A SERMON,

DELIVERED

BEFORE THE MEMBERS

OF THE

FEMALE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,

IN

MONTREAL,

SEPTEMBER 8, 1816.

BY ROBERT EASTON,

MINISTER OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ST. PETER STREET

MONTREAL:
PRINTED BY NAHUM MOWER,
1816.

REV. ROBERT EASTON,

REV. SIR,

AT a special meeting of the BOARD of MANAGERS of the FEMALE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY this day, it was unanimously voted to present the cordial thanks of the Society, to you Sir, for your excellent and appropriate Sermon, preached before the Members of that Institution, and to request a copy for the press.

By order,

H. W. BARRETT,

Secretary.

MONTREAL, SEPTEMBER 16th, 1816.

MRS. H. W. BARRETT, *SECRETARY*,

MADAM,

WHATEVER are the real merits of the discourse delivered before the Members of the FEMALE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, I am happy at least to find that the MANAGERS of the Institution are satisfied with my feeble efforts to promote one of the best of causes. Before I received their friendly request, I had consented to the printing of the Sermon, but upon a principle which will leave the proceeds of the sale at the disposal of the Society, according to the intention of the publishers, which is highly honourable to them.

I am, Madam,

with respect yours, &c.

R. EASTON.

MONTREAL, SEPTEMBER 16th, 1816.

SERMON.

LUKE, x. 29—37.

But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour?

And Jesus answering said, A certain man *went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded* him, *and departed, leaving* him *half dead.*

And by chance there came down a certain priest that way; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, *and passed by on the other side.*

But a certain Samaritan, as he journied, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,

And went to him, *and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.*

And on the morrow, when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them *to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him: and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again I will repay thee.*

Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?

And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

COMPASSION is one of our natural endowments. The multiform trials and afflictions of this life produce frequent calls for the exercise of it. The christian religion, by exhorting us to *bear one* *another's burdens, to weep with them who weep,* exalts this natural instinct into an evangelical virtue, and recommends it to our culture.

Whatever, then, tends to contract or enervate the sympathetic feelings of our nature, may be justly suspected of seducing us from the path of our duty; if it be religion, we may be sure that such a religion is not from God. If we become hard-hearted to our own flesh from particular views of honor and interest, we may be no less certain that our ideas of honor and interest are most erroneous. If our sympathy be confined to our kindred, favourites, or fellow subjects in its very utmost extent; if all beyond these limits be cold insensibility, or slender emotion: where is the proof that we still possess the unadulterated sentiments of nature, or act on the generous maxims of true religion?

Thou shalt love thy Neighbour as thyself, is the second commandment in the law. Do you ask, as did the lawyer spoken of in the text, *Who is my neighbour?* From the reply of the illustrious teacher of the world, we learn that every man is thus nearly related to us, that whoever wears the human form challenges our respect, and, being found in a state of wretchedness, is entitled to relief.

VI. It shall be the duty of the President, or in his absence, of the Vice President, to sign all Bonds, Deeds, Debentures or Contracts, entered into on behalf of the Company, to sign the Certificates of Stock, and generally to superintend the affairs of the Company in every respect, and exercise the powers of whatsoever nature, which may be required to carry out the objects of the Corporation. Duties of the President, &c.

VII. It shall be competent for the Directors to call in such Instalments, from time to time, as circumstances may require; no call at any time to exceed five shillings currency per share, of which sixty days notice must be given in the Canada Gazette, and in one or more of the newspapers published in this City, as well as by letter through the Post Office, in the usual way, addressed to each Shareholder. Instalments may be called in. Limit of such calls.

VIII. It shall be competent for the Directors to withhold the issuing of any Certificates of Stock to Shareholders at present indebted, or who may hereafter be indebted to this Company, by Book debt, Note, or obligations of any kind, till the same be paid and discharged, with all interest accruing thereon, from such period as the debt or debts become due: and moreover, it shall be competent for the Directors to forfeit, after the expiration of thirty days from the period at which any call shall become due, the Stock of such parties who may fail in the payment thereof, without any other form than an official notification, under the seal of the Company, to the party, through the Post Office, in the usual way, or by leaving it at his, her or their abode, that such forfeiture has taken place, and the Stock so forfeited Powers of Directors. Shares may be forfeited.

shall become the absolute property of the Company, and may be disposed of in such manner as the Directors shall deem most advantageous for the Company.

Certificates of Stock, how signed.

IX. The Certificate of Stock shall exhibit the holder's name, the number of shares, and the amount of Instalments paid thereon. It shall also have the seal of the Company affixed thereto, and be signed by the President or Vice President, and countersigned by the Secretary and Treasurer.

Forms of transfer, how executed.

X. The form of transfer shall be such as is provided for by the Act of Incorporation, Schedule B., to be executed in duplicate, and to be attested by two witnesses; one copy of which transfer shall be deposited of record in the Office of the Company, and enregistered by the Registry Clerk or Officer appointed to that duty, and the other shall be duly certified and returned to the purchaser, so that possession of the Certificate and of the certified duplicate of transfer may constitute the evidence of ownership.

Charge for enregistration.

XI. There shall be a charge of five shillings for the enregistration of each transfer of Stock in the Company's Books, the same to be paid by the purchaser in all cases, at the time of enregistration.

Proxies to produce and deposit original authority.

XII. In all cases before a Shareholder may vote by proxy, or when any transfer is made, or dividend received, or other act done by Attorney, such proxy, who must be a Shareholder, shall be held to produce and deposit with the Secretary, his original authority or Letter of Attorney, that the same may be fyled in the Office of the Company.

XIII. Dividends accruing to the Company shall be declared at the General Annual Meeting of the Shareholders, on the third Friday of February, and no transfer of Stock shall be registered for ten days previous. Dividends to be declared.

XIV. It shall be competent for the Directors to appoint such Officers, Engineers, Clerks and subordinate Agents as they may deem necessary, for the satisfactorily managing and conducting the affairs of the Company, and pay them such fair and reasonable salaries as may be deemed advisable. The Directors may establish Agencies at any of the places named in the Act, which they may consider of advantage to the Company, and it shall be their duty generally, to co-operate with, and assist the President and Vice President in the general management of the affairs of the Company. Directors may appoint Officers, &c.

XV. The duties attached to the office of the Secretary and Treasurer, shall be, that he keep proper Books of Accounts, as well as a Register of the Shareholders, and a Minute Book, all of which shall be at all times open to the inspection of the Directors; that all cash receipts are to be deposited in the name of the Company, in one of the Chartered Banks of the City, and that all the payments to be made will be by cheque, to be signed by the President or Vice President, or in their absence by two of the Directors, and countersigned by himself; that the receipts for the payments of all monies to the Company shall be signed by him, and that the seal of the Corporation shall be affixed by him, under the authority of the Directors, to all documents requiring the same, in accordance with the provisions of the Duties of Secretary and Treasurer.

Act of Incorporation and Bye-Laws, that he shall conduct the correspondence, and be prepared to furnish full and clear statements of the affairs of the Company at their Weekly Meetings, and general statements at their Annual Meetings, and he shall also execute a Bond with one or more securities to the said Company, in such sum or sums as the Directors may require.

Common Seal.

XVI. The Company shall have a Common Seal for the general purposes of the Company, to remain in the Office of the said Company.