

last day? They must—unless washed away by the blood of Christ.

Think, how many tokens of mercy and love God has bestowed on you during the year: health of body and of mind; food and clothing; books and papers to read; the means of grace; outward peace; safety of life and property; congenial intercourse with friends; countless opportunities of doing good. What have you done to prove your gratitude?

Think how much good have you done. Whose tears have you wiped away? What burdens have you lightened—what wounds have you healed? Is the world the better and happier to day for your having been spared?—or would it be better—would any one be happier had you been cut down last year?

Think how many souls have you helped to draw near to the Saviour. Your own children, your wife, your parents, neighbours, friends—how have you acted in relation to them? Responsibility presses on you on every side. Have you been alive to the fact, and have you governed your conduct accordingly? Every one must either be drawing, leading, souls to Christ, or else repelling, dragging, them away. What have you been doing!

What have you done for the Church of Christ? The chief end of your being here is to help forward the cause of Christ. Is the Church stronger, more peaceful, more efficient, more dangerous to the Kingdom of Satan, for your existence during the past year? How much have you paid towards the support and extension of the Gospel? How much for the sermons you have heard, and how much to spread the sweet savour of Immanuel's name in lands where it has not hitherto been known?

Think how much stronger is the Denomination to which you belong. Have you aided our Home Missions, our Foreign Missions, our Educational Institutions, our poor Ministers? Have you assisted the erection of new places of worship? Have you aided to the extent of your ability in every good work? There are persons (and their number is but too large) who spend more in *smoke*, and in *drink* during the year

than they give to the cause of Christ. Reader, cast up the account and see how stands the matter with you?

What should you do to make the present year better and more profitable to yourself, to the Church and to the world than the last year has been? This is the time to form good resolutions, to work in the vineyard; for we know not to how many of us the present year must prove the last on earth.

Think how would it be with you if this were to be your last year. It *may* be so: nay it is certain that not a few who read these lines must close their eyes to the light of this world before the end of this year. You may be one of these. Therefore do your duty in every relationship, civil, social, ecclesiastical, as if you were to give your account to God each closing day. Set thy house in order for thou shalt surely die.

What good thing could men say of you had you been called away last year? Of many it can be said "though dead they yet speak." The actions of the just bloom sweetly when the body lies in the grave. Think of your actions—their quality—their number; and let the thought stir you up to greater diligence in well doing; for the night cometh when no man can work.

Think who are they that take an interest in your life and work: your own family and relatives; your friends and neighbours; the Church of Christ; the holy angels; Satan and his angels; God the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost! When you subdue evil passions and lusts there is joy in Heaven; when you are led away captive by Satan there is grim satisfaction in Hell! O that the New Year may find in every one of us a New Heart!

A GOOD WAY TO CIRCULATE THE RECORD.

A number of the *Record* should be in every family connected with our Church. How is this to be attained? In Scotland, in many Free Church and United Presbyterian congregations, the Sessions order a copy for every family, and pay for it by a congregational collection. We are persuaded that this step might be adopted with great ad-