

cautious conduct ! Would to God that we were all like this man !”

“ You now see,” said I, “ the mistaken notion the world entertains of these people, and you are now aware how falsely they are accused. The world hateth them as it hates their Lord and Master.”

“ I am most surprised,” said my friend, “ to observe the remarkable fruits of these doctrines. I have seen this man’s conduct without disguise, and I cannot but judge of the excellency of what he professes by what I have seen him practise. I have been mistaken indeed in my ideas about these people.”

“ I trust God has caused you to see your error. Inquire for yourself ; seek direction from his Holy Spirit ; and remember that it is not a mere matter of curiosity, but one of importance. Your everlasting happiness or misery depends thereon. May he direct you and lead you to that knowledge which alone can make wise to salvation. I once was, as you have been till now, an enemy to the people of God. But he is rich in mercy : he sought me while afar off ; he showed me the exceeding riches of his love, and enabled me to draw near to him with joy and peace in believing. O may this be your case ! Seek the Lord while he may be found ; call upon him while he is near ; lay hold upon the hope set before you. Forget not what you have seen and heard to-day. Adieu ! To-morrow morning we will call upon our poor watchmaker.”

BETTER DAYS.

“ See how they love one another !” This was said of the first Christians. That divine love which comes from above, will ever shine with brightness in the children of God. It is the sure mark and seal whereby they are known among men : the Spirit of God has impressed this upon them. Blessed is the man who has tasted of the Saviour’s love ! Happy is the family where it is the bond of union !

It was exemplified in the poor watchmaker and his family. There all was love, peace, and union, regulating all their proceedings, and influencing each individual. I never saw in any family such patience and kind attention from parents to children ; nor did I ever see equal respect, submission, ready obedience, and docility from children to parents. The love of God enlivened their hearts, and the influence of his Holy Spirit produced these effects.

When we entered his room we found the watchmaker engaged in instructing a young man in the more difficult operations of his business. On enquiry, we found that he was a poor orphan, the son of a pious friend lately deceased, who had literally left his child to the care of Providence ; and He who careth for the fatherless inclined the heart of this poor man to take the lad, and to share his scanty pittance with him ; feeding his soul at the same time with the bread of life : for those whose situation would seem to render them unable to assist others, often engage in acts of charity which should put many a more wealthy professor to the blush.

After a short conversation, “ My friend,” said I,

“ how are you off for work ? Could you finish some watches for me ?”

My inquiry struck him with surprise : tears stood in his eyes ; he clasped his hands and exclaimed, “ Sir, God has sent you to us : I am quite out of work.”

“ So I understand. I was told your employer had dismissed you because you would not work on Sunday.”

“ ’Tis too true. Alas ! Sir, he knows no better. I myself did the same to a polisher hardly a year ago. God would have us all kindly compassionate one to another. He alone can incline our hearts to keep his law.”

“ Worthy man,” said my companion, seizing his hand, “ I trust I have received good to my soul from what I have heard and seen of you !” “ How can this be ?”

“ He was,” said I, wise and righteous in his own eyes. Now he begins to see his state, and his need of a Saviour, and perceives the false notions he entertained of the people of God.”

“ May God of his infinite mercy bless you,” said the poor watchmaker : “ may the seed take deep root downward, and bring forth much fruit upward. His ways are ways of pleasantness, and all his paths are peace.”

It is now time to finish my narrative ; and may the heart set forth in this little sketch be impressed upon your heart and mine, my dear reader. Remember that “ the Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him ; to all that call upon him in truth. He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him : he also will hear their cry, and will save them.” Psa. cxlv. 18. 19.

Correspondence.

WESLEYAN METHODISM.

MR. EDITOR,—

THERE was a time when the doctrines of Wesleyan Methodism were unknown, or misunderstood, or grossly misrepresented. This was the case in the mother-country, and in the British North American Colonies. The Methodists were regarded as an ignorant, fanatical sect ; whose professions of piety were considered as the reveries of a deluded imagination ; and whose doctrines were looked upon as being heterodoxical in the highest degree. In a great measure these times are past, and the ignorance, error, and misrepresentation associated with them, vanished. The Wesleyan system of doctrine, and experience and discipline is now better and more fully known, and the more it is studied and understood, the more it commends itself to the sober judgment and religiously-instructed understanding of thoughtful men. The prejudices of by-gone years are subsiding, and under the influence of candour and heaven-born “ charity,” it is beheld in its own native conformity to scriptural truth, and acknowledged to be “ of God.”—This is as it ought to be : Methodism is of God—it is an offspring of Deity—in its rise, progress, and astonishing success, the divine Providence is conspicuously