

of a catholic funeral. The very horses were draped in black; the bishops and other high dignitaries were there, with ghostly chanting and their open breviaries in their hands; and the magistrates and others in office. Then the soldiers marching solemnly and carrying the military belongings of the poor dead general. And in all this vain show we wondered about his soul and thought sadly of the words, "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul." Our landlady and french maid said it was a grand funeral, that much prayer would be said for his soul, and so he would soon be quite happy.

We felt how blessed we were, who through God's mercy and love, believed that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins so that if we were suddenly called away it would be but "Absent from the body—present with the Lord."

Dear reader, would it be so with you? if sudden death came on you, would it bring you into the Lord's presence, into all the glory of that presence, or would it banish you for *ever* from it? If the latter, think well. One has everything in Christ, nothing outside Him. God's word tells us that "all flesh is as grass," so that the longest life is as nothing, compared to a never ending eternity. May God lead you to accept the Lord Jesus *now* as your Saviour. and then death, no matter in what form, loses all its terrors.