

treasure of God's word things new and old for the edification of the people; he needs skill and the acquisitions of diligent study, that he may show himself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

These are our objects, to have the word of God translated, and widely disseminated; to have the destitute portions of our own home field, and the great foreign field with its 600,000,000 of immortal souls supplied with the ministry of the word, to give our support and aid so far as it may extend to encourage a suitable preparation on the part of those who preach the word, that they may understand it, and be able to expound its truth to the ignorant, and defend them against the objections of opposition and unbelief. And, lastly, to show our acquiescence and delight in that equitable law of the great head of the Church, that they who preach the gospel shall live of the gospel, and that the righteous shall not be forsaken nor his seed be left to beg bread.

An Immortal Soul.

This life is but the threshold of our existence—a breath; we gasp once here, and live forever. If we owned the whole world, it could not attend us a step beyond the grave; but if we once obtain the heavenly inheritance we shall carry it with us down through the revolving ages of eternity. If want and affliction beset us here, death will soon close the distress; but if we lose our soul the loss will be forever. This is that last death which death itself cannot destroy. The fashion of this world passes away; the earth will soon grow crazy with age; the sun shall wax dim in its orbit; the stars shall fall like the leaves of autumn; but the deathless soul shall survive the wreck of worlds. And when another period, as long as the world's age, shall have passed, and as many such periods as there were moments in the first, the soul will have but begun its course. To stand on some eminence like Pisgah, and look away into eternity, oh, what a prospect rushes on the eye! Let imagination spread all her pinions and swiftly pursue the flying soul through ages of joy enough to dissolve the mortal flesh—and keep on wing and still pursue, through periods which human numbers cannot calculate, until the fancy is so far from home as hardly to be recalled, it must still return, and leave the flying soul to explore ages after ages—a boundless eternity of inexpressible bliss. And when it returns to earth, how it sickens at worldly glory, and calls mortal life a blank, a point, no time at all.

Let it stretch its wings again, and follow the exuberant soul through unutterable endurance—through fire intense enough to melt down all the planets. One period after another passes by as it flies, until it looks back on the first million of years as a speck in the horizon, and still it hears the tormented soul exclaim, 'My agony is but begun.' Our fainting minds will be overwhelmed with the value of the soul, if we admit its eternal progression. It is so difficult to conceive of one's living forever in heaven without acquiring any new ideas or any deeper impressions from ideas already received, that it is generally believed that holy creatures will forever grow in capacity and enjoyment. And there are certainly passages of scripture which favor this opinion. I shall venture no assertion on this point; but taking the thing for granted for the present, what an august being will a human soul become!—Observe its progress in the present life, and the dignity which accumulates.

Yesterday it was a babe weeping in its mother's arms—to-day it is a child, and we chide it—to-morrow it is a philosopher, and we revere him. Let this progress be extended to a million of years, and how great has that creature become. A thousand times more difference between him & a Newton, than between a Newton and an infant. Mark that miniature of man just opening its eyes on the light; yet that minim of being contains a soul which will one day outstrip the ranges of the wildest imagination. That spark will grow to the flame of a seraph; that thinking thing will fly through heaven.—*Dr. Griffin.*

FIRST FRUIT OF MISSIONS.—For the last seven years, the amount of contributions raised at the several mission stations of the London Foreign Missionary Society, towards their own support, as appears from the Society's annual reports, has exceeded \$76,000 annually—being nearly one-fifth of the Society's income.

THE FAMILY.

Young Men.

The idea was prevalent in some communities that young men are fit neither for generals or statesmen, and that they must be kept in the back ground until their physical strength is impaired by age, and their intellectual faculties become blunted by the weight of years. Let us look to the history of the past, and from the long list of heroes and statesmen, select some who have distinguished themselves, and we shall find that they were young men when they performed those acts which have won for them an imperishable meed of fame, and placed their names high on the page of history. Alexander the conqueror of the civilized world, viz., Greece, Egypt and Asia, died at 33. Bonaparte was crowned Emperor of France when 33 years of age. Pitt, the younger brother, was about 20 years of age, when, in Britain's Parliament he boldly advocated the cause of the American Colonies, and but 22 when made Chancellor of the Exchequer. Edmund Burke at the age of 24, was first Lord of the Treasury. Our own Washington was but 27 when he covered the retreat of the British troops at Braddock's defeat, and was appointed to the command in chief of all the Virginia forces. Alexander Hamilton at 20, was a Lieutenant Colonel and aid to Washington—at 25 a member of Congress—at 33 Secretary of the Treasury. Thomas Jefferson was but 32 when he drafted the ever memorable Declaration of Independence. At the age of 30 years, Sir Isaac Newton occupied the mathematical chair at Cambridge college, England, having by his scientific discoveries rendered his name immortal. We might continue the list to a greater length, but enough has been said already, to show that the idea that young men are not capable of performing great and ennobling actions, or of taking a high position in the councils of a nation, is chimerical and visionary. And what has been said, may well serve to encourage the young to set a high standard and press towards it with ardor, suffering nothing to discourage them from soaring "onward and upward" in the paths of fame, or in the pursuits of Literature and science.

Occupation for Children.

The habits of children prove that occupation is of necessity with most of them. They love to be busy, even about nothing, still more to be usefully employed. With some children it is a strongly developed physical necessity, and if not turned to a good account, will be productive of positive evil, thus verifying the old adage, that "idleness is the mother of mischief."—Children should be encouraged, or independently disciplined into performing for themselves every little office relative to their toilet, which they are capable of performing. They should also keep their own clothes, and other possessions in order, and fetch for themselves whatever they want; in short they should learn to be as independent of the services of others as possible, fitting them alike to make good use of prosperity, and to meet with fortitude any reverse of fortune that may befall them. I know of no rank, however exalted, in which such a system would not prove beneficial.

Religious Newspapers.

As religious newspapers are made up now-a-days, every family may, in the course of a year find something that is worth to them ten times the amount of their subscriptions; and consequently they are made richer by the knowledge which such a paper has imparted to them. Nor is the spiritual benefit derived from it of less importance. It comes to them glowing with thrilling instructions, teaching the science of living well, and of happy dying, and encouraging them to be zealously affected always in a good cause. It comes to them with good news from a far country—telling them of the triumphs of the Redeemer's Cross, which to the child of God is as waters from deep fountain wells to thirsty souls. And finally, there is something to please and instruct the minds of all classes, ages, and conditions.

I do not envy that family's prosperity, nor highly prize their piety, who do not feel enough interest in a religious paper to take and pay for it—especially if they can afford to take a secular paper. And yet I doubt not that many families can be found—and professedly religious too—who take from one to four secular papers, and

yet give not a copper to sustain a religious paper. Shame on such worldly-minded Christians! they can never be better than mere dwarfs in religion.—*Christian Chronicle.*

AGRICULTURAL.

Too Much Land.

Why do so many of our farmers complain that they find farming poor, unprofitable business? Because they try to cultivate *too much land*. Farming when rightly managed is as profitable business as a person can pursue; but while our chief aim is to be constantly adding acre to acre of our already uncultivated fields, we shall find the business poor enough.

As you pass through many of our New England counties observe how some of the farmers conduct their affairs. They seem to think their farms are hardly large enough to turn upon, unless they contain from one hundred to five hundred acres, and this they usually have scattered around in various places, so that they actually lose as much time in going from field, and from lot to lot, as would be required to keep ten acres under good cultivation.

However, let us watch them for a few months and see how things go on.

In the spring they plough up so much land that they cannot prepare it for planting till their neighbours are nearly ready to commence hoeing.

They have manure enough for but little of their land; and therefore their crops are small and late.

Their fences are not repaired in season, and consequently their fields are covered with the flocks and herds of their neighbors. The edges of their mowing fields are clothed with blackberry bushes and briars.

Their orchards are neglected till they are completely buried with deadwood, and suckers, or robbed of their foliage by the caterpillars.

Now is any one at a loss to discover why such farming as this is unprofitable? Not in the least.

And yet this is precisely the way in which many farms are conducted. But perhaps you may inquire how the evil is to be remedied? I will tell you. Sell your land; and if you cannot sell it I had almost said give it away till you have reduced your farm to such a size that you can cultivate it properly. Plough up no more land than you have sufficient manure for, and can prepare for planting in season. Repair your fences in season to prevent your neighbor's cattle from encroaching upon your fields and pastures. Remove all unnecessary trees and bushes from your fields. Set out young fruit trees, keep them free from insects and useless rubbish and you will find that farming is far from being an unprofitable business.—*Farmer's Monthly Visitor.*

Electricity and the Potato Disease.

In the summer of 1847, says the British Banner, many scientific persons having arrived at the conclusion that the injury to the potatoes was caused by the peculiar state of the atmosphere, a gentleman living at Kensington was led to inquire what had introduced such a state of air.—On examining the meteorological tables, he found that during the last two years there had been a much greater quantity of lightning than previously. Then came the question, would that injure the potato plant? Lightning being electricity, to ascertain the point he enclosed some atmospheric air in a receiver, and having insulated it, applied the electrifying machine. The potato plant being then introduced into the receiver, was immediately affected in the same way as those diseased ones of last season. The potato was removed, and corn of various kinds, mangold wurtzel, and such like vegetable substances, subjected to a similar treatment. They were unsullied. A fresh potato plant was then put in, and the effect was the same as before.—Thus was established the fact that the potato disease was occasioned by lightning. Now to prevent it. The first thing necessary was to ascertain how the lightning acted. It was found that it separated the air into its component parts, oxygen, hydrogen, and nitrogen, the first so requisite for animal life, and the last for that of vegetation—but this was not all, for it did the injury to the potato by converting the nitrogen into nitrous acid. Quicklime is known to be an antidote to nitrous acid; he, therefore, took a fresh potato plant, sprinkled it over with quick-

lime, and introduced it into atmospheric air, electrified as before. The potato plant remained uninjured.

A few dressings of lime applied at intervals to the potato plant, it appears, then, is the best remedy that can be adopted for the preservation of this invaluable article of food.

ARRIVAL OF THE NIAGARA.

The letters by the *Niagara Steamer*, arrived in this city at 10 P. M. on Thursday. The newspapers in the usual time afterwards. We regret to state that the price of timber was somewhat lower in the Liverpool market, although it is gratifying to add that commercial prospects generally, were improving, and that the prices of bread stuffs would likely rule at a still lower rate. The following we transcribe from a London paper of the 7th instant:—

The Chartist trials in London have been brought to a close. The trials of the Irish rebels are yet proceeding. Some surprise has been expressed at the severity of the sentence passed upon the former not so much, if at all, on account of the guilt of the parties, of which there can be no reasonable doubt, as on account of the ludicrous disproportion between the big words of these people and the means at their command for carrying their designs into execution. Never was treason or sedition so miserably parodied as in the case of these men; but we do not well see how the Government could have interfered to prevent the law from taking its full course. If a plea of lunacy had been raised, the heroes of the coal scuttle breast plates might perhaps have derived some benefit from it; but such a plea not having been even so much as hinted at, there was clearly nothing to be done but to decide upon the evidence of guilt or innocence. The jury decided upon their guilt, and the sentence followed as a matter of course. Severe as it looks, the law has not been strained against them.

The Irish trials necessarily excite more attention. There was an element of a grander character in the Irish rebellion, and in that of the unfortunate Irish leader, than ever attached to the comic proceedings of the poor dupes of the informer Powell. The fate of Smith O'Brien and his colleagues, whatever it may be, will naturally cause more interest. The friends of Smith O'Brien seem to rely upon a Writ of Error to save him from the consequences of his acts; but while the trial is still pending, and his life may be said to hang in the balance, it is obviously the part of the Press to abstain from speculation either as to the probable result of the trial, or as to the sentence should he be found guilty. Ireland remains perfectly tranquil, and manifests but little concern for the man who manifested so much concern—erroneous as it was—for the supposed welfare of his countrymen. Smith O'Brien was evidently as ignorant of the Irish as the English are said to be; and the secret of leading them seems to have died with O'Connell.

There continues to exist in commercial circles a degree of depression for which it is difficult to account, and the past week has not produced any improvement in any department of trade. The weather, until yesterday, was very unsettled, which may in some degree have tended to prevent an improvement; but there must certainly be other and more weighty causes operating.

The Corn markets have undergone little or no change, and Indian Corn continues in moderate demand at 35s. to 36s. 6d. per quarter, which last is now the top price for the best yellow.—Corn Meal, 17s. 6d. to 18s. per barrel, and little here. Flour, duty paid, 32s. to 33s., and sour, 29s. to 30. per barrel. The duty on wheat remains at 4s. per quarter, and on Flour 2s. 6d. per barrel.

From the manufacturing districts the accounts continue gloomy. At the Manchester market on Tuesday a rather more hopeful feeling was indulged in, and a fair amount of orders were given out but at prices as low as ever.

The Money market continues tolerably easy, and the fluctuations in the value of public securities, during the week has only been trifling.

The trial of Mr. Smith O'Brien, at Clonmel, which commenced on Thursday week, and is still unconcluded, is the chief event of the week having political bearing. All of the first day and a considerable portion of the second, was absorbed by the discussion of technical points of law, which counsel for his defence deemed it prudent to raise, but without any gain to his client, so far as the event has yet proved. An application was made to have the cause postponed, on the ground that Mr. O'Brien had not received previous to his trial, a copy of the indictment and a list of the witnesses to be produced against him. In this country, a man on trial for his life has a right to be informed upon both these points, but according to the court at Clonmel, in Ireland no such right exists. Another point of dissatisfaction was, the great disproportion existing between Protestants and Catholics upon the jury panel. After sundry attempts on the part of the prisoner's counsel to gain something for his client on these points, the trial was proceeded with. Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday were wholly consumed examining witnesses on the part of the crown. As usual in political conspiracies, traitors have been found amongst the Irish rebels, who have given evidence which will go far to support the indictment against Mr. O'Brien. On Wednesday Mr. Whiteside, counsel for the prisoner, entered upon his defence. In opening his case, he de-