

of a Roman Province, irradiates the darkness of the moral night, "rises with healing under his wings;" teaches by his precept and example the almost then forgotten doctrine of disinterested love;—directs by his grace and spirit a little group of loving followers into the narrow path of self-denial; and finally, bows his head, and dies, under the character of an all-atoning sacrifice; that a fountain might be opened for sin and for uncleanness! Here, beloved brethren, is love! Here is goodness infinite and unparalleled!—And, surely, it is no unreasonable expectation in God, that the happy characters, who enjoy the benefit of the Redeemer's passion, resurrection, and intercession, should make some returns of love and gratitude,—should resemble their great and glorious Head,—should learn of him day by day, who is "meek and lowly in heart."

III. The great work of the Divine Comforter upon the heart of the christian, from beginning to end, is to transform the soul more and more into the image and likeness of our adorable surety. "We all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." The influence of the holy spirit, is above all things desirable by the people of God, while they continue in this world's wilderness, and at a distance from their father's house. When he hides his face, their souls are filled with sadness and dismay:—they hang their harps upon the willows, and refuse to join in the sweet exercises of the heavenly Canaan; their souls refuse comfort, and, in their complaint they say, "God's mercies are clean gone for ever, and he will be favourable no more." But, we should always remember, that the holy spirit never withholds his heavenly influence, but when we grieve him by our own follies, and quench him by our sins.—Seeing then that the spirit of glory and of grace is given unto us, to help our infirmities in prayer, to shed abroad a Saviour's love in our heart, to comfort us during every step of our journey here below, and to sanctify us wholly, soul, body, and spirit, let us earnestly desire after the same thing which it is his great work to effect. Let us court the presence and smile of this heavenly Guest, not only in all our

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