

of one of the devoted servants of God now toiling among the heathen. He speaks of the power of the scene upon the natives who were standing around the bed of the sufferer, as she triumphed in the hour of expiring agony, and smiled sweetly in the moment of her departure.

One of the heathen looked on with wonder, and at length broke the silence of the room by saying, "We never say any thing like this among our people."

No, no, poor pagan! and you never will, till the religion of the gospel shall shed its blessed influence on the hearts of your dying friends. Heathenism, philosophy, infidelity may teach us to die without emotion, but the gospel only can cause us to smile and sing while the heart-stings break.—*N. Y. Observer.*

STATE OF THE JEWS.

A MEETING was held on the 12th ultimo, at the school in Borough Fen, to give information concerning the state and prospects of the Jews throughout the world, Sir C. E. Smith in the chair. The meeting was shortly addressed by the Chairman and the Rev. Jos. Pratt, rector of Paston, and, at considerable length, by the Rev. Ridley Herschell and the Rev. Dr. Keith. Mr. Herschell is a Christian Israelite, a native of Prussia, who has, perhaps, more intercourse with his own nation, in this country, than any one who has quitted their faith for the religion of Christ. He stated many remarkable facts relative to the English Jews, both as to their customs, and their existing state of division and of excitement. It appears that a separation has taken place within a few months, between those Jews who hold to tradition, and those who regard no authority but that of the Hebrew Scriptures. There has been mutual communication between the parties; and the reformer Jews, whose chief place of worship is in Burton-crescent, London, are excused by their brethren of intending to become Christians, and are said, by Christians, to manifest a very devotional and interesting state of mind. Dr. Keith, the well known author of "The Evidence of Prophecy," "The Signs of the Times," &c., (who came from Scotland to assist at this meeting,) was one of four clergymen of the church of Scotland who were lately commissioned by the General Assembly to visit Palestine, Syria, and the continent of Europe, to ascertain the state of the Jews. Many of the results of that investigation Dr. Keith detailed to the meeting, wonderfully illustrating the minute fulfilment of prophecy, not only as to the people of the Jews, but the aspect of the country of Judea.—A collection was afterwards made for a society which is on the eve of formation in England, under the auspices of the Committee of the General Assembly, but open to all classes of Christians, for the temporal and religious benefit of the Jews, particularly those in England.—*Stamford Mercury.*

THE CHRISTIAN MIRROR.

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, NOV. 3, 1842.

To the truly pious mind, it is a source of deep regret, that so many errors of a fatal tendency prevail amongst professing Christians respecting the nature of true religion—and more especially, as there appears no reason why men should embrace error in preference to truth: for whatsoever is essential to salvation is so clearly revealed, that "a wayfaring man, though a fool, need not err therein."

There is one class of individuals who "lay the flattering unction to their souls," and vainly suppose that a regular observance of the outward forms of religion is all that is necessary to constitute a true disciple of Christ; and hence, whatever relates to *experience* in the profession of their fellow-worshippers, is immediately branded with the epithet of fanaticism or enthusiasm. The communications of the gifts and graces of the Holy Spirit to the heart of the believer, so repeatedly promised, and so freely offered, in the Word of

God to all who faithfully seek them, are treated with practical contempt, and many of the most solemn declarations of our divine Redeemer set at naught. To such individuals we would affectionately say, on the authority of that God to whom as religious journalists we feel ourselves responsible, that nothing short of the destruction of the carnal mind, "which is enmity against God," and the renewal of the heart in righteousness and true holiness, can support the soul in the hour of death, and secure its admission into the company of the pure and holy inhabitants of heaven. There must be a constant growth in grace, an increasing deadness to the world, ardent aspirations of soul after holiness, a strong feeling of love for the souls of our fellow-men still under the influence of sin, and an untiring zeal for the glory of our Divine Master, in endeavouring, by every means within our power, to extend the blessings of the everlasting Gospel to earth's remotest bounds.

But there is another class of Christians to which we must briefly refer,—who, although apparently sincere and earnest respecting their own salvation, nevertheless, put forth little or no effort towards reclaiming their perishing fellow-sinners. There is, if we may so speak, a *selfishness* about such a line of conduct totally at variance with the scriptural definition of the child of God; and the conclusion must be come to, (however humiliating it may be,) that there is something alarmingly defective in the character of such an one. We appeal to the experience of every individual who has been made the subject of a change of heart, whether one of his first and strongest emotions upon receiving this blessing, was not an ardent desire that every fallen child of Adam might be blessed with "like precious faith." What is the reason, then, that that desire is not more generally carried out by corresponding conduct? Is there not too much reason to fear, that the rebuke administered by the Spirit to the Church of Ephesus, may be applied to all who are "at ease in Zion,"—"I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love."

In no period of the history of the Church of Christ was there greater need for the exertions of the pious than at the present day; and we rejoice to add, that opportunities for Christian exertion were never so numerous. Let the awfully responsible character of the Christian profession, induce all who may read these few humble remarks, to betake themselves at once to humiliation, prayer, and self-examination; and, should they discover that their love for their Saviour hath waxed cold, let them without delay attend to the instructions contained in the conclusion of the passage we have above quoted: "Remember, therefore, from whence thou hast fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent."

Since the above was written, we have re-

ceived a communication, bearing upon the same important subject, from our respected friend, "L. Z.," which will be found in another column. The subject is of such vital importance, and so applicable to the conduct of too many professing Christians at the present time, that we would earnestly recommend it to the serious perusal of our readers.

THE Wesleyan Methodist Conference in England has lately issued their Annual Address to their societies and members throughout the world. We have perused this document with much satisfaction. It is replete with deep piety, affection and liberality, and contains many subjects of general interest. By the following extract may be discovered the sentiments of this highly respectable and influential branch of the Church of Christ towards their fellow Christians of other denominations, to which in a former number we briefly alluded:—

"It is matter, likewise, of devout thankfulness, that, although other churches around us are excited and agitated with controversy, our own is blessed with general union and peace. Let us improve this to the attainment of greater prosperity. Having no serious questions of doctrine and discipline to settle, let us give ourselves to our great work of acquiring vital holiness, and then spreading it through the land.

"Our ecclesiastical situation, peculiar as it may seem to be, especially to the advocates of extreme opinions on either hand, we have always regarded as providential; and the more closely we consider it, the more strongly are we persuaded that we are very favourably situated for promoting that catholic union of all believers, for which, on the eve of his passion, our Redeemer pleaded, and which, according to his own words, is a prerequisite to the conversion of the world. Of this vantageground let us make the utmost use, disregarding the rebukes and scorns of men who assume the absolute and unquestionable truth of their own principles, and who unhesitatingly condemn the least departure from them: let us endeavour, at the same time, by loyalty and good order, to serve the temporal interests of society, and in both respects to make good our claim to the designation which we derive from our Founder's name. We greatly rejoice in the fact that, on several late important occasions, evangelical clergymen of the Church of Scotland have supplied our pulpits. Amid abounding instances of intolerance and bigotry, it is truly delightful to witness this kindly spirit of mutual recognition and catholic expansiveness of heart. We hail these instances as precursors of that evangelical union of the members of Christ's mystic body, which shall one day deprive both Popery and infidelity of their vaunted arguments."

We copy the following extracts from an interesting "Report of a Western Tour," recently made by Mr. R. S. Cook, the Corresponding Secretary of the American Tract Society. Having alluded, in glowing and affecting terms, to the condition of society in the Western States of America, he proceeds, under the head of "Errors of the West," to describe their character, and trace its causes, as follows:—

"These are as rapid and luxuriant in their growth as the vegetation, and as poisonous as the malaria of the swamps. It cannot be otherwise so long as such abundant material exists in a population increased from year to year by immense foreign immigration.

"Romanism is entrenching itself with consummate skill, as if behind ramparts of granite, at every prominent point. She is not yet openly aggressive, and will not be, till the fears excited by her career of conquest and desolation in other lands shall here be lulled to rest. Meanwhile,