

There is no loss like that of using them; wearing them is the greatest loss of all. But what then shalt thou do with them? Burn them rather than wear them: throw them into the depth of the sea. Or, if thou canst with a clear conscience, sell them, and give the money to them that want; but buy no more at the peril of thy soul. Now be a faithful steward: after providing for those of thine own household things needful for life and godliness, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, relieve the sick, the prisoner, the stranger, with all that thou hast: then shall God clothe thee with glory and honor in the presence of men and angels; and thou shalt "shine as the brightness of the firmament," yea, "as the stars for ever and ever."

The following is the article referred to by our correspondent.—Ed.

#### THOUGHTS UPON DRESS.

Loud complaint has been made concerning a passage taken out of a little tract, entitled, "The Refined Courtier," which is inserted in the last April Magazine, p. 197.\* The passage objected to runs thus: "Let every one, when he appears in public, be decently clothed, according to his age, and the custom of the place where he lives." There is no fault in this. It is exactly right. Accordingly, when I appear in public, I am decently appareled, according to my age and the custom of England; sometimes in a short coat, sometimes in a night gown, sometimes in a gown and cassock. "He that does otherwise, seems to affect singularity." And though a Christian frequently may, yea, must, be singular, yet he never affects singularity, he only takes up his cross so far as conscience requires. Thus far, then, there is nothing which is not capable of a fair construction. "Nor is it sufficient that our garment be made of good cloth," (the author speaks all along of people of rank; particularly those that attend the court,) "but we should constrain ourselves to follow the garb where we reside," suppose at St. James': "Seeing custom is the law and standard of decency, in all things of this nature." It certainly is; and I advise all the king's lords of the bed-chamber, the queen's maids of honor to follow it. All this, therefore, may bear a sound construction; nor does it contradict any thing which I have said or written.

JOHN WESLEY.

\* The Arminian Magazine for 1788.

#### Review.

##### CARVOSSO'S MEMOIRS.

*The Great Efficacy of Simple Faith in the Atonement of Christ, exemplified in a Memoir of Mr. WILLIAM CARVOSSO, of Cornwall, England, sixty years a Class leader in the Wesleyan Methodist Connection. Written by himself, and edited by his son.*

This admirable volume presents the portrait of "an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile," in the personal narrative of a man who, for sixty-four years, witnessed the privileges of the Gospel, and exemplified the virtues and graces of the Christian life, in their rise, progress, and maturity. It contains an unusual number of instances to which the Gospel was made the power of God to the quickening of sinners, dead in trespasses and sins, from dead works to serve the living God, and to the present salvation of penitent seekers, in answer to the prayer of faith. It embodies a large portion of the essential truths of the Bible, forcibly stated, and practically illustrated in the obligations and privileges of Christian practice and experience; and its wonderful communications furnish us with a perspective view of those earlier

periods of Methodism which were characterized by remarkable effusions of the Holy Spirit. We hope that every minister, and local preacher, and leader, and member of the Methodist Church, will give this "exemplification of the great efficacy of simple faith in the atonement of Christ" an attentive perusal; for he has not done so already. Nor will this volume be uninteresting or unimportant to pious members of other Christian denominations. It is another excellent work for the Centenary book of Methodism. We will conclude this notice by selecting two passages—the one instructive and encouraging to parents,—the other the concluding remarks of the editor on the lessons of instruction which this book is calculated to teach.—*Christian Guardian of U. C.*

"It was about this time that the Lord condescended to hear prayer, and convert my two older children. Returning one night from the quarterly meeting love-feast at Redruth, in company with a pious friend, he told me he had the unspeakable happiness the night before to witness the conversion of his young daughter while he held her in his arms, I informed him that I had two children who were getting up to maturity age, but I was grieved to say I had not yet seen any mark of the work of God upon their minds. His reply I shall never forget:—'Brother,' says he, 'has not God promised to pour his Spirit upon thy seed, and his blessing upon thy offspring?' The words went through me in an unaccountable manner; they seemed to take hold on my heart: I felt as if I had not done my duty and resolved to make a new effort in prayer. I had always prayed for my children: but now I grasped the promise with the hand of faith, and retired daily at special seasons to put the Lord to his word. I said nothing of what I felt or did to any one but the Searcher of hearts, with whom I wrestled in an agony of prayer. About a fortnight I had been thus at work with God, when, being at work in the field, I received a message from my wife, informing me that I was wanted within. When I entered the house, my wife told me, 'Grace is above stairs, apparently distressed for something; but nothing can be got from her, but that she must see father.' Judge of my feelings when I found my daughter a weeping penitent at the feet of Jesus. On seeing me, she exclaimed, 'O father, I am afraid I shall go to hell!' The answer of my heart was, 'No, glory be to God, I am not afraid of that now.' She said she had felt the load of sin about a fortnight, and that she now longed to find Christ. I pointed her to the true Physician, and she soon found rest through faith in the atoning blood. My eldest son had hitherto been utterly careless about the things of God, and associated with youths of a similar disposition of mind; but now he became the subject of a manifest change; he cast off his old companions; and one Sunday afternoon, just before I was going to meet my class, he came to me with a sorrowful mind, and expressed his desire to go with me to the class meeting. He did go, and that day cast in his lot with the people of God; and, blessed be his holy name, they continue to this day."

"The work of the Lord prospered more and more in the society; and I now began to feel a particular concern for the salvation of my younger son. I laid hold by faith on the same promise which I had before done, when pleading for my other children, and went to the same place to call upon God in his behalf. One day when I was wrestling with God in mighty prayer for him, these words were applied with power to my mind, 'there shall not a hoof be left behind.' I could pray no more; my prayer was lost in praises; in shouts of joy, and 'glory, glory, glory! The Lord will save all my family!' While I am writing this the silent tears flow down from my eyes. His life was quite moral, I could not reprove him for any outward sin. In his leisure hours his