

the occurrence of the fatal act, he conversed rationally with brother officer. A report produced by some destructive weapon brought several persons to his apartment, when a frightful spectacle presented itself. It appears that he had placed the muzzle of a loaded pistol in his mouth, and then discharged it. The awful scene may be imagined. The dying man spoke no more, but continued to breathe for half an hour, when his spirit passed into eternity.

How different were the circumstances under which these two immortal beings quitted this world! In the first case, here is a lovely infant, full of health, affording comfort and hope to his parents, taken away in a moment. But the hand of the Lord directed it. He who had given, was now pleased to take; and the event was the result of wisdom and goodness. "Blessed be the name of the Lord." As to the spirit of the precious little one, it passed through the merits of Christ's atonement, into the deathless region of heaven. In the contemplation of the second case, the mind shudders, and dark and dismal thoughts rise in rapid succession. Here is a man in the bloom of health, and in the prime of life, when it is said, had risen by merit from the ranks to fill the honorable post which he occupied, deliberately deprived himself of earthly existence, and rushing into the presence of a holy God, covered with suicidal blood. There is no scriptural ground for entertaining the slightest hope of his final salvation. Is the soul of this once gallant soldier not saved? Then the determination to which we are obliged to come, is, that it is lost, for ever lost. When his body was committed to the ground, the Clergyman said, "In sure and certain hope of a joyful resurrection unto eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord." How fearfully improper!

Reader, it is evident (1.) from the above statement, that the unhappy officer had not the fear of God before his eyes, or he would have been prevented from the perpetration of the bloody deed. Do you fear the Lord? Have you a filial dread of offending him? "Blessed is the man" that is thus "in the fear of the Lord all the day long." (2.) It is evident that Adjutant — loved the creature more than the Creator; he loved the sinner more than he did the Saviour, "who is God over all, blessed for ever." Do you love God? do you love him above every other being in the universe? and do you give demonstration thereof by keeping his commandments? It is meet, and right, and your bounden duty, thus to love the Almighty. (3.) Are you