

whether I have done so.

I frequently hear persons in old age lay how they would live if they were to give their lives over again. *Resolved*, that I will live just so as I can think, I shall wish I had done supposing I live to old age.

To improve every opportunity when I am in the best and happiest frame of mind—to cast and venture my soul on the Lord Jesus Christ—to trust and confide in Him and consecrate myself wholly to Him; that from this I may have assurance of my safety, knowing that I confide in my Redeemer.

Never to give over nor in the least to slacken my fight with my corruption, however unsuccessful I may be.

On the supposition that there never was to be but one individual in the world, at any one time who was properly a complete Christian in all respects of a right stamp Christianity always shining in its true lustre and appearing excellent and lovely from whatever parts and under whatever character viewed. *Resolved*, to act just as I would do if I strove with all my might to be that one, who should live in my time.

After afflictions to enquire what I am the better for them—what good I have got by them—and what I might have got by them?

To confess frankly to myself, all that which I find in myself either infirmity or sin; and if it be what concern religion, also to confess the whole case to God and implore needed help.

Let there be something of benevolence in all that I speak.

E. C. M.

Nothing imposes so much on people of weak understanding as what they do not comprehend.

MISREPRESENTATIONS OF CALVINISM BRIEFLY CORRECTED.

MISCONCEPTIONS of Calvinism have been formed and propagated throughout considerable portions of our country, to the injury of brotherly charity, by men who, from ignorance or prejudice, or both, have set themselves in opposition to a system of Bible truth, which they never carefully and candidly examined

or really understood; and who, in their exhibitions of its character, have imputed to it tenets at once unscriptural and irrational, and then called on the world to believe that this spectre of their own creation was veritably Calvinism, and worthy of universal condemnation and abhorrence. It is believed by the writer, from what he occasionally hears, that these misconceptions, once formed and set afloat on the popular mind, have drifted about our country, and here and there found shallows where they have stopped, and taken root, to the gratification of some people, the annoyance of others, and the injury of all; for that which is not true, when received as truth, profits none, and injures all, who are in any way affected by it.

The following misstatements and their contradiction, are offered to the consideration of the candid, who have been led to think evil of the system of faith held by their Christian brethren, from hearing it so frequently traduced.

MISREPRESENTATION 1.

“Calvinists hold that all beings and events are bound fast in fate, so that everything is, or takes place, by an eternal necessity, which grasps the inevitable end, irrespective of means, of voluntary agency.”

CORRECTION

Calvinists, in accordance with Scripture, believe and maintain, that God, not fatally, but freely, created all things by the word of His power, upholds them, governs them, and “works all things according to the counsel of his own will.”

MISREPRESENTATION 2.

“Calvinists hold that God is the author of sin.”

Calvinists reject this opinion as blasphemous, and maintain that God is “holy in all his works,” and that neither “can He be tempted with evil, nor tempteth any man.”

MISREPRESENTATION 3.

“Calvinists hold, that man is not a free agent.”

CORRECTION.

On the contrary, Calvinists maintain that “no violence is offered to the will of the creature; nor has God taken away