

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL ON THE OCEAN.

From the Christian Age.

Circumstances try the man, and opportunities enable them to develop what is in him. Many persons have considered brother Campbell as merely a learned man professing religion, whose rational nature assented to its evidences, but who has always been deficient in the bursts and breaking up of a deeply affected emotional nature. Of this latter development not much can be said while a man remains on earth and very little can be tolerated by society from the man himself. It is an outrage on modesty to hear a man telling how intensely he feels this, that, and the other. In this way, as Solomon says, "Every man proclaims his own goodness." It is the most sickening form in which the cant of the times can be served up.

Glancing lately over my book of notes of our tour to Great Britain and Ireland in 1847, I was struck with the narrative of several matters which I considered might be interesting to the readers of the *Age*, and our papers generally, if they thought it worth the copying. I shall give the notes as they were written on the ocean, "*verbatim et liberatim*," so that it will appear nothing is now set down for effect.

FIRST LORD'S DAY AT SEA.

"All serene and beautiful the morning dawned upon us, and after a good ablution in the waters of the ocean, we peered upon deck and found a fair wind and a steady sea. How beautifully sublime is the sea. Always grand; in calms, majestic; in the stiff breeze, awful; and in the raging storm, terrific. On this lovely morning about ten o'clock our good captain invited brother Campbell to preach, and called all that wished to hear him into the cabin. It was an imposing sight. There stood the veteran of many hard fought fields, now for the first time about to speak to men on the bosom of the great Atlantic! We sang an appropriate Psalm, and after prayer brother Campbell preached an excellent discourse from 1 Cor. xv. 1—11. All were greatly pleased and benefitted. We concluded by a hymn and prayer. The captain remarked to me, "That man understands his business well," which struck me as being very appropriate, and as evincing the sound sense of that class of men who follow the sea for a livelihood. My mind was touched with tenderness while I thought of those happy spirits in Virginia, and in the world who worship God on this hallowed day. May the Lord smile upon our mission and bless it to both saints and sinners.