

of joints and hinges and pulleys, all under the control of your mind, or you could make a log of wood run and catch your ball by simply telling it to do so. Suppose that your jaw was not hung on hinges, and of course that it was immovable! how could you talk? how could you eat?

Think about your hand for a moment. Suppose that instead of having in it twenty-nine small bones, nicely jointed together in such a manner could you write, could you cipher, or do any thing that you now can do with your hand? Some people say, that one reason why man is so much superior to all other animals, is that he can employ his hands in so many ways. It is by having so many hinges in it that he is enabled to build houses and railroads, to put up telegraphs and factories, to print newspapers, and to make books. How wonderful!

Then, again, the largest and strongest bones are placed where they are most needed. Your strongest bones ought to be those that sustain your weight; and, in fact, they are placed just where they have this to do. When you are young, as your body is not very heavy, it is not necessary that your bones should be very strong; but as you grow older your body becomes heavier, and needs stronger bones to support it; God has provided for this by so ordering things that, as you grow older, your bones become not only larger, but harder and stronger. Your teeth are made of bones because some hard substance is needed to divide into small parts the food that you eat. The teeth in the front part of your mouth are made sharp, whilst the rest are flat on the top. This did not happen so by mere chance, but was so arranged by Infinite Wisdom. Your front teeth have to cut the food which you eat into pieces of a moderate size, and therefore they are made sharp; your jaw teeth have to take the food out off by your front teeth, and grind it up, and therefore they are made flat.—If your sharp teeth were placed along the side of your mouth, and your flat teeth in front, you would find it a difficult matter to eat. In the same way I might go on talking about the wonders of that little body of yours; but I have said enough thus far, I hope, to lead you to think of the wisdom and goodness of God in giving you such a wonderful body, and in giving you a soul more wonderful, to dwell in, control and govern it. Try to find something more of those things—reflect on them often, and let your little heart swell with gratitude and praise to your kind Father above.—*South-ern Presbyterian.*

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINT JOHN, FEBRUARY 2, 1848.

ALL MEN MORTAL.

An eminent poet has justly observed,—
‘All men think all men mortal but themselves.’
A familiar truth, as every reader knows, is often brought home to our understanding, and our heart, with unwonted power, when ordinarily, however solemn and weighty the truth may be, our familiarity with it prevents its influence.
What truth more solemn, what one of more practical consequence if realised, of what truth are we more frequently admonished in the providence of God, and yet what less heeded, than that all men are mortal, and consequently all men must die? To be willing to entertain this thought, and to allow its influence upon our plans and our conduct, is the part of true wisdom. Such an one will be found waiting the coming of his Lord; but how many allow themselves to be surprised and confounded by the approach of the hour, a thought of which they were unwilling to admit, till the terrible announcement is made, to be resisted no longer, “Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee.” What a strange infatuation that this general and strong sense of unreadiness and unfitness to die, instead of making us more attentive to the fact, and more diligent in the use of every appropriate means to effect our preparation, should make men not only willing but anxious to forget it, to drive all thoughts of it from the mind, and efface all the serious impressions from the conscience and the heart, which a consideration of the fact never fails to awaken. But forget or admit as we will, the fact exists, all men are mortal, all men must die; every earthly tie will be sundered, all our present relations be broken up; the greatest dependence and the strongest affection present no barrier whatever to these ravages. Companions must be separated, parents and children, brothers and sisters, all must part; reconciled or unreconciled to the event, prepared or unprepared for the retributions of eternity, we are hastening to its decisions; we must die. But, when? ah, reader, when? The writer cannot tell, and the reader cannot know. The event is certain, no one thing more so, its season has never been revealed. Our creator has here wisely hedged us in from

the two extremes of presumption and despair, into the one or the other of which the great multitude would rush, could each one be informed upon this point. “Boast not of thyself to-morrow.” “Work whilst it is day.” “One dieth in his full strength, being wholly at ease and quiet, another in the bitterness of his soul, and never eateth with pleasure.” As no one condition is a defence, so there is no hour or moment when it may not come, at home or by the way, at the table or in bed, in the morning, at noon, or evening. In this precarious position must every one of us stand, old and young, so long as we live in this world; calamitous as would be the event in many cases, and heart-rending, no one of us will ever be permitted, with any certainty to say, but we may in an hour after be numbered with the dead; and though now we may be disposed each to look to other homes than our’s for such events, there can be no manner of doubt but the snows of the retiring winter will rest above the mouldering bodies of some now sharing all the joys of our dwellings.

“Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the north wind’s breath,
And stars to set; but all—
Thou hast all seasons for thine own, O death!”

What changes in the policy of men’s minds would be effected, by the conviction and admission of this important truth. Parents would exert themselves for their children to have their work done and well done when they were called; the old and the young would be found seeking first of all things the kingdom of God. As the certainty and speed of its approach cannot be hastened or retarded by our remembrance or neglect, and none but the most desirable consequences can result from its remembrance, to us, and to all connected with or dependent upon us, why not all who read or hear these thoughts read, consider these things.

We had the pleasure of attending on the afternoon of Wednesday last the annual examination of the Sabbath School connected with the 1st Baptist Church in this city. The number of scholars present was nearly or quite 300, after being examined by Brother George W. Garrison the Superintendent, and by the Pastor, in which exercise the scholars acquitted themselves well, addresses were delivered by the Pastors of Carleton and Portland Churches. The children with their Teachers and friends then repaired to the vestry and enjoyed the bountiful repast which had been furnished. We omitted to express the great satisfaction we derived the previous week at a similar examination and festival with the Sabbath School at Carleton, we presume there were at least 150 children present, and the utmost order was observed, and the best attention given by the children throughout the exercises of the evening. Our brethren of both schools have found the advantage of a good Library and sets of Maps with which to illustrate the lessons of the children in a large increase, both of numbers and interest.

We received Brother Wyckoff’s letter just in season for this day’s paper and hope it will reach our friends in Nova Scotia before the Sabbath, that it may help the effort, which we learn from the Christian Messenger our brethren are about making in concert for the American and Foreign Bible Society’s funds. We hope what is now on hand will be immediately transmitted to the Treasurer. If Br. W. or any one at the Rooms in New York wish to send papers, certificates, or Bibles to any Society or individual here, such things can be left in care of Mr. Robert Davis, Publisher, 120 Washington Street, Boston, directed to the address of the Editor, and they will be forwarded as we are receiving from Mr. Davis books, &c., for the Colporteur work which is now in successful progress.

We have been hoping the favour of an exchange with Zion’s Advocate, and have the pleasure of adding our testimony to its worth, and the improved appearance to which it is justly entitled. We feel the strongest attachment to our brethren in Maine and hope they will come liberally to the support of their old and well tried Advocate. We hope to greet it weekly.

We learn from a Postscript to a letter received by Br. J. F. Masters, that the work proceeds with quietness in Sackville; 57 had been baptized previous to last Sabbath, and others would then go forward in the ordinance putting on Christ.

REPORT OF THE BAPTIST SABBATH SCHOOL, FOR 1847.

Submitted by the Superintendent.

In submitting our Annual Report, we desire to express our united thanks to the father of all our mercies, for his continued goodness, and the many blessings bestowed upon us, during the past year, while engaged in the labours of the Sabbath School. The benefits derived from such instruction are so apparent that none will say they are not a blessing to society. Hundreds of our youth, by these means, are brought together on the Sabbath, who would otherwise be desecrating the day. It is here they obtain a knowledge of divine things, are taught how to obtain eternal life and trained up under the excellent maxims and principles of God’s word for usefulness in the world and the enjoyment of happiness hereafter. Many a parent, I doubt not, will bless God throughout eternity for the institution of Sabbath Schools, through their instrumentality, the light of divine truth has shone upon many a dark mind to give them the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ, and thousands will praise God in eternity that they ever were brought into the Sabbath School—its real worth will never be known until the great judgement day, when many will look back with grateful remembrance to the Sabbath School where they received their first serious impressions. As much good then has been done—much more may and can be done, if teachers and parents will only feel the importance of the responsibility devolving upon them, and act up fully to the requirements of duty. It affords us much satisfaction to be able to state that the School is in a flourishing condition—that the attendance, considering the number of Sabbath Schools, now in active operation in the city, is good, and that both teacher and scholar appreciate the blessings and benefits attending Sabbath School instruction. The average number of children in attendance is 200 and upwards.—Teachers 30. Our library is large and contains a good selection of valuable and interesting Books.

The Treasurer has expended for the last year to replenish the Library,	£30 11 6
For duties on Books and other incidental expences,	6 0 9
Received in contributions,	36 12 3
Balance due the Treasurer	31 5 0
	£5 7 3

We have disposed out of the Library for the country, and among the teachers 150 volumes. Have furnished our Sabbath School at the Bethel place of Worship, Morris Street, 60 volumes and upwards, and given to Schools in the country newly organized and destitute of means about 100 volumes more.

Our City during the past year, has been visited with much sickness and death, more than on previous years for a long period, and many a dear little boy and girl have gone to their long home, and the mourners go about the streets—during this afflictive visitation of Divine Providence, we have been greatly spared—two only of our number that have come under our knowledge have been removed by the hand of death—during their sickness as we have been informed, their minds were led to look to the Lord Jesus Christ, the children’s friend, for pardon, and we hope that their dear names, at the judgment seat of Christ may be found written in the “Lamb’s Book of Life.” One of our valuable teachers, who for several years filled his place regularly on the Lord’s day in the Sabbath School has ended his labours—his face we shall never see in the flesh nor enjoy that friendly intercourse and sympathy which we once enjoyed together, while engaged in the arduous duties of the Sabbath School. It affords us a pleasing reflection, that when our labours here on earth are ended if found faithful, we shall enter into that rest prepared by God for all his followers, and hold communion together in everlasting songs of praise and gratitude to Him, that has loved us and washed away our sins in his blood.

The weather in Canada has been of the same unsettled kind as experienced here during the last two months. The Brockville Recorder says it has been vibrating from extreme cold to spring temperature, with a large portion of the latter: and states that the St. Lawrence was not in a passable condition.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Extracts from the Colporteur’s Journal and Letter.

Jan. 7. Arrived at Quaco this evening with a mind I trust lifted up to God for a manifestation of his goodness and grace in my labours here. Called at a house to warm me, when having made myself known as a Colporteur, I was cordially received and entertained; spent the evening in agreeable religious conversation, and after prayer with the family, retired to rest under a sense of the great goodness and mercy of God.

8. Left my horse with this kind friend, and took my box and visited the families in New Chester, 13 in number, distributing a tract or two to each family unable to purchase. This place is divided into 4 districts,—New Chester, Middletown, the Eastward, and the Westward. In reaching the latter place visited three more families,—found again a cordial reception here.

Tuesday evening. 11. Have been visiting among the people these two days past, and laying my object before them. Have been received on every hand with great kindness, and especially forwarded in my work by the countenance and help of Br. Jackson the Pastor, and Br. James Newcombe, each of whom made purchases of me—the latter 15 volumes.

Wednesday. Visited the principal part of the Western Settlement to-day, 25 families in all; amongst others were 6 families of Roman Catholics,—no desire of reading among them except catholic books.

19. Having visited Middletown, went yesterday to the Eastward, and to-day engaged in the Upper Settlement visiting and making sales.

20. Concluded my work at the Eastward, having visited 17 families.

21. To-day have finished my work in Middletown, having visited in all 85 families.

22. This morning preparing to leave the place, but find myself detained until after Sabbath, yet as I still have work in the Colportage, I am content to tarry: feel quite exhausted, but hope to find myself recruited by Monday morning. May the Lord bless the people who have entered so heartily into the spirit of my labours, and who have shown me so much kindness. I am happy to acquaint you with the promising appearance of things here, the growing unanimity of the brethren, and their disposition to sustain and enjoy the means of grace. I enclose herewith £8 10s. Having engaged besides the sales enumerated, 2 sets of the American Encyclopedia. I must speak of the effect of my recent labours upon my own feelings. It has revived the scenes of by-gone days, when I was first through unmerited grace enabled to obtain redemption through the blood of the Lamb, and I remember the kindness shown me by God’s people, and the happy seasons I then enjoyed, and I think I can say that the times of refreshing have again come from the presence of the Lord, and I experience the same nearness to God and his dear people that I then did. I have delivered one Temperance address, and held several meetings, addressing the people more particularly upon the things which relate to the kingdom of God.

I am, my dear brother, yours, &c.

J. V. TABOR.

Brother Tabor desires us to make mention of the kindness of several whose names are given in his letter to the committee. We presume, however, that such ones might feel delicate about having their names published; the Committee feel under great obligations to them; and again in view of the adaptedness of Mr. Tabor to his work, and of this system of colportage to the wants of our Province, we commend him to the hospitality of the churches, and his work to their prayerful regard and support.

In behalf of the Committee,

E. D. VERY.

American and Foreign Bible Rooms,
New York, January 25, 1848.

Rev. Edward D. Very, St. John, N. B.

DEAR BROTHER,—Your interesting letter of the 1st ult. has hitherto remained unanswered, because there were points in it which required deliberate consideration, and one on which the views of the Board had to be obtained.

After much thought, it is deemed inadvisable for certificates ever to be sent from these Rooms until the money has been received, and they have been filled up with the name of the life-member, or director to whom they are to be sent. In the case of our friends in New Brunswick, we entertain the most