and mother were coming on Thursday. I came that kept the murder back at the time. He would have had a bad chance, because he was in the way. It would have been against my own will, but I would have done it. Saturday night we then went to McKenzies's. Did not tell our son that we were going to commit murder. He could not know my mind. Don't remember asking them to stand at my back, because I could not sit through myself. I went in after the house. Brown made the fire, I went in after it was made. The fire was not put out. We wanted to keep it going; my son might have been in and out. Brown fetched McKenzies at my bidding. I intended to take his life, and nothing else. I had the axe. I heard them coming down. My son was out and in. When McKenzies came in the house I was in the upper room. My son might have been in the house, in the room; I was in the room; it was dark. I did not tell my son at that time I was going to murder McKenzies; McKenzies and Brown came down, and he stood in the kitchen, and I said nothing but struck him on the breast. He fell. That blow did not kill him; I struck him five or six times, every where it was handy. Brown was standing right on the floor; we stopped no great time, but half an hour. Do not remember seeing any son when I struck the blow. I expect he came in as I killed McKenzies, hearing the noise; search of McKenzies's body; I did it; I searched all about him; we threw him into the cellar not a quarter of an hour after we killed him; think the key dropped out of his pocket when we threw him in the cellar; the boy got hold of the key. Brown and I went to the dwelling. I went in first. Brown showed me the way; did not take the axe with me; Brown handed me an axe that was standing at the door. I saw Mrs. McKenzies there; was a bright light; she was sitting on the chair with a child in her arms; there were four children altogether; I did not speak; but struck her alongside the ear with the axe; she struggled a good deal; I struck her 15 or 16 times; she died very hard; the children screamed; Brown came in and went out; the

children kept about the mother. I killed them with my own hand. We examined the house. We got about a hundred pounds in money, gold, and silver. I ransacked the chest. We found no money. The gold was in a purse. There was no money in the bedstead. It was in a cloth purse, that is in the yellow bag. The portmanteau was kept there. My boy was just knocking about to keep watch. That was all I took him for. After the murder we went out and had something to eat. Forget who took it out. Brown and I looked over the setting fire. The lower one was set first, I guess we did it in partnership. I guess we both set the other on fire. Me and him did it in partnership. We left it burning and went home. It is about seven or eight miles. They were partly lying. My wife opened the door. We did not tell her what we were going to do. Money was produced by that night, and put it on the table. I counted it. I told my wife I had put things through. The money was set by in the house. The old woman got it and hid it out of the house entirely. Heard the boy had money on Sunday morning. Told the little boy to watch him, and he told me prisoner had some. Know of no leather pocket book that produced. (The portmanteau.) Gave the book to the boy after; he had it then. Brown got only three or four sovereigns. He had no paper money. He got the purse a day or two after. He came to town Monday night. He had the head purse to town with him. Have three little boys. Second is about ten. Third about seven or eight. The youngest has as much sense as Pat. This boy has not sense or reason for his age. It is as much as a laugh if he knew right from wrong. I have heard him say some severe things. I am very severe, cruelly severe. The boy had not the idea of perpetrating a murder. He had refused to go I would have made him go sick. He knew what I wanted I would have carried out. He is tender-hearted. He went to the woods with us. From the murder he did not look the same in my eye as he looked before. Think the old woman took the things to the camp. When we went to the camp, the boy accompanied or followed us. I am satisfied I shall be executed for this crime. I am satisfied with that. Knowing my doom, I declare I would tell the truth. I never intended to escape. We did not "represent" to go properly.

Cross-examined by the Solicitor-General. Never saw prisoner at a place of worship. Have known his mother to teach him his prayers. Have heard him saying them. She was inclined to teach him as I can guess. Brown talking about the murder. Never told him to go particularly. He went with us on the Thursday we had planned to commit the robbery. He might have had his own opinion what we were going for. He might have heard our conversation. He had an idea of what we were about. We were going to murder the man and rob him. We did not let him hear the words of the things. I think I had an axe with me and brought it home again. I only fetched an axe there once and brought it home again. My son might know that Leat was lumbering the way there. I guess he might suspect that. Can't say I stated that to him; I might have done. Next saw Brown on Friday at McKenzies's. He was understood as should go on Saturday night. My son had gone home; it was on Saturday we arranged to go. Don't recollect my son being with us when we were planning. I did not think it answered to let any one but ourselves know what was going on; remained at McKenzies's till 9 o'clock on Saturday, and did not go back that day. I, my son, and Brown started together at night to McKenzies's. On the road of course Brown and I talked of the object of our going. Sometimes he was walking with me, and sometimes behind us; could not say if my son knew our object; think he would as soon not have known; he did not refuse, it was so; Brown was expected at McKenzies's that night with his wife. He had tried (promised) to be the one McKenzies did not expect me. I and my son kept out of sight. My son might have been in the house before McKenzies came over, but could not say. I said Brown's wife was on hand when I struck McKenzies. Brown stood on one side to allow me liberty to strike the blow. There was too great a bustle to notice passing words. The boy did not know what key it was. I put my hands in McKenzies's pockets, because it was said that he was in the habit of carrying a hundred pounds. The boy might have put his hands in his pockets, and I would have taken the money. I gave no directions to my son to go with us to the other house. Brown showed me where to go, and Brown stood back when I went in. Mrs. McKenzies and Brown spoke a few words before I went in. I made some remark, but do not recollect what it was. I searched the house. Brown and my son could do nothing, they were that frightened. There was not much blood on the floor. My son looked at the clock and told me the time. Between the two houses we talked of killing the woman. I did not tell my son to do anything. I told them never to do anything of the kind while they were alive. I said I have got all to answer for. I told them so because they were not fit for it. My son I suspect came in when we were searching the house. I took charge of the money. I thought I was best entitled to it. The chest was full of books and papers which I strew on the floor of the house. I suspect they were all burned. We were disappointed in not finding more money. I put the fire to the bed. My son might have done so too. I set fire to the upper house. The children were all dead at that time. Before the fire we heard some screams. They were all dead before the house was set fire. Brown assisted me to put fire to the upper house. I put the candle in the straw and left it there. We helped each other to carry the things home. Paid no attention to my son Johnny, he might be sitting or lying. Before we went, did not tell my wife where we were going, or what we were going about. She never would have been concerned in such a thing; she always set her face against the likes; she did not ask me where I got the money; I gave Patrick the pocket book, there was nothing in it; I asked him for it again, he gave it to me; there was nothing in it, and I gave it back to me. Prisoner would disobey me if he got liberty; he was at school a year; lately he has been hired out short spells. He worked on the railway, and Haulon did not pay him. James has as much wisdom and knowledge as Pat; Johnny is as wise as any of them. I suspect Patrick did not know the error of what we were doing that night; he had that much knowledge that we were doing wrong; I thought it foolish of him to throw money along the road, yet I threw it on the table, and he took

some. He has been a kind of "ploughing" since the murder. He has an idea of what is wrong. He is not as wise as some boys I see of his age, nothing like it. We had time enough to escape, but he had no idea of clearing. I could have cleared if I'd like, there is no mistake in that. On the Thursday we saw Leat. Brown was there. I spoke to him and he spoke to me. The boy was there. I did not mention him as my son. Don't think Leat knew anything about him. Re-examined by Mr. Wetmore. Prisoner was a good boy to work, but a kind of light and foolish. Think Johnny will be the youngest boy of the lot. Saw my son fumbling about McKenzies's body, should not wonder if he did put his hands in it. Did not see him examining the pockets. I did not tell my boy what we were going to do. I would not tell him because it would be imprudent. I am satisfied I did not escape. I think I killed all the concern and I ought to die for it. I am satisfied to swing for it.

Greenwood Thomas. Have been serving about the goal; saw prisoner there; have conversed with him from time to time; I have had a good opportunity of seeing him every day; he has got a curious foolish smile upon him; was endeavouring to impress him with the awfulness of his situation, and thought he seemed very foolish. He attempted to say the Lord's Prayer before me, made a jumble of it, and it was neither the Lord's Prayer or anything else. I thought then, seemed a careless fellow about the boy. When I first turned him to bed to break his heart, but I have seen no impression on him since. Last night I went in to him and said, "Well, Patrick, how are you?" "O, all right," says he. He said he could not help it; if it had not been for his father he would not have been in trouble, for his father compelled him to go. He has also expressed to me four or five different views of his life, he had known they were going to kill people, he would not have gone. I asked why he did not run away. He seemed to signify his father would not approve of that. He said his father was a severe man, flogging him severely, sometimes very severely. The boy's no idiot, nor one of the shrewdest boys. He seems a particular favourite of his mother, and I think there is a foolishness about him. Think the smile is caused by ignorant vanity of mind.

Cross-examined by the Solicitor-General. He does not appear conscious of his situation.

The Attorney General rose to address the Court.—He said it had been his lot to address different audiences, and to prosecute for all sorts of crimes. Two years ago he came to the City and County of St. John, and he had been called upon to prosecute offenders for rape, for arson, and for larceny, but now the extent of crime involved in the charge under consideration presented some entirely unparalleled cases of criminal justice. Green had responsibility rested upon him and his colleague in this matter, and both were impressed with anxiety to do their duty. From information placed before him by the very outset of this affair, information which was given to him by the public papers, he had been called upon to prosecute offenders for rape, for arson, and for larceny, but now the extent of crime involved in the charge under consideration presented some entirely unparalleled cases of criminal justice. 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