

TO THE READER.

AND now to conclude, we must all one day stand before the son of man, and should the following questions be put, how shall we answer? Wert thou a poor man? then the command, link'd with a promise, is, "Sack ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all things temporal shall be added unto you." Have you the pledge? alas! alas! what shall I do? Next, were thou a servant? care not for that, (saith Paul,) Joseph and Nehemiah were servants, and all are servants, either under the Prince of light, or the Prince of darkness; and whosoever they have served with him shall they reign, &c. O! woe-is-me. Next a Mechanic, have you the pledge? no, it took all my time to please my customers. Stand thou on the left hand. But I have been an honest Farmer, says one. Then where is your fruits of righteousness? O! I have added house to house, and field to field, and when you called I was just thinking of throwing down my barns to build greater. Stand thou on the left hand. I have been a Merchant; well, did you seek my merchandise which was better than gold? and my revenue, which was better than choice silver? O! no! I have been casting up accounts seven days in the week, and consulting new projects. But did I not tell you that it would profit you nothing if you should gain the whole world, and lose your own soul? So stand thou off. I have been a gownsmen, a lawyer, did you study my laws? David and Ezra delighted in them. "O! surely I am more brutish than any man, and I have not the understanding of a man; I neither learned wisdom, nor have the knowledge of the holy."—(Pro. xxx.) I could not afford to keep a conscience, &c. Well "woe unto you lawyers." I was a Squire, a Judge of Justice, or God of the earth. Then whether did you prefer your oath or your interest? "Did you give alike judgment to the stranger as to the man born in the land?"—read the 82d Psalm, and then stand off, and blush for shame. I have been a Gentleman; many bear the name, but few the nature. Hast thou been gentle, humble, and easy to be entreated? and like Job, didst thou hear the cause of thy servant when he contended with thee? Oh! no! then thou hast been proud, and to all such I say, *longe fuge*, stand far off.—(Psalm cxxxviii, 6.) Next I have been a Gospel Minister; O! indeed; have you the white stone? no; ah! then who made you a Minister? have ye not read that none taketh that honour to himself, but he that is called of God, &c. Also, you have sworn at your ordination that you were moved by My HOLY SPIRIT to take that office upon you, and now it appears that you were foresworn; what is that in your skirts? the blood of my children whom you have deceived. O! depart ye cursed, I never knew, nor approved of you, depart from me, ye that work iniquity.—(Mat. vii, 23.) I have been Governor; well, hast thou sought for a wise and understanding heart to rule and govern my people? Silence: or hast thou sent forth a man to inspect and direct my children, who disregard to honour the Sabbath of the Lord thy God, which he commandeth to be kept holy. Then woe be unto the land when thy King is a child.—(Ecc. x, 16.)

N. B.—That each subject and note here, is but an outline of what I have already written on them, I have therefore been obliged to abridge the manuscript, which has considerably marred the harmony of the work, and which claims some grains of allowance; there are also, some few typographical errors but of non-importance. But if the public appreciate the abolition of bigotry, and the adhesion to true principles, disengaging sect or party, let them patronise their humble servant, in the publishing an enlarged edition of this work, including 18 or 20 more subjects of similar importance, which shall be got up in better order, having larger type and better paper; consisting of 300 or 400 pages, octavo, Price 7s. 6d. In the present he laboured under great disadvantages, the greater part of which being written while in a travelling capacity, having no books to consult, save the small Bible; so that I may say with Tom Green—

"By God's assistance, has the work been wrought,
By his direction, to your dwelling brought."

Wm. FOLYARD.

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