

Again, the globe on which we reside is whirling round its axis every twenty-four hours, and is carried round the sun with a still greater velocity. Should that Almighty arm which first impelled it in its career, cause these motions suddenly to stop, mountains would be tumbled into the sea, forests torn up by their roots, cities overthrown and demolished, all nature would be thrown into confusion, and terror and destruction would overwhelm the inhabitants of the world. Not only the stopping of the earth's motions, but even a new direction given to its axis of rotation, would be productive of the most fatal effects.

The earth's axis at present is directed to certain points of the heavens, from which it never deviates, but in a very small degree; but were the hand of Omnipotence to bend it so as to make it point in a different direction, the ocean would abandon its present bed, and overflow the land; and a second universal deluge would overwhelm all the monuments of human grandeur, and sweep the earth's inhabitants into a watery grave.

Not only the elements which immediately surround us, but celestial bodies which are now invisible and removed to the distance of a thousand million of miles, might be employed as ministers of vengeance. There are, at least, a hundred comets connected with the solar system, which are moving in all directions, and crossing the orbits of the earth and the other planets. Were the orbit of one of these bodies, in its approach to the sun, to be bent in a direction to that of the earth, the most alarming phenomena would be exhibited in the heavens. A ruddy globe, larger in appearance than the moon, would first announce terror to the inhabitants of the earth; every day this terrific object would increase in size, till it appeared to fill the celestial hemisphere with its tremendous disk; the light of the sun would be eclipsed; the stars would disappear; the ocean would be thrown into violent agitation, and toss its billows to the clouds; the earth would reel to and fro, like a drunkard; and universal alarm and confusion would seize upon the tribes of the living world. At length this tremendous orb would approach with accelerated velocity, and striking the earth with a crash, as if heaven and earth had burst asunder, would shiver the globe into fragments, and for ever exterminate the race of man.

Any one of these effects or all of them combined, are within the compass of Omnipotence; and not only so, but they might all be accomplished with terrific energy in the course of a few moments. If puny man, by his mechanical dexterity, can suddenly stop a stupendous machine which he has put in motion; if he can impel red hot balls at the rate of 500 miles an hour; if he can extract oxygen from a small portion of the atmosphere, and cause it to set on fire the hardest of metallic substances; we cannot doubt for a moment, that with infinitely greater ease, the Almighty could stop the earth in its career, separate the component parts of the atmosphere, set on fire the foundations of the mountains, or impel the blazing comet towards the earth to crush it to atoms.

That God has been a constant spectator of the wickedness of man for upwards of four thousand years; that he has, during all that period, wielded so many terrific ministers of vengeance; and that he has hitherto refrained from executing deserved punishment on the workers of iniquity, is therefore a striking evidence that his mercy is infinite, and that he is "long-suffering and slow to anger, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."—*Dick's Philosophy of Religion.*

TRIALS.—Pure metals shine the brighter the harder they are rubbed. The Lord alone can prepare our hearts to receive the splendour of light, whereby we are enabled to shine forth to his glory. If sharp trials are necessary for the accomplishment of this glorious end, what a mercy from God when he sends them!

CORRESPONDENCE.

"THE DAIRYMAN'S DAUGHTER."

To the Editor of the Wesleyan.

DEAR SIR,—It was with no small degree of surprise that I read over the extract from the Wesleyan Magazine, contained in your last numbers, relative to that pious female, whose dying circumstances are so strikingly displayed in that justly celebrated tract, "The Dairyman's Daughter." The facts there disclosed were entirely new to me—as I always thought that her conversion was effected through the instrumentality of, and her Christian life passed in communion with, one of the other sections of the Christian Church. But I am satisfied by the evidence produced that she was indebted under God, to the Methodists, for her conversion from sin to holiness—and I must say that I felt considerably rejoiced on that account—not I trust through a feeling of party spirit, that on account of the scarcity of such memoirs, we should be glad to get hold of this, to add to our little stock. No, blessed be God, thousands of stars, as brilliant, have arisen, and shone with bright lustre, and at last have set in glory—in the hemisphere of Methodism. But I hail it because I think this explanation is calculated to put down prejudice. 'Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?' was the inquiry of a good, but prejudiced Jew, 1800 years ago; and the spirit of the inquiry has been manifested many times since that period. It was with difficulty that the Jews could believe the Gentiles to be in possession of the same privileges as they had, of being fellow-heirs to all the blessings of the Gospel—and when Jehovah, in his abundant mercy, raised up those men, who, in the power of his might, began the glorious work of purifying the church from the awful superstition into which it had fallen, many who doubtless were sincere before God, viewed the design with horror and amazement; and exclaimed, what good can possibly result from this dreadful schism?—and when our own Wesleys, and their coadjutors, began under God the work which has so astonishingly spread, and prevails in despite of the opposition it had to encounter,—how few there are that believed it to be the work of God, besides those that felt its powers. As it was in the beginning so it was then; the sect was every where spoken against; of little avail was it then to publish the lives of those, who were converted to God by their instrumentality, except for the use of their own body. But now mark the providence of God, and adore his wisdom in accomplishing his gracious design. A young woman, gay, vain, and thoughtless, is persuaded to go and hear a stranger preach—is convinced of sin,—and presently converted to God—the change is striking, the effects produced of the most convincing nature, that the change is real—she continues steadfast in the grace of God—after a time she is compelled by disease, to return to her paternal home—feeling that she is fast hastening to the Eternal World, she sends for the parish clergyman to help her in her journey to the heaven of glory—this minister of God attends her—becomes highly interested in her—and is fully assured of her having passed from death unto life—he attends her unto the grave, in sure and certain hope of her