

faith, not by sight.' And if we thus walk, knowing that all our 'steps are ordered of the Lord,' we shall 'in *every thing* give thanks,' and therefore in disappointments."

The children spent the day with their uncle, and spent it so pleasantly that they forgot the disappointment of the morning. They looked at his curiosities, and listened to his stories, and it was time for them to go home almost before they were aware. The weather had then cleared up, and the evening sun shone very beautifully; and some of the clouds which seemed to rest on the western horizon, presented a rich and glorious spectacle. The children quite enjoyed their homeward walk. "Look, uncle," they said, "how green the grass is, and the bushes and trees smell so sweetly!" "Yes," said uncle Sam, "the rain that disappointed you has done all this. Yesterday the grass was dry and brown, the trees looked as if they were withering, and the very ground was thirsty. There is no telling how much good has been caused by the heavy shower that kept you indoors this morning. The disappointment has passed away, and to the rain that occasioned it you are indebted for all the additional pleasure which you now enjoy. What say you, my children?" "O, uncle Sam," was the ready reply, "in future we will endeavour not only to be patient in disappointments, but thankful for them."

And if our good friends like to hear more of these conversations between uncle Sam and his young nephews and nieces, we doubt not that he will very willingly gratify them.

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## SUBJECTS FOR REFLECTION FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT MANY BOOKS.

If little impulses set the great wheels of devotion at work, the largeness and height of that shall not at all be prejudiced by the smallness of its occasion. If the fire burns bright and vigorously, it is no matter by what means it was at first kindled: there is the same force, and the same refreshing virtue in it, kindled by a spark from the flint, as if it were kindled by a beam from the sun.

It was part of Abraham's sacrifice, not only what he should offer, but where. When we serve God in his own house, his service leads all other secular affairs in triumph after it. They are all made to stoop and bend the knee to prayer, as that does to the throne of grace.

That eminent hero in religion, Daniel, when, in the land of his captivity, he used to pay his daily devotions to God, not being able to go to the temple, would at least look towards it; advance to it in wish and desire; and so, in a manner, bring the temple to his prayers, when he could not bring his prayers to that.

If we allow God to be the Governor of the world, we cannot but grant that he orders and disposes of all inferior events; and if we allow him to be a wise and a rational Governor, he cannot but direct them to a certain end.