

watchfulness. We must not be ignorant of Satan's devices. By occupying the watch-tower we spy out the plans of the enemy. At his approach shut the gates. Invoke the aid of Him who is mighty to save. The weapons of our warfare, kept bright and ready for use, will avail to attack and put to flight every enemy. God's word is the sword of the Spirit, which if men neglect and allow to rust by their disuse of it may not be to them available in the hour of onslaught, but which the watchful soldier has kept well and alert in the use of the heavenly weapon can meet the direst foe to triumph over him. This heavenly armour he has tried on and proved, so that he is at home in it and every battle ground becomes a place of victory.

We ask in what forms does the neglect of this christian watchfulness appear? *Look at the sleeper.* Towns have been captured while men slept, for the sentinel asleep at his post had failed to give the alarm. The watchman entrusted with the care of extensive premises has failed to go his rounds at midnight, and the smouldering fire has gained strength not to be extinguished. Asleep on the look out the sailor dreams of home, to awaken with the crash of the ship on the rocks. The sleep of sin secures the loss of the soul. Shake off dull sloth. No one can go sleeping to heaven. View the realities of eternity so as to keep awake. *Mark the lover of pleasure.* Allured from his post by the enticements of pleasure or insensible at it. Infamy will cover the name of one who leaves a national banner to dishonour through his neglect. What then shall we say of the shame heaped on the spotless banner of the Prince of Righteousness through the unfaithfulness of some professors? Watch and be sober. There is need of every power—calmness of spirit, clearness of intellect, warmth of affection—to prove faithful to the charge committed to every follower of the Lamb. "Take heed lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares." *Observe the deserter*—turning his back on the cause formerly espoused. A deserter's reward is shame and scorn, while the memory of the patriot is embalmed in the hearts of his countrymen. The traitor is execrated, the hero is crowned. It is better not to have known the way of righteousness than to turn therefrom. Jesus said unto the twelve, will ye also go away? Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. A defective religious life is not mended by abandonment of profession, but by repentance, "be watchful and strengthen the things that remain." Hear therefore the Saviour's injunction, "*I say unto all watch.*"

BEFORE THE LOYALISTS.

CHAPTER III.—THE PREPARATION OF THE SEED.

BY JAMES WOODROW, ST. JOHN, N. B.

"Why doth the Briton quit the land
That gave him birth—his native strand,
Where dwelt his honored sires of yore,
And wander forth to every shore,
And every clime beneath the sun?
It is because the MIGHTY ONE
Ordained his mission was to be,
To make all men—as he is—FREE!"

There is a great truth in the above words of the poet—a great truth, and a great error. That race, of which we feel proud, has spread liberty through the earth, but it carries with it other elements. We boast of the liberty we