

3. I will never speak confidently when I am in doubt, nor scruple to say that I am *ignorant* when I am so.

4. Having suffered severely from late studies at night, I will never pursue any serious study after ten o'clock in the evening.

5. I will not read any book which I should be unwilling to have it *known* that I have read ; or the reading of which I shall probably recollect with regret on my dying bed.

6. Since my time for study is so much restricted by frail health and numerous engagements, I will consider it as a sacred duty to spend no time in the attitude of study without direct and vigorous application of my mind to some important subject.

7. I will not hold myself at liberty to neglect duties that are plainly devolved upon me by the providence of God, even though these duties debar me from studies which I earnestly wish to pursue.

#### V. *Preparation for death.*

1. When I awake to the light of a new day, I will endeavour to ask myself, each morning, "Could I know this to be my *last day* on earth, what duty that I have neglected ought to be performed?"

2. That I may not be surprised by death, I will endeavour to carry with me the habitual recollection that it may come at any moment.

3. I will often reflect that this life is only preparatory to eternity, and that He who stationed me here, knows how and when to call me away.

4. As my comfort in death must depend on my hope of heaven, I will often examine this hope ; but if I have good reason to believe that I shall live with Christ in glory, I shall have no reason for reluctance in leaving this world, any more than the sentinel in being called from his post after a stormy night, or the child who has been long from home in returning to his father's house.

5. I am satisfied from much observation, that the *bodily pangs* of *dying* are much less terrible than is commonly supposed, except in a few extreme cases. I will not, therefore, be greatly disquieted with the anticipation of these pangs.

#### VI. *Public deportment.*

1. I will endeavour to remember that as a *Minister of the Gospel*, my office is more important than that of any earthly potentate.

2. In my intercourse with men, I will endeavour not to degrade this office by exhibiting a *love of money* ; one of the vilest and most dangerous passions that infest the heart of a minister.

3. I will watch against levity in conversation ; a fault to which I am in danger of resorting as an antidote against the influence of feeble health.—Yet,

4. I will not identify in feeling, or in my conduct tempt others to identify *religion* and *melancholy* : because if I were to paint a Pharisee, I should give him a *sad countenance* ; but if an angel or my Saviour, a *cheerful* one. The fact that painters who are strangers to vital godliness, so generally, in representing Christ, give him the aspect of sadness, I will endeavour to make instructive to myself.