

PEACE IN BELIEVING.

IV.

MY DEAR friend :—Time passes quickly and soon it will have passed forever. The thought is suggested by the remark you made that more than a month has passed since your conscience has been awakened, and that next Monday will be the anniversary of your birthday. I can reckon more than double the number of years that you can, but I cannot express to you how much more rapidly the last half of these years seems to have passed than the former. When one possesses a life in Christ which never ends, and has before him the coming of the Lord, when death will be swallowed up in life, the flight of time will not be a matter of regret. God grant, dear friend, that your coming anniversary may find you in the *conscious enjoyment* of this new life. It will then be, I am sure, the happiest you have ever passed.

In the meantime I cannot conceal from you the anxiety I feel to see you remaining so long in the same spiritual state. As long as a soul does not really know Christ, it does not confide in Him, rejoice in Him, or confess Him openly, and one cannot be sure how this state of anxiety and distress may end. I have known people, who, after passing through the most heart rending anguish, have finished by returning to indifference and sin. How very sad if this were to be your case. Do not then have a