

are committing to the dust the remains of one with whose fellowship the happiness of our own being seemed inseparably connected! As we look upon the place which they occupied, now empty, and find them neither in the chamber nor at the table: and when they come not at the quiet hour of evening to join in our devotions, we feel—painfully feel—the severity of the separation. Yet let us not be disconsolate; other thoughts and hopes come in to assuage our grief. They live: they have entered indeed into another mansion of our Father's house; and we shall not see them for a short space; but having fallen asleep in Jesus, we are assured of their well-being, and look forward in joyful anticipation of meeting them again. And if our thoughts turn for a moment to the body which has made the grave its house, and its bed in darkness,—“saying to corruption thou art my father; and to the worm, thou art my mother and my sister,”—we look upon it not as a thing perished, but as a wearied and afflicted sufferer taking rest—a rest from which in the morning of the resurrection, *it* shall arise incorruptible, and will be seen in a far sublimer and far lovelier form than that in which they have sojourned in this lower world: and we shall join them amid the new-born glories to which all believers shall then be raised; and we shall never be separated from them any more for ever. “Wherefore, brethren, comfort one another with these words.” How seasonable, my friends, is all this doctrine to our minds at the present moment! How applicable to our case under the pressure of that mournful dispensation with which we have been visited! And how richly and how effectually should it contribute to our support and consolation! The loss which we have sustained has created a void in the family, and among her friends in the church, which we cannot get well supplied. She who has been taken from us occupied a place in our esteem, and confidence, and regard, down to her very latest days, which nothing but sterling worth could have enabled her either to acquire at first, or afterwards to maintain. And