

commensurate with the privileges I have enjoyed. May God have mercy on an unprofitable servant, and help me to commence anew from this very hour!

"*October 19th.*—More than a week ago, by preaching in an open school house, I caught a severe cold, which settled in my bones and lungs, and occasioned me a good deal of distress. I have also failed to fulfill some of my appointments, which I deeply regret. But through all I have felt an unshaken confidence in God, a complete resignation to his will, and an assurance of his favour. Still, to the present, I have to regret that I am too slothful, volatile, and unprofitable. May God in his mercy deepen his work in my heart! During the period above alluded to, I have employed some of my time in reading the first volume of Knapp and Baldwin's 'New-gate Calendar,' a book not without a certain kind of interest, and instructive as well. Surely vice is hardening, and capable of various degrees. But 'the way of transgressors is hard.' What a mercy that I was brought to a knowledge of God when young. From how many snares has it saved me! To God be the praise!

"*November 4th, 7 o'clock, p.m.*—This has been a fast day, preceding our quarterly meeting, which is to commence to-morrow. I have fasted and prayed, but I regret that my *mind* is so earthly, and consequently my *conversation*. I want more desire and faith for our approaching meeting. Since I wrote last, I have read, among other things, 'An Historical Geography of the New Testament, by C. Wells, D.D.' It is a kind of work, that I have long felt the need of, and wished to obtain. The names of those places mentioned in Scripture are now, generally speaking, so different from what they formerly were, that it is impossible to gain from *modern* geography an intelligible idea of the relative situation of the places mentioned in the Bible. The work alluded to has explained to me a number of difficult passages of scripture, and it is very interesting to study it more maturely.

"*November 12th.*—I here insert a review of some things I have read since I wrote last:—I have lately fallen in with Pope's 'Essay on Man,' 'Universal Prayer,' 'Messiah,' and 'An Elegy on an Unfortunate Lady.' His style or versification in all is exceedingly smooth and captivating. But it is somewhat difficult to tell what his design is or his sentiments are in the 'Essay.' He says many fine things and tells many truths; but I think if he had entertained a clearer idea of the doctrine of the Fall, and of the economy of Redemption, he would have been better prepared to

'Vindicate the ways of God to man.'

For he seems to think that man is in the same state in which he was formed; that he exactly fills his place, or otherwise, that

'Man's as perfect as he ought.'