

Words of the Wise.

OPEN your mouth and purse cautiously.—Zimmerman. THERE cannot be a greater treachery than first to raise a confidence, and then deceive it.—Spectator. I ACCOUNT the Scriptures of God to be the most sublime philosophy.—Sir Isaac Newton.

FROM indolence, despondency and indiscretion, may I specially be preserved.—John Quincy Adams.

HE who spends all his life in sport is like one who wears nothing but fringes and eats nothing but sauces.

THE cheerful are usually the busy. When trouble knocks at your door, or rings the bell, he will generally retire if you send him word that you are "engaged."

OUR striving against Nature is like holding a weathercock with one's hand; as soon as the force is taken off it veers again with the wind.—Thomas Adam.

"KNOWLEDGE is power." It is a truth that is glorious, but at the same time terrible. Knowledge is power, power for good and evil.—F. W. Robertson.

THE greatest evils in life have had their rise from somewhat which was thought of too little importance to be attended to.—Bishop Butler.

I VERY often think with swiftness, and longings and pantings of soul, of being a little child, taking hold of Christ, to be led by Him through the wilderness of this world.—Jonathan Edwards.

CONFIDENCE and fear are almost one thing rather than two, when we speak of God. He that fears most trusts most. He that trusts most fears most. To none is death so little of a change as to those whose life has been one long confidence in God.—F. W. Faber.

"IN all their afflictions He was afflicted, and the angel of His presence saved them" (Isa. lxxiii. 9). It is between Christ and His church as between two lute strings—no sooner one is struck, but the other trembles.—Thomas Brooks.

HE who climbs above the cares of the world and turns his face to his God, has found the sunny side of life. The world's side of the hill is chill and freezing to a spiritual mind, but the Lord's presence gives a warmth of joy which turns winter into summer.

PRACTICAL Christianity is no sanctuary sensation, no Sabbath-day service. It is the conscientious discharge of all duty, with a desire therein to honour Jehovah. It makes the whole world a temple and the whole life a priesthood, "eating and drinking, and doing all things to the glory of God."

THE most agreeable of all companions is a simple, frank man, without any high pretensions to an oppressive greatness; one who loves life and understands the use of it; obliging alike, at all hours, above all, of a golden temper, and steadfast as an anchor. For such an one we gladly exchange the greatest genius, the most brilliant wit, the profoundest thinker.—Lessing.

THE Church must put off her look of selfishness. She must first deeply feel and then frankly say that she exists only as the picture of what the world ought to be. Not as the ark, where a choice few may take refuge from the flood, but as the promise and potency of the new heavens and the new earth, she must offer herself to men.—Phillips Brooks.

"I HAVE been a member of your church for thirty years," said an elderly Christian to his pastor, "and when I was laid by with sickness for a week or two, only one or two came to visit me. I was shamefully neglected." "My friend," said the pastor, "in all those thirty years how many sick have you visited?" "Oh," he replied, "it never struck me in that light. I thought only of the relation of others to me, and not of my relations to them."—Christian Register.

THE Established Church of Scotland does not flourish in the Highlands, if the returns from many of the parishes may be trusted. In one parish in Inverness-shire, with a population of 1,005, the number of communicants is eight. In a certain Presbytery, out of a total population of 10,403, there are only 236 members of the State Church. In the parish of Croick there are six communicants, in that of Knock four, in that of Eddrachillis five. In the parish of Lochcarron the minister has an income of \$300 a year for each member of his church, and his entire income is \$600. A parish in Skye has a population of 1,068, and furnishes three members of the State Church.

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