

sending you this message again to save you from eternal death? But you are suffering for want of food; come with me, and we will see what good things God has yet in store for even you."

Walking on together, in a few minutes they arrived at the house of a humble and sincere minister of the gospel, who was well known to our young friend, and, after requesting that her strange-looking attendant might be supplied with food, she told the minister and his wife the whole of this strange story. Poor Richard was evidently very ill, and, after some conversation with him, the minister offered him a bed in his own house. The next morning he was unable to rise. His constitution was quite broken up, and he died in about three weeks, full of the joyful assurance that he was about to enter into the inheritance of the sons of God. Being told by the minister in whose house he stayed of the singular coincidence that the friend who had been the instrument in God's hands of his final conversion, was also one of the two who had, so many years before, been the means of checking for a time his downward course, his surprise and thankfulness could only find vent in the words, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things."

It is deemed best to say that the two ladies were Mrs. Smalley, of Ribblesdale, Matlock, and Miss Singleton, of Dewsbury, Yorkshire, afterwards resident in Ottawa City, Canada.

### THE LAST DANCE.

During the occupancy of the city of Moscow by the French, a party of officers and soldiers determined to have a military levee, and for this purpose chose the deserted palace of a nobleman. As the sun went down they began to assemble. The gayest and noblest of the army were there, and merriment reigned over the crowd. That night the city was set on fire. At last, the fire communicating to their own building, caused them to prepare for flight, when a foolhardy young officer, named Carnot, waved his jewelled hand above his head, and exclaimed, "One dance more, and defiance to the flames!" All caught the enthusiasm of the moment, and "One dance more, and defiance to the flames!" burst from the lips of all. The dance commenced;

louder and louder grew the music, and faster and faster fell the pattering footsteps of the dancing men and women, when suddenly they heard a cry, "The fire has reached the magazine; fly, fly for your life!" One moment they stood transfixed with terror; they did not know the magazine was there, and ere they recovered from their stupor the vault exploded; the building was shattered to pieces, and the dancers were hurried into eternity. Thus it is now, and will be in the final day. Men will be as careless as these ill-fated revellers; yea, there are thousands and tens of thousands as careless. We speak to them of death, the grave, judgment and eternity. They pause a moment, but soon dash into the world as before. God's hand is laid on them in sickness, but no sooner are they restored than they forget it all, and hurry on. Death enters their homes, and the cry is heard, "Prepare to meet thy God!" But soon, like Carnot, they say, "One dance more, and defiance to the flames!" and hurry on. The Spirit of the living God speaks powerfully home to their hearts, and they shake, tremble, and are amazed! But earth casts its spell around them, and sings to them its songs, and with the cry, "Time enough," "By-and-by," they speed on, stifling the voice, till often, ere days or months have passed, the bolt has sped, the sword has descended, the Judge has come, and the soul is lost for ever.

### OUR LOVEFEAST.

[N.B.—Alexander Mather, one of the mightiest of the early Methodist preachers, wrote, for the *Arminian Magazine* of 1780, "An Account" of his life. In this he made scarcely any mention of his experience of perfect love, and John Wesley requested him to supply the omission. In response he wrote the following.]—Ed.

### ALEXANDER MATHER ON "THE GREAT SALVATION."

I ANSWER—1. With regard to the time and place, it was at Rotherham, in the year 1757, that I enjoyed it in a far larger degree than I ever did before, or do now. And although my situation the next year laid many hindrances in the