

THE DYING MOTHER AND HER INFIDEL SON.

"O, if there be within the human heart a feeling holier than all else besides, it is the love that warms the mother's breast, Even for a sinning child—the only tie That death alone can sever, and is felt Till the last throbbing of the heart."

watched the progress of scepticism in your young mind. I know the art and sophistry with which it was mingled with your earliest moral perceptions. I know the arguments by which it has been defended—how soothing its doctrines are to guilt. I have felt its influence, and I feel for you all that a mother in your circumstances can feel. The joy which death is now creeping over my frame. This is the last effort of my maternal love. Life is fast ebbing away—time seems fast receding, and eternity is fast opening with all its solemn realities to my view. What I do, must be done quickly. The grave is ready for me. My house is set in order, all my work on earth is done, except a few parting words to you, my first-born son. Let me first ask you one question which I wish you to answer to God and your own conscience. Do you wish me to die a believer in the dark creed of Voltaire or Thomas Paine? If so, step forward with me to the tomb, which in the light of infidelity is dark as darkness itself. Death is an eternal sleep, an utter extinction of being. This thinking, reasoning mind, capable of so much expansion, cultivation and enjoyment, must go out like an expiring taper, lose its consciousness, and cease to exist, like the beasts that perish. Infidelity has rendered my life wretched: the past has been a weary way—all the future is dark as the shadow of death. There is nothing in heaven or on earth that can give a ray of light, or hope, or consolation, to the dying infidel. Should you name the promises—the deist's God never made a revelation of himself to man. Should you speak of him whom the apostle calls the resurrection and the life—he is an impostor. Do you speak of prayer—the God of the deist is not a prayer-hearing God—it is an affront to call upon his name. Come with a licentious song, or an idle jest—say something to stifle reflection and quiet the forebodings of guilt, and you give him a partial relief. But it is a short reprieve; the king of terrors will not be put off with a jest, or charmed with a song, or bribed with money, or foiled by sophistry; the last convulsive pang comes on the spirit—struggles with the clay—it bursts its frail enclosure and is gone—gone. Where, oh! where? My son, we must leave the departed deist where he chooses to leave himself—"in darkness." Now, do you wish your mother to die thus? Oh! no, you do not, cannot. And thanks be to God, I do not die thus. But, while life recedes, my hope and confidence in the God of my salvation strengthen, brighten. Peace, peace, like a river, pours its balmy influence over me. Eternity and immortal life open upon my soul's delighted vision—unutterable thoughts of God and heaven fill my already expanding capacities. I feel the assurance that God is my father, Christ my Saviour, and the Holy Spirit my Comforter; that I shall soon have an unclouded vision of the glories of God's palace; that all that is now dark, or deep, or high, to my present limited capacity, will be unfolded and understood. Nature, providence, and grace, will furnish themes for eternal research; the perfections and attributes of God, an endless intellectual feast; and redemption, an everlasting song.

This is a precious relique which cannot be contemplated without exciting the deepest regret that he should have failed to appear frequently before the world, and openly to take his due rank among the foremost divines of our church. It is a composition of such rare eloquence, learning, and research, as to satisfy the public that his modesty and self-distrust must have deprived them of much inestimable guidance and instruction. In addition to his stores of sound theology and general erudition, he was distinguished by a profound acquaintance with ecclesiastical law, and with all that various lore which relates to the rights, the privileges, and the duties of the clergy. In all cases of difficulty or doubt, it was impossible for his brethren to resort to a more friendly or more accomplished adviser.

With all his richness, and raciness, and originality of character, there was mixed up an overflowing love towards God and man, which shewed itself throughout the whole course of his clerical life in deeds of the costliest beneficence. His hospitality was unbounded, and was felt by poor as well as rich. Within the sphere of his influence destitution was unknown. His piety, though deep and fervent, was always of a cheerful type. It gladdened the rustic holiday; it presided over the merry sports and blameless recreation of the village; it watched, and it supported the village school; it guarded the house of God with reverential vigilance and care. To him one of the most painful sights on earth was a church in a condition which spoke of neglect or apathy on the part of the congregation or their officers. Such evils and disgraces always, sooner or later, vanished before his presence, and often at his own cost. The parish with which he was last connected, and in which he closed his days (Westmore), will bear a noble testimony to his truly religious munificence. The church which is now rising there was, in fact, the work of his devotion, and principally of his generosity. His latest regret was that he was fated to leave it incomplete. But the means of completing it have been securely provided by him: and when the work is done, it will be a noble monument to the memory of a truly great and good man.

I cannot better close this paper than with the words which have been often uttered before, but can never be more justly and fitly uttered than with reference to him: "Eheu! quanto minus est cum aliis versari quam tui meminisse!"

Advertisements. RATES. Six lines and under, 2s. 6d. first insertion, and 1d. each subsequent insertion. Ten lines and under, 4s. 6d. first insertion, and 1s. 6d. each subsequent insertion. Above ten lines, 4s. per line, first insertion, and 1s. 6d. per line each subsequent insertion. The usual discount is made where parties advertise by the year, or for a considerable time. From the extensive circulation of The Church, in the Province of Canada, (from Sandwich to Gaspe) in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, (in the Hudson's Bay Territory, and in Great Britain, Ireland, as well as in various parts of the United States, it will be found profitable medium for all advertisements which are desired to be widely and generally seen. Advertisements for all advertisements which are desired to be widely and generally seen. Advertisements for all advertisements which are desired to be widely and generally seen.

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MONTREAL TYPE FOUNDRY, offering printing and typesetting services.

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FOR SALE, offering various goods and services for sale.

NOTICE regarding the sale of real estate and other property.

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DR. J. A. COWLES, SURGEON DENTIST, offering dental services.

MR. MEREDITH, SURGEON DENTIST, offering dental services.

DR. BEAUMONT, Professor of Surgery in the University of King's College, offering medical services.

DR. FRENCH, offering medical services.

WILLIAM A. GARRETT, ATTORNEY AT LAW, offering legal services.

MR. J. D. HUMPHREYS, offering piano and music services.

THE STEAMER AMERICA, offering shipping services.

THE STEAMER ECLIPSE, offering shipping services.

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LANDS TO LEASE, offering property for lease.

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