

of afflicted affection are sacred ; O forbid them not to flow ! they are sanctioned and sanctified by the Saviour's example, who wept at the tomb of his friend ; but let the violence of your grief be tempered with this heavenly emollient, "*Thy will be done.*" Perish the narrow-hearted the stoical principle that will not let us mourn when the cords of kindred affection are broken asunder, that will not allow us the luxury of the most sacred of our social affections, that will not give us tears to disburden the swelling bursting heart of its load—sooner than restrain the generous tide of grief with the cold maxims of philosophy, I would swell the sacred current by mingling the tear of sympathy with those of grief ; but let its course be directed to its proper end. When all the sensibilities of the soul are awake, let the important truths of religion be impressed, let its divine consolations be administered. If he were ready, or unprepared, for an event which determines his future destiny, we leave to the decision of Him who knoweth the heart.—It is sufficient for us to hear and obey the all-important admonition "Be ye also ready."

There is nothing, my friend, but the religion of Jesus Christ, that can render us prepared for an event, of which he had no notice, and which will introduce us all to our final state.—Consider the benefits of christianity in this life.—It gives a peculiar dignity and weight to any, but more especially to a professional character\* ; it yields an undisturbed tranquility in the midst of circumstances that harrass, a placid equanimity of temper, and an unfailing support under distress and calamity. It raises and exalts the soul, which was debased and polluted by sin ; it rege-

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