

death. A member of a family is removed from sight, but he still lives and loves. We may not see him, but we know not but he sees and hovers near us. Even the darkness of the grave need not sever the communion of our thoughts. The sentiment that inspired that most touching ballad of Wordsworth, in which the little child is made to claim for the family that still "We are seven," though two lie sleeping in the grave, is as just, as it is beautifully poetic, and as appropriate to manhood as to childhood. In the view of faith, a family never grows less, nor is its golden chain, though part of it may lie under the shadow, ever broke.—*Spare Moments.*

THE SUCCESSFUL MOTHER.

MOTHERS, here is an example for you to imitate; here is encouragement for you under your trials; here is a mother who had a daughter possessed of the devil, grievously vexed. The case seemed desperate. The trial was of long standing; all her efforts had hitherto been in vain; her discouragements were many and great; she was a Gentile; she came forbidden; when she came, Jesus would not notice her; when she cried, "he answered her not a word;" her perseverance offended the disciples, and they said, "Send her away;" when the Saviour addressed her, his language appeared unkind, as though he had called her a dog; her application appeared to be useless, for he said, "I am only sent to the lost sheep of the house of Israel;" but she would not be discouraged. She had heard that he was kind, and she believed it. She had heard that he never had refused any one who applied to him, and she believed it. She believed that he could help her and no one else. She believed that he would help her and therefore she persevered. And as she believed, so it was: when tried she came forth as gold, and Jesus said unto her, "O woman, great is thy faith; be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour."

MOTHERS, does not this woman's conduct reprove you? Is there no reason to fear that she will rise up in the judgment, and condemn many mothers? many professing mothers? Will she condemn you? You have children dear to you as hers was: yours also are possessed by Satan, for he is "the spirit that worketh in the children of disobedience;" (Eph. ii. 2;) that is in all unconverted children. No one can cast out Satan, and make your children