

"LEST THOU FORGET."

"Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life; but teach them to thy sons, and thy sons' sons."—*Deuteronomy* iv. 9.

This book of Deuteronomy assumes the form of a valedictory address. Moses, the man of God, is presented, at the end of the "Desert Wandering," in the aspect of a departing leader, very careful that, when he is gone, the people who have followed him may continue to walk in the right path, by which he has led them. So, with all the earnestness of a dying father counselling, for the last time, his children gathered round his death-bed, he takes great pains to impress the tribes, to whom he has been as a father, that, when he is gone, they may remember his last words and obey them. His one concern is lest they should forget the lessons of wisdom and experience, which they had been taught in striking circumstances, and couched in language often both forcible, and pathetic. They are to give their minds diligently to recall these lessons, and teach them to their children, that they also may grow up instructed in the ways of righteousness, and in their duty to Jehovah. He would not leave either the remembrance, or the instruction to hap-hazard. They should make it their business when he is no longer there to appeal to them, to refresh their memories, from time to time, by a set effort, in order that the lessons of wisdom and experience