

seen in all their beauty and loveliness to be loved and embraced.— But alas ! we are deceivable and satan is a deceiver. He has gilded the baits of vice, and defaced the inducements to virtue. He has given things a false appearance. Going about as “a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour,” he sometimes finds it convenient to transform himself to an angel of light that he may accomplish his ends more easily.

We are almost imperceptibly led to love and hate a thing more by the extrinsic associations that attend it than by its intrinsic worth or worthlessness. A fault is overlooked in a friend. A virtue is lost sight of in an enemy. Intoxicating liquor is loved in the convivial glass. It is hated in the drunkard. Peace is despised when the hero is praised, and war is detested when the scene of its horrors is beheld. What then we ask (with this truth before us) are the associations that cluster around a wife? They are altogether pleasing and joyous.— She is identified with our home and all our domestic joys. She is the object of our love. She is our constant companion, and is so intimately connected with us, that man and wife are said to become “one.”— What then, we ask, is so likely to lead us astray as an unbelieving wife? Whose communications will influence us so much as hers? In whom will sin or disregard of sacred things appear more excusable than in her? Who will tie us more closely to this world or alienate our affections from the things that are above? The downfall of hundreds furnishes the answer, and it would be well if the Christian would lay it to heart,—if he would consult the word of God, and be regulated by Christian duty, rather than by the bent of inclination or worldly advantage, in making this near and dear connection.

Let then the Christian, who understands his calling, and appreciates the dignity of his station, avoid a connection that may prevent his usefulness, endanger his salvation, or bring a reproach upon the cause of Christ.

M.ATHETES.

Jan. 1850.

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### A PATRIARCH'S MESSAGE.

The subjoined is copied from an American paper. It embraces sundry sentiments worthy of a place in every professor's heart. While we oppose with great freedom and independence the sectarianism of sectarian papers, we may also with the utmost readiness give credit