

have not spoken of the chill our worship often suffers by the thinness of the assembly, and the many empty seats displayed ; for I was not willing to ask your attention here as patrons of the place. I have not dwelt on your excuses, and removed them ; the plea that you had better sometimes spend the day of God by yourselves—for you know that you spend it in no such exercises as worship, or preparation for a better world ; the plea often present to the giddy heart of vanity, that a stormy day is no fit occasion for the display of your person—a plea that you cannot yourselves utter, because of its conscious want of dignity, but which nevertheless, has power with many ; the plea that it will injure your health to encounter rough weather—for you all expect me to be here in every storm that blows, and you can as well be here as I ; and if in thirteen years' attendance on my duties here, without any consideration of the weather, in its wildest storms and fiercest colds, I have never suffered the least injury, there is not much reason to fear for you—certainly not for any in equally sound health. To invalids I will make allowance, though even they would commonly suffer by no exposure incident to their attendance. There is no such poison in wet and cold, as many love to suppose ; and if we were not so self indulgent, so ready to shrink from the rough moods of nature, we should have clearer minds and stronger bodies. The worst and most dangerous poison is confinement, and the pent air that simmers all day in heated rooms, unchanged.”—*Christian Treasury*.

PERPETUAL TRUTH OF THE SCRIPTURES.

There is something grand and divine in the perpetual and universal truth of the word of God. Take an admired passage of one of the great poets of ancient times. It is local. It bears the imprint of the age, the race, and the state of the society in which it was produced, and its truths are somehow circumscribed and limited by those conditions. But take for example the 90th Psalm, one of the oldest works of the human mind, dating more “than five hundred years before Homer. Every verse of it true. The prayer of Moses, the man of God,” is a most appropriate and comprehensive prayer at the present day, and may be offered up by the devout soul as a fit and full expression of his thoughts of him “who inhabiteth eternity.” They are conceived at an elevation which exalts them far above the changing objects, persons, scenes, and events of earth and time. They shine down upon the world like fixed stars, unvarying in their position and undimmed in their light. It is well to be conversant with thoughts thus immutable and sublime. The familiar contemplation and rumination of them expands, exalts, and strengthens the mind. It lifts us above our own age into the clear and cloudless regions of unchangeable truth. The aeronaut, while he is passing through the clouds is swept this way and that by gusts and currents of wind, drenched in vapour