

Luther and his Maid-Servant.

Luther had a domestic residing in his house by the name of Elizabeth, who, in a fit of displeasure, left, without giving the family any notice. She subsequently fell into habits of immorality, and became dangerously ill. In her sickness she requested a visit from Luther. On taking his seat at her bedside, he said:—

“Well, Elizabeth, what is the matter?”

“I desire,” she replied, “to ask your pardon for leaving your family so abruptly; but I have something else weighting very heavily on my conscience; I have given away my soul to Satan!”

“I have,” continued she, “done many wicked things, but this is what most oppresses me, that I have deliberately sold my poor soul to the devil; and how can such a crime ever find mercy?”

“Elizabeth, listen to me,” rejoined the man of God. “Suppose, while you lived in my house, you had sold and transferred all my children to a stranger, would the sale or transfer have been lawful or binding?”

“Oh, no,” said the deeply humbled girl, “for I had no right to do that.”

“Very well, you had still less right to give your soul to arch-enemy; it no more belongs to you than my children do. It is the exclusive property of the Lord Jesus Christ; he made it, and when lost, also redeemed it; it is *his*, with all its powers and faculties, and you can't give away or sell what is not yours; if you have attempted it, the whole transaction was unlawful, and is entirely void. Now do you go to the Lord, confess your guilt with a broken heart and a contrite spirit, and entreat him to pardon you, and take back again what is wholly his own. And as for the *sin* of attempting to alienate his rightful property, throw that back upon the devil, for that and that alone is his.”

The girl obeyed, was converted, and died full of faith and hope.

A Pocket Piece.

Most of our readers have heard of the terrible disaster connected with the loss of the Steamer Henry Clay. Among the multitudes that perished, was an ex-Mayor of New York, STEPHEN ALLEN, Esq. He is said to have been esteemed and loved by all who knew him. In his pocket-book was found a printed slip, which he had probably cut from some newspaper. It is a good *pocket piece* for all. It is as follows:

“Keep good company or none. Never be idle, if your hand cannot be usefully employed, attend to the cultivation of your mind. Always speak the truth. Make few promises. Live up to your engagements. Keep your own secrets, if you have any. When you speak to a person, look him in the face. Good company and good conversation are the very sinews of virtue. Good character is above all things else. Your character cannot be essentially injured, except by your own acts. If any one speaks evil of you, let your life be so that none will believe him. Drink no kind of intoxicating drinks. Ever live (misfortunes excepted) within your income. When you retire to bed, think over what you have been doing during the day. Make no haste to be rich, if you would prosper. Small and steady gains give competency, with tranquility of mind. Never play at any games of chance. Avoid temptation, through fear you may not withstand it. Earn money before you spend it. Never run into debt, unless you see a way to get out again. Never borrow if you can possibly avoid it. Do not marry until you are able to support a wife. Never speak evil of any one. Be just before you are generous. Keep yourself innocent, if you would be happy. Save when you are young, to spend when you are old.

Read over the above maxims at least once a week.”

A Royal Teacher.

The Queen of Tonga, Friendly Islands, loves the very name of her Britannic Majesty, and is ambitious to emulate her, little dreaming of the splendour and magnificence of European courts. At the examination the Queen herself conducted the school. — *Wesleyan Missionary Notices.*