

blessed. The record still remains of several persons converted under his instructions. But those were troublesome times; and he that would confess the Saviour must be prepared to suffer for him. Accordingly, though it would seem that Bruley preached chiefly in houses, it was soon known that he was one of the ringleaders of, as they called it, the new heresy. A violent persecution arose; and the magistrates, anxious especially to secure the preacher, shut the city-gates, and made, for three days, a diligent search for him. However, by the care of his brethren, he was let down from the ramparts by night, like the apostle Paul, in a basket. But when he had got safely to the bottom, having escaped, as it seemed, from the devouring jaws of the lion, an officious awkward friend must needs lean over to bid him once more farewell; and by this unnecessary piece of kindness tumbled down upon him a great stone, which broke poor Bruley's leg; and then the sentinel, hearing his groans, came up, and took him. And the precious promises of the Gospel were fulfilled in him: persecuted, he was not forsaken. For while he was being carried back into the city, though tortured with the anguish of his wound, and knowing well the punishment that awaited him, he could not refrain from uttering praises to the Lord, by whose providence he was stayed from flight to serve and glorify him in that place. Bruley remained four months in prison, an ambassador of Christ in bonds; for he ceased not in his confinement to be, as opportunity was afforded, a diligent preacher, teaching and confirming all those who came to him in the word of grace. He wrote also his confession and examination; and certain letters to his friends. At length he was brought forth to the stake. The priests and friars had the fire made small on purpose to increase his torments. But, sustained by the

present power of his Saviour, for whose love he suffered, with constancy and cheerfulness he took his death. This excellent man was martyred in the year 1545.

Few, comparatively, have heard the name of Bruley: yet how much more glorious will be his reward in the day when the Lord shall make up his jewels, than the highest splendours of those whom the world calls great, and noble, and renowned! For the fashion of the world perisheth; but "they that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars for ever and ever."

THE SERVICE OF GOD.

Oh how happy a thing would it be if men could serve God with the same proportion of vigour and willingness of mind, as they served Satan and themselves before! I was never tired in that way; I went on indefatigably towards hell, like a swift dromedary, or an untamed heifer; I pursued those evil desires which had vanity for their object, and misery for their end; no fruit but shame, and no wages but death. But in the service of Christ I have a prize before, an abiding city, an enduring substance, an unfading crown, to fix my highest thoughts upon; I have the promises of Christ to strengthen me, his angels to guard, his Spirit to lead, his word to enlighten me. In one word, I have a soul to save, and a God to honour. And why should I not apply my power to serve him who did reach forth his own power to convert me? A long way I have to go, and I must do it in a span of time; so many temptations to overcome, so many corruptions to shake off, so many promises to believe, so many precepts to obey, so many mysteries to study, so many works to finish, and so little time for all; my weakness on one side, my business on another; mine enemies and my