

thrifless woman becomes his wife—a young family comes on—difficulties increase—a small stipend, hardly sufficient to obtain necessaries, is all they have to depend upon—the spirit of the husband and the pastor is broken, and he wears out his life in moving from church to church, without being useful anywhere.

He has little leisure and less disposition, surrounded as he has been with pecuniary embarrassments and domestic perplexities, to improve his mind and add to his stock of knowledge. What is the preventive of all this? Celibacy? By no means; but great care, deliberation, caution, and patience in the selection of a wife, united with much and earnest prayer to be guided aright.

LIVE FOR SOMETHING.

Thousands of men breathe, move, and live, pass off the stage of life, and are heard of no more. Why? None were blessed by them; none could point to them as the means of their redemption; not a line they wrote, not a word they spoke could be recalled, and so they perished; their light went out in darkness, and they were not remembered more than the insects of yesterday. Will you thus live and die? O man immortal, live for something! Do good, and leave behind you a monument of virtue that the storm of time can never destroy.—Write your name by kindness, love, and mercy on the hearts of thousands you come in contact with year by year, and you will never be forgotten. No, your name, your deeds, will be as legible on the hearts you leave behind, as the stars on the brow of evening. Good deeds will shine as bright on the earth as the stars of heaven.—*Dr. Chalmers.*

THE GIFT OF GIVING.

The *Evangelical Christendon* has an article on this subject, from which we take the following extract:

God loveth a cheerful giver. It is His own way. Most blessed, He is withal most bountiful; and His greatest works He has constructed so that they may be more or less the image of His own beneficence.

The sun is the great joy, because he is the great giver. He is not only wealthy, but liberal. It is not for his magnitude, nor for the mighty grasp in which he holds the silent spheres that the sentient creation pays him homage; but it is because he gives himself away in light, and warmth, and energy, that his name has become the synonym for gladness. And earth—old "Mother Earth;"—we love because she has been to us so beautiful ever since we first lay on her bosom; she has been surprising us with so many sights of wonder, and has

supplied our wants so ceaselessly; and in the nightly dew or sunny shower the atmosphere passes on the largess, and comes down a libation on the thirsty land. Every good thing is a giver. The land does not lock up the bounty of the sea and sky; but, having freely received, it freely gives. It gives us flowers. It gives grass to the cattle, and daisies to the children. To the South Sea Islander it gives the banana as at once tent and store house; it gives to the olive its fatness, to the vine its flasks of nectar. All the good creatures are givers. The birds give us music, the field and forest give us balm. The rose gives us fragrance, the fountain gives us living water.

A GENTLEMAN IN FINLAND.

A gentleman, well known for his learning, related the following fact concerning himself:—"In my youth I was led into infidelity by a friend in whom I had the greatest confidence, and so continued until last spring. In the preceding autumn, however, a parcel had been sent to me, containing various religious tracts, which I put aside at once, without so much as opening it; but in the spring of the last year, while in a low and sorrowing state of mind, I happened to look in the place where the parcel lay. I took it out, broke the seal, and turned over the tracts one by one, and felt inclined to select those that were narratives. Among these 'Poor Joseph' and 'The Young Cottager' came first to hand. I read both, and they made an impression on my mind that shook the very foundation of my whole false system; while a conviction arose in my soul, that the true and simple way to salvation was pointed out in the tracts. From that moment I read them all with delight, and did not fail to show to my learned friends, at every proper opportunity, the folly of their religious system, contrived by the false wisdom of man, and that a religion which does not begin in the heart, nor work a change of heart, and in the whole of our moral conduct, can be no religion from God: and when at times all my reasoning with them did neither take effect nor convince them, I broke off, and left them with this memento from the Bible, 'I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.'"

Religious gossiping is a deceitful thing, and deceives many. How many professors of religion will utter twenty flippant remarks, pro or con, upon a preacher, while scarcely one will lay his remarks to heart.—*Legh Richmond.*