

I have also finished reading Young's 'Night Thoughts,' a work with which I am more and more enamoured; also, 'Ray on Creation,' a philosophic work, written in a rather antiquated style, but from which I have learned much. In passing around the circuit, I find, contrary to my expectations, that the 'Society Meetings' have been pretty well kept up during my absence. Still I have to lament the occurrence of some circumstances that require the exercise of discipline. I find a want of courage, wisdom, talent, and piety to fill successfully the important station in which I am placed. God help me, and prepare me for to-morrow's (the Sabbath) labour!

"October 5th.—The day after writing last, preached at B's and N's school houses. I felt much assisted both times. Monday I spent principally in visiting the *delinquents*. Oh, how exceedingly carnal, worldly, and devilish, some of our people are to the present! Our preachers must become more holy themselves, and more faithful in their ministerial duties, or they will destroy the cause of God. To-day I am studying and reading. Among other things, Wesley's Sermons on 'Evil Speaking' and the 'Right use of Money.' I would fain have a talent for speaking as closely, as circumstantially, and as faithfully as he. I feel much humbled and grieved, upon an examination of my state, to find that my heart is yet so far unsanctified, and that I am so unfruitful in good works. God help me!

"October 7th.—Two days since I wrote last. In this time I have met with a great curiosity worthy of record, at brother J. A's,—a bush of *red* raspberries, *green* ones, and *blossoms*. These are some exceptions to the usual course of nature. To-day I have been reading Wesley's Sermons on 'Predestination' and 'God's love to Fallen Man.' In the first of these sermons he very clearly proves that God's *foreknowing* an event does not prove that he *decreed* it; because he foreknows all things, sin as well as everything else; but he is not therefore the author of sin. Hence it appears that that passage (Rom. viii. 29, 30.), which Mr. W. uses as his text, only means, that whom God *foreknew* as *believers*, he *decreed* should be *holy*. He then describes the process of the work. 'Whom He foreknew, He called: whom he called He justified; and whom He justified, He glorified.' In the *second* Sermon, Wesley most beautifully clears the Almighty of the imputation of injustice in permitting the Fall; and shows that if we are but faithful, more happiness will accrue to us, and more glory to God, by that event.

"October 8th.—To-day I have no appointment, nor am I able to visit, my lungs being so weak and sore. I have been reading a little, and now I would sit down and turn my eyes inward, and commune with my own heart. I have been, for a few days past, rather dull and heavy. Upon examination, I find that neither my advancement in holiness, (experimental and practical) in self-knowledge, nor in ability for usefulness, has been