

The Christian Visitor.

"Hold fast the form of sound words."—2d Timothy, 1. 13. SAINT JOHN, N. B. THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1863.

TERMS:—Cash in Advance. One Copy for one year, \$3.00. Fifty Copies to one Address, \$1.50. Advertisements inserted at the usual rates.

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR affords an excellent medium for advertising. FREELY. BY REV. O. H. SPURGEON.

"I will love them freely." We use the word "freely" when a favor is conferred without its being sought. It can hardly be said that our king in the old histories pardoned the citizens of Calais freely, when his queen had first to prostrate herself before him, and with many tears, to induce him to be merciful.

That which comes without any exertion on our part comes to us "freely." The rulers digged the well, and as they digged it they sang "Spring up, O well!" In such a case, where a well must be dug with much labour, the water can hardly be described as rising freely. But yonder, in the laughing valley, the spring gushes from the hillside, and dashes its crystal torrent among the shining pebbles. Man pierced not the fountain, he bored not the channel, for long ere he was born, or ever the weary pilgrim bowed himself to its cooling stream, it had leaped on as long as the moon endureth, freely, freely, freely.

THE GROWTH OF THE SOUL. The life, or vital force, of the soul, is an impelling, organizing power, like the life of the body, or of a plant or tree. Its very existence seems to depend upon action. It reaches after new materials to appropriate, it puts forth thought, feeds upon ideas, kindles new flames of feeling, and thus is continually expanding, growing, increasing in strength, capacity and acquisition.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR PRAYER MEETING INTERESTING. We will be serious now. We shall try to sympathize with the true and the faithful—not a large number in any church—who are always at "our" prayer-meeting, and who wish they knew how to make it more interesting. You want to know how to bring live coals to the altar as you go to wake its fires. You want not merely to enjoy more, but you want others should, and you want this meeting to be an instrument of doing your church, and the community good. How shall you aid it?

THE WIDOW'S SON. Mr. and Mrs. lived in one of our large cities, and were people of eminent piety and devotion to the cause of Christ. They had one son, a well-beloved child, but a neglected and despoiler of religion. They gave him such advantages as the best schools of the city afforded, and he graduated at one of the colleges in New England with honor.

He could repeat two thousand words, upon ones hearing them, each in its order, though they had no connection in meaning. Cyrus knew every soldier in his army by name. Carnegies when asked, would repeat any volume found in the libraries as if he were reading. Dr. Wallis was able, by mere force of memory, to perform the extraction of roots to forty places of figures. And there are similar instances of amazing development in all the other mental faculties.

These cases in our probationary state furnish us with faint glimpses of what the human soul will yet be. The memory in the other life is to go on growing, and having more and more to retain, as new scenes and new worlds open before the soul eternally, until it will yet gather in, and hold at command more facts and theories than are to be found in all the writings of men. It has been said, that the visions of one day on the Isle of Patmos made the Apostle John a poet. What then may not eighteen hundred years of heavenly vision have made him; and what may he, or any of us not become, a million years hence! Shall the soul not be forever accumulating new images of beauty, new treasures of suggestion, contrast, and comparison, under the quickening, stimulating and health-bringing influences of the spiritual life?

See what the soul accomplishes even in this short, wearying, painful and cloudy life! What discoveries in science, what improvements in art, what development and application of the powers hidden in Nature! "Iron is taken out of the earth, and brass is smelted out of the stone. He setteth an end to darkness, and searcheth out all perfection. He putteth forth his hand upon the rock; he overturneth the mountains by the roots. He cutteth out rivers among the rocks; and his eye seeth every precious thing. He bindeth the floods from overflowing; and the thing that is hid bringeth he forth to light." What then shall limit the discoveries and the progress of man in the active, favoring, eternal life and growth of the soul!

Who of us value the soul as we should! How little we realize the vastness of the capacities with which we are endowed! We have little sense of what we are, because "It doth not yet appear what we shall be." But God knows what we are, and in his word sets a value upon us which often astonishes us, and staggers our belief. His solicitude that we should be wise, that we should make the right choice for time and for eternity, reveals the high estimation which he puts upon an immortal soul. The soul that is lost in sin and given over to perpetual ruin may be impelled onward by its vital force, growing in capacity to reap the bitter results of sin.

THE DEATH OF LITTLE CHILDREN. The remembered innocence and endearments of a child stand us instead of virtues that have died older. Children have not exercised the voluntary offices of friendship; they have not chosen to be kind and good to us; nor stood by us, from conscious will, in the hour of adversity. But they have shared their pleasures and pains with us as well as they could; the interchange of good offices between us has, of necessity, been less mingled with the troubles of the world; the sorrow arising from their death is the only one which we can associate with their memories. These are happy thoughts that cannot die. Our lives may always render them pensive; but they will not always be painful. It is a part of the benignity of nature that pain does not survive like pleasure, at any time, much less where the cause of it is an innocent one. The smile will remain reflected by memory, as the moon reflects the light upon us when the sun is gone into heaven. Now the liability to the loss of children—or rather what renders us sensible of it, the occasional loss itself—seems to be one of these necessary bitters thrown into the cup of humanity. We do not mean that every one must lose one of his children in order to enjoy the rest, or that every individual loss afflicts us in the same proportion. We allude to the deaths of infants in general. These might be as few as we could render them. But if none at all ever took place, we should regard every little child as a man or woman secured; and it will easily be conceived what a world of endearing cares and hopes this security would endanger. The very idea of infancy would lose its continuity with us. Girls and boys would be future men and women, not present children. They would have attained their full growth in our imagination, and might as well have been men and women at once. On the other hand, those who have lost an infant never, as it were, without an infant child. They are the only persons who, in one sense, retain it always, and they furnish their neighbors with the same idea. The other children grow up to manhood and womanhood, and suffer all the changes of mortality. This one is rendered an immortal child. Death has arrested it with his kindly harshness, and blessed it with an eternal image of youth and innocence.

TWELVE WAYS OF COMMITTING SUICIDE. 1. Wearing thin shoes damp nights and in cold rainy weather. Wearing insufficient clothing, and especially upon the limbs and extremities. 2. Leading a life of enfeebling, stupid laziness; keeping the mind in an unnatural state of excitement by reading romances. Going constantly to theatres, parties and balls in all sorts of weather in the thinnest dress. Dancing till in a complete perspiration, and then going home without sufficient over-ment, through the cold, damp air.

TO M PAIN'S HABITS. In your issue of 29th January, is an account headed, "Last Days of Tom Paine," and which reminds me of an account of some of his other days, which I received from the lips of that venerable man of God, the late "beloved physician," Doctor Matson Smith, of New Rochelle. It was my privilege to spend a Sabbath in his company, at the house of one of his sons, many years since, and in the course of conversation, something was said which indicated that the Doctor had known Paine, and on my inquiring if that was the case, he replied that he not only knew him, but was his physician during his residence at New Rochelle. On my inquiring what was the truth in regard to the charges of the intemperance against Paine, he replied substantially as follows:—"Mr. S. was the most dreadful drunkard you ever saw. When he came to New Rochelle, he took board in a very respectable family, and he had distinguished himself by his writings, the first people in the place took pleasure in showing him attention. But he was not only a drunkard, but his personal habits were so vile and filthy that the family in which he boarded could not tolerate him, and those who had showed him the attentions to which he had been supposed entitled, were disgusted, and dropped his acquaintance. As no family would board him, he went to the house on his farm, and his establishment was conducted by his farmer and wife, akin to himself in personal habits. While at his farmhouse, I was sent for to see him, as he was sick. I found him in a filthy room, with bed, bedding and scanty furniture in such a condition of squalor and wretchedness as I would not allow a dog of mine to be subjected to. On my remarking, Mr. Paine, you seem to be very sick, he expressed the utmost degree of wretchedness, both mental and physical, and indeed in my long practice, I never attended a more miserable and forlorn patient. Doctor Smith was an Elder in the Presbyterian church of New Rochelle, and was well and widely known as a man of superior Christian character, and entitled to the fullest confidence as to his statements. Allow us to quote a remark of Dr. Cox, when pastor of light street church, in this city:—"Much of the infidelity of the world is chargeable to intemperance. Poor Thomas Paine wrote his book upon the deism, deep inspiration of the

bottle. Drunk all day, up at night, squalid and filthy, he wrote his 'Age of Reason.'—N. Y. Observer. THE DEATH OF LITTLE CHILDREN. The remembered innocence and endearments of a child stand us instead of virtues that have died older. Children have not exercised the voluntary offices of friendship; they have not chosen to be kind and good to us; nor stood by us, from conscious will, in the hour of adversity. But they have shared their pleasures and pains with us as well as they could; the interchange of good offices between us has, of necessity, been less mingled with the troubles of the world; the sorrow arising from their death is the only one which we can associate with their memories. These are happy thoughts that cannot die. Our lives may always render them pensive; but they will not always be painful. It is a part of the benignity of nature that pain does not survive like pleasure, at any time, much less where the cause of it is an innocent one. The smile will remain reflected by memory, as the moon reflects the light upon us when the sun is gone into heaven. Now the liability to the loss of children—or rather what renders us sensible of it, the occasional loss itself—seems to be one of these necessary bitters thrown into the cup of humanity. We do not mean that every one must lose one of his children in order to enjoy the rest, or that every individual loss afflicts us in the same proportion. We allude to the deaths of infants in general. These might be as few as we could render them. But if none at all ever took place, we should regard every little child as a man or woman secured; and it will easily be conceived what a world of endearing cares and hopes this security would endanger. The very idea of infancy would lose its continuity with us. Girls and boys would be future men and women, not present children. They would have attained their full growth in our imagination, and might as well have been men and women at once. On the other hand, those who have lost an infant never, as it were, without an infant child. They are the only persons who, in one sense, retain it always, and they furnish their neighbors with the same idea. The other children grow up to manhood and womanhood, and suffer all the changes of mortality. This one is rendered an immortal child. Death has arrested it with his kindly harshness, and blessed it with an eternal image of youth and innocence.

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He expressed a determination to go to sea. She thought it not wise to oppose him in his plans, but the idea of his going from home influences into the midst of temptation and sin so unprepared to resist evil, almost overwhelmed her heart. His passage was engaged, and the vessel was to sail upon the Sabbath, which was an additional trial to this godly mother. She assisted him, however, as she was able, in his preparations, and as he was packing his trunks, she brought a Bible and a few small books or tracts for him to take, when he said, "Mother, you needn't put those in my trunk; I shall never read them, if you do." Supposing from her appearance she was about to place them there, she repeated with emphasis, "Mother, you needn't put those in my trunk; I shall never read them."

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Christian, if you would escape Satan's devices, then make present resistance to Satan's first motions. It is safe to resist, it is dangerous to dispute. Eye disputes, and falls in Paradise; Job resists, and conquers upon the dunghill.—Brooks. The sleeping of vengeance causes the overflowing of sin, and the overflowing of sin causes the awakening of fury. Abused mercy will certainly turn into fury.—Brooks.

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GEORGE NIXON, 66 King Street, Importer and dealer in Paper Hangings and Window Glass. GEORGE DUVAL, CANE CHAIR MANUFACTURER, 101 Corner of Richmond and Brussels Streets, St. John, N. B. CHAIRS REPAIRED AND REPAIRED. CANE ALWAYS ON HAND FOR SALE. Henry Robertson, Importer of China, Glass and Earthenware, No. 8 St. Stephen's Building, King Square, St. John, N. B. Every description of the above class of Goods found at this establishment. Wholesale Orders executed with dispatch, and sold as low as any House in the trade. Dec. 4. G. F. THOMPSON, 57 Dock Street, Saint John, N. B. Importer and Dealer in Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Glass, Brushes, Manufacturer of Stained Glass for Churches, Side Lights, &c. Dec. 4. J. & A. McMillan, Booksellers, Publishers, Printers, Binders, and Paper Rulers, 78 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B. Dec. 4. UNION HOTEL, 112 Union Street, ST. JOHN, N. B. This hotel being centrally located, neatly furnished, and thoroughly conducted, is highly appreciated by the travelling public. Charge 85 cents per day. Extensive Stabling attached, and experienced Hostlers in attendance. JOHN G. DAY. Morton's Hotel, Union Street. The subscriber begs to inform his friends and the public generally that he has opened the Hotel on Union Street, No. 96, lately occupied by E. S. Flagler, Esquire, where he hopes by giving good service to his patrons, and kind attention to customers, to meet the wishes of all who favor him with their patronage. Terms moderate. Good Stabling, and a hostler in attendance. may 15. GEORGE MORTON. "NORTH AMERICAN HOUSE," No. 7, King's Square, Saint John, N. B. Good Stabling and attentive Hostlers. Dec. 4. WAVERLEY HOUSE, No. 73 King Street, Saint John, N. B. SCAMMELL & CO., Proprietors. REVERE HOUSE, Permanent and Transient Boarders accommodated upon the most reasonable terms. THOMAS TREUMAN, 21 King Street, St. John, N. B. Dec. 4. WOOLEN HALL, JAMES McNICHOIL & SON, Clothiers, and dealers in Gent's Furnishing Goods, No. 25 King Street, St. John, N. B. Dec. 4. SAMUEL WILSON, Wholesale and Retail Clothier and Clothier, Sears' Brick Building, No. 25 King Street, St. John, N. B. Always on hand a large and splendid assortment of Clothing, Cloths, &c. Gent's Furnishing Goods. Gentlemen's Clothing made to order in the most fashionable style by the best Workmen at the shortest notice. Dec. 4. A. & T. GILMOUR, MERCHANT TAILORS, No. 10 King Street, St. John, N. B. Broad Cloths, Cassimeres, and Vestings. Dec. 4. JAMES S. MAY, MERCHANT TAILOR, 37 Germain Street, St. John, N. B. Always on hand a good assortment of Cloths, &c. December 4. J. E. WHITTEKIR, Wholesale and Retail Clothier and Draper, 88 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B. Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods of every description. Importer of Staple Dry Goods. Particular attention given to Custom Work. Dec. 4. North American Clothing Store, No. 19 North Side King Street, St. John, N. B. Constantly on hand a Large and Splendid Assortment of Clothing, Cloths, Furnishing Goods, &c. Garments made to order in the most fashionable style by the best workmen, at the shortest notice. Dec. 4. G. D. EVERETT & SON, MANUFACTURERS OF HATS AND CAPS, No. 15, North Side King Street, St. John, N. B. Also—Agents for Singer's Sewing Machine. Dec. 4. CALOUN & STARRATT, (Successor to D. H. Hall.) Manufacturers, Importers and dealers in Boots, Shoes and Rubbers. Also, Hats, Caps, and Parasols. Wholesale and Retail. 41 King Street, St. John, N. B. Boots, Shoes, Hats, and Caps made to order at short notice. Dec. 4. John Mullin's Boot and Shoe Factory, 18 S. SIDE OF KING STREET, ST. JOHN, N. B. Wholesale and Retail. Constantly on hand Men's, Boys' and Youth's Wellington Boots. Also—made and repaired. Complete Stock of Boots, Shoes, Hats, and Caps, constantly on hand at 18 King Street, St. John, N. B. M. FRANCIS, BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURER, No. 48 Prince William Street. Dec. 4. J. CHALONER, Corner King and Germain Streets, Dealer in Drugs, Medicines, Brushes, Artists' Materials, Dye Stuffs. Proprietor of Tonic Extract, Store Varnish, Ammonia, and Rosemary Liniment, Furniture Polish, Eye Ointment, Compound Symp of Benedict, &c. Prescriptions faithfully prepared. Leeches on hand. Dec. 4. THOMAS M. REED, Apothecary and Druggist, Corner of North Market Wharf and Dock Street, Saint John, N. B. Dec. 4. WILLIAM O. SMITH, Druggist, Market Square, St. John, N. B. Prescriptions carefully prepared. Sea and Family Medicines. Also, constantly on hand a large assortment of Surgical Instruments, Painful Oils, and Colours. Country orders promptly and carefully executed. Dec. 4. J. F. SECORD, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN Drugs, Medicines, Perfumery, Paints, Oils, Dye Stuffs, Patent Medicines, &c. APOTHECARIES' HALL, No. 25 KING'S SQUARE, SAINT JOHN, N. B. T. B. BARKER, Importer and Wholesale Dealer in Drugs, Medicines and Chemicals, GLASSWARE, PAINTS, OILS, DYE STUFFS, Brushes, Soaps, Perfumery, &c. Saint John, N. B. Dec. 4. BOWEN & COX, Photographers, 16 King Street, St. John, N. B. Dec. 4. DURLAND'S AMBROTYPE AND PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY, Dec. 4. Foster's Corner, King St., Saint John, N. B. C. FLOODS, Photograph and Ambrotype Rooms, No. 45 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B. Photographs in every style and variety. Glass Pictures executed and copied in the highest style of the art. December 4. BALDWIN'S EXPRESS, Running on the E. and N. Railway, Carrying Her Majesty's Mails from Saint John to Shodice, Connecting at Saint John with Expresses to the United States, Canada and Fredericton, and at Shodice with Expresses and Stages for Robbinston, Miramichi, and Prince Edward Island. Goods sold and Notes, Drafts and Bills collected. Office in Saint John—92 Prince William Street. Dec. 4. B. W. BALDWIN. TURNER'S AMERICAN EXPRESS, 96 PRINCE WILLIAM STREET, ST. JOHN, N. B. Dec. 4. D. W. Turner, Proprietor.