

the world, proves a fatal hindrance to many, in seeking an inheritance in the heavens. Where the King of Glory makes his most sumptuous entertainment, and sends forth his servants to give the most liberal invitations, what classes of persons are they, who, "with one consent, begin to make excuse?" The persons who are immersed in the overzealous prosecution of lawful occupations. Temptations from this source, are powerful in our own land; and notwithstanding incessant warning from the pulpit, and from the press, they prove ruinous to tens of thousands. In your country, we greatly fear, the danger is heightened, rather than diminished. The distractions arising from worldly avocations are, at least, as numerous; while the counteracting influences which our people enjoy in their religious ordinances, are to many of you, wholly inaccessible. Are not some of you already conscious of having suffered much harm and loss from this cause? You have felt the deadening effect of many years' exile from the house of God—of the want of such preaching as is suited for your edification, or your conscience can approve. The freshness and fervour of religious affection, experienced in former years, seem to be irrecoverably gone. The "godly sorrow which worketh repentance," and the "joy that passeth all understanding," are alike unknown. May not some one be ready to cry out, "O that it were with me as in months past, when the candle of the Lord shone upon my tabernacle." But if such be the effects produced on the minds of those, who, for many years, perhaps, were favoured with the best religious advantages, until a store of scriptural knowledge was laid up, and their characters in some degree formed; how much more injurious must such destitution be to the young, who are utter strangers to those advantages! Many of you, probably, in deciding on the momentous question of emigration, were mainly influenced by the desire of making a more adequate provision for your children, than you expected to do in the old country. But if your solicitude for their temporal prosperity, has placed them out of reach of the means of grace, and exposed them to the deadening, stupifying influence of worldly pursuits, in combination with the still more powerful seductions of corrupt and irreligious society, how little thanks do they owe you for your parental kindness! And should the natural and usual consequence follow, that they spend their life at a distance from God, and perhaps become contaminated with the fashionable vices that are practised around them, and finally, be hardened in unbelief and impenitence, how can you think to meet them at the judgment-seat of Christ?

We beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of the Lord, to watch against the perils of your present situation. The world is an insidious and dangerous foe. "Ye cannot serve two masters." "They that will be rich, fall into temptation, and a snare, and many foolish and hurtful lusts." If you would not, therefore, imitate the profane Esau, who sold his birth-right for a morsel of bread—if you would not prosecute your secular avocations under the frown of the Almighty—if you would not have your table turned into a trap and a snare for your souls, do not suffer the things of time to gain the supremacy in your bosoms. "Take heed, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting and drunkenness, and the cares of this life." If the pub-

lic mea
you see
bath do
health
depend
cannot
services
own ho
the day
Be more
tect yo

Then
an imp
themsel
destiny
impious
God do
apathy
he has
his pub
commat
desert
is just
ly belie
ride in
the land
tracted
to his p
therefor
shall co
to affirm
past dis
event s
ably con
that sha

You
do for
any me
to go in
but we
consider

1. Th
sibly ap
you sho
lative v
If this
tremely
of relig
be emp

2. W
in your