

wide-spread dominion, and hailed by her progeny of young and enterprising sons, as the benefactress and the mother of the nations. Should this glorious destiny, however, be denied her,—should she,—a fate to which all the analogies of history point,—be doomed only to run the round of youth, maturity, and decay; should she be doomed to be rent asunder by some great political explosion, and after scattering the fragments of her mighty wreck on every shore, settle down in the dark and deep waters of oblivion,—how different will be *her* lot to that of other nations over which time has triumphed! She will not so much have lost her empire as transferred its seat; her image will be multiplied—not effaced; she will survive in her children; *non omnis morietur*. Her laws (so far as they are just)—her institutions, or modifications and imitations of them—many of her customs and manners,—transplanted in every clime—will be her perpetual memorials. Above all, her *language* will still be spoken. The immortal pages of her great orators, poets, philosophers, and theologians, unlike those of the master writers of pagan antiquity, in which the spirit of thought is oppressed and incarcerated in a dying body, shall still breathe and glow in all the magic associations of a living language. The antiquary, too, instead of seeking the memorials of our history in half-eaten coins and broken sculptures, will rather seek the materials of his illustrations in the *living* monuments of our descendants. Every where surrounded with these, England will need no other epitaph than that of our great architect—

‘*Si monumentum requiris, circumspice.*’

—And, should such be our lot, will not the feelings with which other nations, more especially those who call us sires, shall then turn to the memory of England, be those of intense emotion; when every malevolent passion shall be hushed for ever; when all ground for envy and hatred shall have ceased, and time and distance, and that veneration which antiquity is sure to inspire, shall begin to shed their magic softness over the page of our history! The feeling, methinks, will be allied to that with which we gaze on the departed, just as the grave is closing over them for ever; animosities—insults—provocations—are all forgotten, and the soul abandons itself only to tender and touching remembrances. Then will an American, forgetful of all but of the bonds which bound his country to ours, turn with unutterable yearnings to the land of his fathers. Their fall, it will be said, has been the riches of the world!”

“Well. I acknowledge that I am full of hope that posterity will have to add the latter part of your quotation, and say, ‘if their fall

be the riches of the world, how much more their fulness?’ ”

PLEASING GOD.

BY THE REV. JAMES SMITH.

From the London Baptist Magazine.

I find Paul exhorting and beseeching his Thessalonians by the Lord Jesus, so to walk as to please God, and to abound therein more and more. 1 Thess. iv. 1. My mind is struck with the idea. I ask, Is it possible for a sinner to do any thing that will please God? The reply is, No, not considered simply as a sinner; for they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But if the sinner has received Christ; if he is a believer in Christ for wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption; if he has put on Christ, and realized acceptance in the beloved; then he can please God. Being sanctified by the Holy Ghost; having his heart sprinkled from an evil conscience; looking to Jesus ALONE for peace, acceptance, and salvation; he can now glorify God in his body and spirit, which are God's. O delightful idea, to please God! that God whom I had offended, whose law cursed me, whose justice once condemned me, whose wrath was once feared by me; to please him, and for him to take pleasure in me and mine, is truly delightful. Yes, for this purpose he redeemed me by the blood of his Son, taught me by his gracious Spirit, and led me into liberty and peace: that I might please him, he called me his child, gave me the spirit of adoption, and blessed me with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ. And I do find that when grace is in exercise in my soul, nothing appears more desirable, nothing more sweet and pleasant, than having the opportunity and ability to please God.

God is pleased with the secret, heartfelt, fervent prayers of his people: the eye of divine compassion