

seriously, and I asked him to explain; he said, "I greatly desire these three things; first, that I may be found *in* Christ; secondly, that I may be *like* Christ; thirdly, that I may be *with* Christ. I have thought much of his answer, and the more I think of it the wiser it seems.

A SHORT SERMON ON DEBT.—Owe no man any thing. Keep out of debt. Avoid it as you would war, pestilence and famine. Hate it with a perfect hatred. Dig potatoes, break stones, peddle tin-ware, do any thing that is honest and useful, rather than run into debt. As you value comfort, quiet and independence, keep out of debt. Debt is the hardest of all taskmasters; the most cruel of all oppressors. It is as a mill-stone about the neck. It is an incubus on the heart. It spreads a cloud over the whole firmament of man's being. It eclipses the sun. It blots out the stars. It dims and defaces the beautiful blue sky. It breaks the harmony of nature, and turns to dissonance all the voices of its melody. It furrows the forehead with premature wrinkles. It plucks the eye of its light. It drags the nobleness and kindness out of the port and bearing of a man. It takes the soul out of his laugh, and all stateliness and freedom from his walk. Come not, then, under its crushing dominion.

INTEREST OF MONEY was two pence per week for 20s. in 1260; 45 per cent in 1307. The first law in England for establishing interest of money at 10 per cent, was in 1546. The pious subjects of Edward VI. repealed this law as unlawful, and most impious; but it was restored in Queen Elizabeth's time. In those days the monarch could not

borrow without the collateral security of the metropolis. Interest was reduced from 10 to 8 per cent, 1624; reduced by the rump parliament to 6 per cent, and confirmed at the Restoration to 5 per cent, 1714. From 4 to 3 per cent, 1750.

AGE OF ANIMALS.—A bear rarely exceeds 20 years. A dog lives 20 years. A wolf 20. A fox 14 or 16. Lions are long-lived: Pompey lived to the age of 70. The average of cats is 14 years. A squirrel and hare 7 or 8 years. Rabbits, 7. Elephants have been known to live to the great age of 400 years. When Alexander the Great had conquered one Porus, King of India, he took a great elephant, which had fought very valiantly for the king, named him Ajax, and dedicated him to the sun, and let him go with this inscription, "Alexander, the son of Jupiter, had dedicated Ajax to the Sun." This elephant was found 354 years after. Pigs have been known to live to the age of 30 years. The rhinoceros to 20. A horse has been known to live to the age of 62, but averages 25 to 30. Camels sometimes live to the age of 100 years. Stags are long-lived. Sheep seldom exceed the age of 10. Cows live about 15 years. Cuvier considers it probable that whales sometimes live to the age of 1000 years. The dolphin and porpoise attain the age of 30. An eagle died at Vienna at the age of 104 years. Ravens have frequently reached the age of 100 years. Swans have been known to live 360. Mr. Mallerton has the skeleton of a swan that attained the age of 290. Pelicans are long-lived. A tortoise has been known to live to the age of 107.