

smiles upon them and plenty crowns their board, are sadly grieved when their comforts are withdrawn; yet it is then, in the day of adversity, that they consider. On a Saturday evening one of the missionaries of the New York Tract Society listened to the piteous tale of a woman. She was a widow and had one child, a boy about five years old; she was in very delicate health, but so far from having the nourishment her condition required, was altogether destitute of food, even of the coarsest kind: and instead of a comfortable bed, the floor was her only resting place; the weather was cold and she was shivering, but she had no fire nor money with which to procure fuel. Her state was indeed distressing, her prospects were dark, she knew not God, and self-destruction presented itself to her view as the only mode of escape from her sorrows: and upon this mode she would probably have rashly ventured, had she not been checked by the sight of her darling boy, whom she feared to leave an orphan, exposed to the world's buffetings. Thus it was when the missionary entered her room. It was doubtless the Spirit of God that taught him what to say, for his words were seasonable, and she felt them. Food was speedily provided, but the bread of life also was presented to her attention, and now it is believed that she not only enjoys the bread that perisheth, but feasts upon that which endures to everlasting life. In the day of adversity she considered.

Here is another case. A daughter called upon a missionary and asked him to visit her mother. He did so, and found her sick. Her husband had become intemperate, lost his employment, left his family, and now, from far away, had made known where he was, and that he also was sick and destitute. The temporal condition of this family very much resembled that of the woman above described, for the absolute necessities of life were wanting; but this was a woman who once

enjoyed religion and the fellowship of an Evangelical Church: she had backslidden and lost her religious enjoyments, adversity had been sent to admonish her; she was thus taught to consider her ways, and to the miseries of poverty was added the torture of a wounded spirit. Doubly acceptable to her, therefore, was the visit of the missionary. God made him the means of relieving her temporal wants, and of leading back her soul to Christ, and not many days elapsed before she visited him with a glad heart and cheerful countenance, glorifying God for having healed her backslidings and restored to her the joy of his salvation. This was the end divine grace would accomplish by sending her adversity; and now, her feet again treading the way of God's testimonies, the stream of domestic comfort has again begun to flow.—*N. Y. Recorder.*

#### Refusing to be Benevolent—An Incident.

A female, the head of a family in comfortable circumstances, her husband doing well in business, and all of them attending an evangelical ministry, was waited upon for a subscription towards a Missionary Association. Before the object of the call was named, she occupied the friend with detailing how good God had been to them in giving them health, prosperity, and other mercies. After some time spent in conversation in this strait, the friend named her errand, suggesting that, as so much kindness had been experienced, a trifle might be devoted as an acknowledgment to Him from whom all came. At once the countenance fell, and the tone changed. She began an enumeration of the calls made upon them: she dwelt upon the number and the wants of her family; she could spare nothing for such a purpose. Within a day or two afterwards, she was herself seized with alarming illness. Where not a few pence could be found for the service of God in the Gospel, pounds, not a few, had to be paid for