

Noon

FOR NEW BRUNSWICK AND NOVA SCOTIA

Rev. E. McLEOD, }

ET. OFF our ISHING r Goods of this ies. and nanufac-House in rchasers. TON.

a Kips, RS, Street.

general

Europe d Silk

Carpet-

c., just

ER!

arge as-facture, x, Buff, l,' Calf-

ge Tops superior

of

OUR.

THO.

eceived

Wines

l retail,

T.C.

treet

ROS.

ame

VOL 8.---NO. 35 Religions Selections.

Barabbas or Jesus.

NOTES OF A SERMON PREACHED IN JAMES-STREET CHAPEL, BLACKBURN, MARCH 3RD, 1861, BY THE REV. JOHN B. LISTER.

"But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and des-troy Jesus."-Matt. xxvii. 20.

BARABBAS and Jesus-did ever two names come into such unholy alliance, or suggest a more violent contrast? Barabbas the notable prisoner ; Jesus the notable benefactor. Barabhas the criminal of whom law had long been seeking to be avenged ; Jesusus the righteous, who never swerved a hair's breath from duty's nath. Barabbas the robber, the wretch who lived on crime, traded in the ruin of others, and filched what he had not the honesty to carn ; Jesus the gracious, loving, compassionate, tender. who left no deed behind for which thousands did not bless him, and uttered no word which did not awaken joyful echoes in humani'y's heart. Barabbas the guilty, whom all men admitted to be guilty, who had not the hardihood to deny his guilt himself, and was now only waiing for the fitting period of execution ; Jesus the criminal without a crime, the prisoner in whom the judge could find no fault, the sufferer whose

SAINT JOHN NEW BRUNSWICK,

emperors were not slow to learn the unholy have had blood-stains upon them. Destroy Jesus! us from guilt, sin, Satan, the world, and hell, we every step in the ladder; ponder them, and pray lesson. In how many countries of Europe-in Cast him into prison ? Nail him to a cross ? some at this day-are to be ssen men, " chief Cry, "Crucify him ?" No, rather praise, exalt, Faith will brush away natural bashfulness, sup- keep you from falling, be glory, and majesty. priests and rulers," sitting like a nightmare upon worship, magnify him; and instead of endeavour- plant defidence by confidence, and make the most dominion and power, both now and forever." the people's life, and making it a terror and a ing to strike at his name and heart on any Mount torture. And many a men, a " chief priest and Calvary of your own raising, may Jesus himself as a lion for the Saviour whom they love; and, my elder," goes about among us with a lie in his help us to utter it in every man's hearing, to friend, if you don't confess him you may conclude hand, and a bigger lie in his heart, offering what speak of it as the sweetest name to us, to whishe calls bread, which is a stone, and what he per it in every home, to commend it to every love him. The most timid believer is endowed calls a fish, which is a serpent; and inciding the heart, to waft it on every breeze, to send it on multitude, when right and wrong are before them, every billow, to girdle the earth with its blessedgood and evil, happiness and misery, hope and ness, and fill the heavens with its music ?

despair, heaven and hell, to " ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus."

Spots, Blemishes, and Wrinkles, 1. See in this the influence of one man over "Beye holy, for I am holy." another man. These men "persuaded." What is persuasion-rhetoric-oratory? Who reasons The Church of Christ shall assuredly be prebest? The most florid, brilliant, even logical? sented faultless before the throne, with exceed-He who gains his end. Human existence is like ing joy, by the great Head of it. But there are innumerable threads running everywhere, easy now many imperfections which deform it, and to give out, most difficult to gather up. Or like are called in Divihe truth, " Spots, blemishes, a railway station, which is a starting-point to all and wrinkles." Alas ! that many should be kinds of places in every nook and corner of the suffered, knowingly, to remain till then. These land. Each one has an influence upon many must, however, be " burnt up," in order to reswhich no words speak, or thoughts are consci- cue the souls they defile from eternal ruin, ous of. Each one touches human existence at though they must, personally, " suffer loss." many points, and sends the evil or the good, the Church of God ! a few of these " spots," &c.,

joy or the woe, on a mission to which only the upon thee, are the following. And, oh ! Christian, look well and faithfully to thyself. Are any globe can set a bound. 2. See in this the pernicious influence men of them infecting thee ?

have over other men. Influence is good and First .-- There is the "wrinkle" of an uncourright-an advantage and a boon. It is the pro- teous spirit.

Christian ! is this defacing thee ? Is the er part of wisdom-its work and end to teach.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 1861.

That God in all things may be glor ifled through Jesus Christ-PETER.

shall feel constrained to own him "before men." over them. And "now unto him that is able to retiring, shrinking, and modest, to become bold Amen.

God's Acre.

that you neither know him, believe on him, nor This was the old Saxon name for the Burying Ground. Beautiful and significant name ! Our by the Holy Ghost with a martyr's spirit and dead are gone to God, and their very bodies we courage ; and if your lips are sealed when Jesus commit to his special care. A newer and more is dishonoured, it must result from your not have serviceable application of the term may yet ing received him into your heart by faith. Corprevail among our farmers. We recommend to dially receive him as the Redeemer, who gave their thoughtful perusal the following extract himself for your sins, and you will cheerfully con- from the Evangelical Lutheran :-

Fielellige neer.

A correspondent is owner of twenty five acres of land all cleared, on which he still owes two hundred dollars. Feeling a strong desire to do as our beloved and our friend ; the chief among all the good he can, he one year ago dedicated one acre to the servic of God, and planted it in corn. In the fall he gathered the crop, amountwho hath called us out of darkness into his to be worth twenty dollars. This was properly ing in all to forty-five bushels, which were found distributed among the several claims of benevolence, as the Lord's money.

We must Confess Jesus Spontaneously. " It is probable," he adds, " that if I had not determined before hand to dedicate the products It must be done freely. True confession of of that particular acre to God, I would not have Though Joseph and Mary were greatly his in-Christ is the spontaneous outflow of a loving gives half so much."

no bribe to bring it out. It is as natural for a course, with corresponding success. And both human and divine-he yet slighted not their loving disciple to confess Jesus as it is for water are resolved to persevere in it, in order to pro-

{ Editor and Proprietor

WHOLE NO. 398

Christ an Example for Children. If Christ came into this world to be our teacher and Saviour, he also came to be our model. "He left us an example, that we should follow his steps. And he left an example not only to those who have arrived at years of maturity, but likewise to children and youth. He was once a child, and in his feelings and conduct at that interesting period of his life, other chilkren may learn how they should feel and behave. In his temper and deportment in childhood, in youth, and up to the time of his crucifixion, those who have parents living may note what their disposition and treatment toward them should be.

How, then, did he discharge the duties which all children should fulfil to their parents ?

He loved his parents. As proof of this, we have but to refer to that touching scene at his crucifixion, when, apparently less regardful of his own severe sufferings than of the sore trials of his mother, he commended her to the care and kindness of his disciple John. " Son," said he, addressing John, "behold thy mother !"__that is, from henceforth consider her as your mother, and love and cherish her as such.

He obeyed his parents. It is expressly recorded that "he was subject unto them." ferious-for while they were sinners, he was sinloving heart. It needs no coaxing, no constraint One of his neighbors has adopted a similar less, while they were but human, he was both orders because of this, but, as far as these commands were reasonable and scriptural, yielded a prompt and cordial obedience to them. He regions of supreme esteem and cordial affection. The Jew of old gave a tenth of all he possessed ; " obeyed them in the Lord, because this was right." Remember the readiness with which he accompanied his parents to Nazareth ! There was no unwillingness, no hesitation. He did as he was bidden to do, readily and cheerfully. He was also a pattern, in repaying his obligations to them. He worked as a carpenter with his father for nearly thirty years, giving him his earnings; at the death of his father supported the family, it and then, as we have seen, provided a home for his widowed mother at Ephesus with the affectionate and faithful John. Thus, in these three things was the Messiah, the son of Mary, an example of filial duties to other children. Let all who stand in the filial relation mark him as such, and by imitatnig him love and obey their parents, and seek to make suitable returns to them for the many favours which they have received from them .-- [Mother's Magazine. PROHIBITION OF CHRISTIANITY IN JAPAN .-Within the last few years the stern policy of exclusion has so far been relaxed, as to lead the Japanese Government to enter into treaties with the nations of the Western hemisphere. These forth no effort towards knowing, loving, and troduction of Christianity. The American treaty stipulates only for the abolition of the custom of trampling on the cross, and for the profession of inserted, by which all Dutch subjects are pronative converts to Christianity, or liberty for missionaries to propagate the Gospel. The chief statesmen of Japan have hitherto evinced a strong repugnance to the adoption of a more liberal policy. They tolerate the varions forms of foreign paganism, and put no ban on the religion even of Jews and Mohammedans, but Christianity is proscribed. Old imperial proclamations are still posted up, offering large rewards tor information against those who embrace all foreign books in the Chinese or Japanese languages published in Japan; and in the present temper, we are told, of the native Government, the acceptance of the Christian Scriptures would entail the peril of death on the recipient. All accordingly concur in deeming it highly impolitic and inexpedient to attempt any distribution

as dis a reme from the s tried it pt in two osession vithin 10 e mouth. pimples s. anker in umorin the ears upt and Wosa nost deslem. tile and ty is ta lass. scovery d by the leed not ysicians e nuaniice, 1 do leliev you are disease

ort and Medical

n to the certain half the s bloom day is ecomes e relax-dedicaj

of the when nost ex g from d their wish to unceo ith his ny cir-DY. nn. saie b l'illey, leffield

nts to p, often-

selves S. years bave VEE EF ow an on the speak edical ow,' ATION n al-from en or of the New ccess

c, edied medy iCEA from b has nts-i OF d the billow as for nless rk, is N. X

Mer-

are sure to come, and eat, and die. These chief rer, Q; , Q. C s Cov, Toole Davis Taylor White passion ; used their high station to incite others overspreading the sky was the terribleness of the

to a deed which they themselves dared not commit. It was not the will of the multitude to "ask happily in the world's history has had no paral-Barabbas and destroy Jesus ;" it was the will of |lel. It took angels by surprise, and sent a quiver-"the chief priests and elders." It was not the voice ing pang through graves in which peace had been elders. It was not the hand of the multitude of Immanuel such as the Father never heard be-

punishment was meted out by intoxicated passion, not by righteous law. Yet these two, by one of those strange coincidences of which life affords many examples, were brought togethertogether though they stood at the very antipodes of being ; their merits were canvassed by an infuriated people, maddened by sin ; their names were coupled as though they were men of equal guilt, and as though it were a matter of perfect indifference to whom clemency should be shown: their persons were presented to the people for their election, not because the question affecting them was too difficult for the authorities to decide, but because they were incapable of coming to the wished for decision according to their law. We read, especially in poetry books, of summer and winter, day and night, land and ocean, matter and spirit, being things that stard in antagonism to one another ; but never in all

the world of fact or of fiction, in all the universe

of created intelligence or matter-never did any

things or beings stand in more utter, violent

antagonism than Barabbas and Jesus. They had

not a single thought in harmony. Their heart-

strings were not made of the same material. The

very air that was the breath of heaven to one,

was the breath of hell to the other. This one's

" But the chief priests and elders persuaded

the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and

destroy Jesus." The people were bad, but the

" chief priests and elders" were worse. It is al-

ways a greater crime to breathe evil into another

person than to nurse it in yourself, and the

crime magnifies in proportion as the difference

between the two increases. When there is

knowledge on the one side and ignorance on the

other-when one understands what is right, the

other hardly knows the difference between right

and wrong-when one by the powers of skilful

intellect plays on the baser nature of others;

then, in proportion to the disparity that exists

between them, so is the crime. If any man wants

to do wrong, let him confine the wrong to his

own person ; if a man wants to sin, let him sin

in some corner of the earth, were no eye can see

him ; but let him not, in the name of humanity

propagate his wickedness as an infectious disease,

God was that one's devil.

And since all cannot rule, the best ought to be " gentleness of Jesus" not reflected in thy daily the chosen rulers. Get at the meaning of that deportment? Is the winning sweetness of a word, with a modernly corrupted sense, with an "soft answer" clouded by the wainkle of asperianciently honourable and worthy, one aristocracy. ty? " Is this thy kindness to thy friend P" " Be But how often is the rule of others-that is. the pitiful, be courteous." influence-injurious! What a world this would Second .--- There is the "spot" of not "showbe we live in if influence were always good ! ing piety at home."

rigilance, and need also themselves to be vigi-

tutes a man-true manhood-a man in whom is

realized and shown all the dignity of such a being

come to a wrong decision. A murderer is liber-

ated-Jesus is crucified. This one act filled up

now it could hold no more, and cried for yen-

storm when it burst. This was the crime which

as his ?

taint the air with it that others must inhale, the measure of this people's sin. The measure

skilfully lay the poison where the unwary rats had long been on the point of running over, but

Christian ! is the eye of thine household upon Young man, Pask what kind of influence are you this in thee ? Is the fruit pleasant to they eye exercising over that young man with whom you have struck the bargain of companionship, or from the leaves of thy profession ? Is the altar over that young woman towards whom you pro- of God cast down, or only raised occasionally? fess to be cherishing what is nearest akin to Does languor characterize thy presentation of its wedded love ? There are those who walk about offerings ? Is thy wife, thy child, or domestic, the bye-lanes and high-roads of life with nothing chilled by the variableness of thy temper, by the absence of cheerfulness, or the presence of disbut evil within them, nothing but evil coming content? out from them.

Third .- There is the " wrinkle" of "evilepeak-3. See the danger of trusting wholly to the chief priests and elders. They may be good, but ing.

Christian ! dost thou stab in the dark ? making even goodness errs. If good, as goodness goes the failings or peculiarities of thy brother or in this world, they are not wholly to be trusted. sister subjects for "foolish jesting," or hasty The priest says, Trust me ; a wise man says, God suspicion ? Christian! thy motto is, " Beareth sooner. The priest says Confide in me : a man all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things. says, No, rather in myself. No man ought to be absolutely entrusted with the affairs of another endureth all things."

man, especially with such as are spiritual, and Fourth .- There is the " blemish" of " withholding more than is meet" from the cause of none is above temptation. " The chief priests the Redeemer. and elders" need the salutary check of a constant

Christian ! " what hast thou which theu hast not received ?" That you might be rich, Jesus

became poor. Wilt thou give grudgingly and 4. See the necessity of each exercising indcstintedly to his under shepherds,-towards the pendent thought. 1 should not like-I would comfort of thine own pastor ? Dost thou refuse decline the duty if sought to be put into my to aid as " God has prospered thee," cheerfully, hands- to be any man's exclusive spiritual guide. the various institutions connected with thine own Each is a man, with powers quite as good as Zion ? Must thou be incited to "give of thy mine, and only needing to be wisely used for the substance" by some exciting theme from a farbuilding up of his own manhood. If this multidistant land, and yet feel no inducement to give, tude of blinded men had not taken the cue from no emotion of sympathy when the claims of others, how differently the history of the world " home" are pressed upon thee ? would have had to be written ! What consti-

to the week sorvices of the sanctuary.

the gates of Zion, more than all the dwellings of the climax, induce the cry of the Psalmist, " 5. See the consequences of being induced to Jacob." Are the gates of thy Zion open for communion with God in prayer and praise, Christian servant, for I do not forget thy commandart thou not glad when they say, " Let us go into the house of the Lord"? Art thou an absent 1. Neglect of secret prayer .- Job xv. 4 ; Isaiah Thomas when the Saviour breathes over his assembled disciples his divine and satisfying priests and elders were the aach-criminals, for geance. The clouds had slowly gathered, but in "peace?" "We have seen the Lord," say the they used cool reason to inflame the people's hot proportion to the quiet enerfiy they displayed in happy worshippers, as they return to their home 3. Forsaking the means of grace.-Nch. x. 39 with "renewed strength." Can the voluntary absent ones credit their holy joy, feeling no kindred emotion in their languid, lukewarm spirits ?

of the multitude that said, " Let him be cruci- found at last. It was a crime so big and heavy of not aiding, as far as possible, in the support Sixth, and finally .- There is the " blemish" fied !" it was the voice of the chief priests and that it rent rocks, and awoke a cry in the heart of Religious Magazines and Newspapers,

Christian ! canst thou not set apart a triffe that stripped and crowned and smote your Savi- fore, " My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken to take in one or more invaluable serial as the our; it was the hand of the chief priests and me?" All men, good and bad alike, look back Berrarous Langer Longer Chaine Chain

to flow down from alline regions to the valleys cure means to assist in building churches. below. Confession of Christ flows from the lofty all else is spurious.

fess him. A cold heart makes silent lips.

that we codld all receive him into our "heart

hearts," that we may be ever ready to confess him

ten thousand, and altogether lovely. " Lord, in-

crease our fgith, inflame our love and open our

lips, that we may " show forth the praises of him

No. 4.

Who will now " stand up for Jesus," and vindihalf of your slandered Master ?" No, being __[Pres. Witness. filled with the Spirit, his confession was spontaneous. He stood up for Jesus of his own accord ;

charged the inhabitants of Jerusalem with his death ; claimed for him a universal supremacy ; and his exalted Lord owned his faithful confession brethren, what shall we do ?"

ing and conversion of souls.

Degrees in Backsliding.

Reader ; he who now addresses you, remem bering the adage, that "prevention is better than cure," has prepared the following scale of religious declension ; not affirming that backslid-Fifth .- There is the "blemish" of indifference ing proceeds precisely in this order, but all these being marks of departure from God, any one of How unlike our God, who says " he loves them should awaken alarm, and ere you arrive at have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek thy ments." xliji. 10.

2. Disregard of the Bible--Jer. vi. 19; Hose Heb. x. 25, 4. Worldly-mindedness .- 2 Tim. iv. 10 ! 1 John ii. 15. 5. Levity in conversation,- Eph. v. 4; 2 Pet. God, to extol the character of Christ, to promuliii. 11.

6. A quarrelsome spirit .- Isaiah xxix. 21 ; Cor. iii. 3. 7. Dwelling on the faith of others .-- Matt. vii

3-5.

This is an admirable example for our farmers.

True confession of him is frank and spontaneous; and we read of a publican who gave half his goods to charitable purposes. How many of our left the rabbis in the Temple at Jerusalem, and Peter's confession of his Lord on the day of farmers could devote two or three acres annually Pentecost was of the right sort. The Spirit had to the service of God ? Let them mark out been poured out, and the disciples were the spot in spring, farm it well, ask God's blessspeaking with other tongues than those they had ing upon it, and wait the result. How many of learned. Some were amazed; others mock- our readers will make the experiment? We shall ed. They are saying that those who are under be delighted to hear from them next fall as to the the Spirit's influence are filled with new wine. result of our suggestion. Let it be one acre or more, just as your heart will allow, but of course cate his work? Peters heart said with him : it will not be the poorest acre on your farm ! is supposed, up to the period of his own death; "Here am I;" an he stood up in the midst of Perhaps by thus consecrating a part of your pro-Jesus' betrayers and murderers, and boldly con- perty to God, He will bless the remainder more fessed him and vindicated his work. No person abundantly. One thing is certain, that if you needed to whisper in his ear : "That is really; do anything for Him in faith He will bless your too bad, Peter, won't you rise and speak on be- own soul, and His blessing alone maketh rich.

" What have I Done ?"

All men have done too much-no man has done enough-and most men do nothing. Paraby sending his word home with irresistible power doxical though these words may at first appear, to the consciences of his hearers, and bringing they are strictly true. Too much that is sinful in them in agony of soul to inquire : " Men and God's eye, too much that is baneful to our fellow creatures; too much that is ruinous to our-My friend, it is thus we must confess our Lord selves, we have all done. Enough that is holy, " before men," if we are to expect him to use us elevating, and heaven-tending we cannot do. for the advancement of his glory, and the awaken. And, alas ! multitudes there are who have put treaties, however, do not provide for the reinserving Christ.

> It is a great blessing if we can say, "What have I done ?" with a conscience void of offence the Christian religion by American citizens in toward man-feeling that, as far as our purposes Japan. In the Dutch treaty there is even a clause and pursuits are concerned, we have sought the present weal and eternal salvation of our hibited from circulating Christian books. And fellows. But who can look the Lord Jehovah in none of the treaties is toleration secured for in the face with such an inquiry ? Have not our best works been stained with the finger marks of sin ? Have not the pages of our diary borne testimony to the committal of some evils, great in our sight, but greater far in the estimation of a faultless God ? A revengeful Nemesis may not have followed at our heels-the rod of chastisement may not have been visited upon us, yet long as we may have professed discipleship to the Nuzarene, long as we may have laboured in the Master's vineyard, we must all own with it. Any allusion to it is rigidly suppressed in shame and grief that "we have done those things we ought not to have done, and left undone the a things we ought to have done." What have I done to promote the glory of

> gate the peace-breathing word of Heaven? the Protestant missionaries now in Japan What have I done to save the souls of my relatives, to improve the condition of my neighbours. to enlighten the minds of the heathen ? Instead of a Japanese version of them.-[Evangelical of taking up the stumbling blocks, have I not Christendom