

to the Father of Mercies. When God provides enough for man and beast, let us guard against the avariciousness that feels dissatisfied. Ever and constantly are the bounties of Heaven lavished on man, and therefore gladly should he repay, with the gratitude of a consecrated heart and life, the favours he obtains. An "average crop," after the fear of little or none, should yield an increase of praise, especially when we remember that our sins provoke the Holy One to anger. Nor do we feel it wrong at this point to remark that the waste of God's bounties, in the destruction of many millions of bushels of grain throughout the earth in manufacturing intoxicating liquors, is a crime from which every godly man should wash himself clean. God, in judgment, might ask wherefore this waste? and refuse to pour out His goodness.

Let us learn to look up to God with a stronger confidence. He leaves not Himself without a witness; His munificence crowneth the year with plenty, and his paths drop fatness. He that made the Summer, speaks to us through its rain, its dew, its drought, its heat, its light, its flowers, its filling bosom. And should the soul be found delighting in His grace, it shall be satisfied in drought, and bloom as a well-watered garden, whose waters fail not. The very denial of earthly comforts will not destroy the joys of the heart, for though the gladness of summer departs, and all nature wear a funereal gloom, the birds forgetting to warble, the bees to hum, the flowers to bloom, and the forests to clap their hands with joy, yet the soul, redeemed with the blood of Christ, will be glad, will rejoice in the God of Salvation.

Further, how strikingly is growth developed when heavy rain succeeds long continued heat. The progress of the crops is marked—the sickly look gives place to a strong and vigorous appearance—the yellow withered leaf to a freshness of green. In this can we not perceive the need of soul-quickenings influences to cause the moral wilderness to rejoice? The influence of the Holy Spirit descending on the hills of Israel, will speedily bring out scenes of beauty, which the eye has not seen for years before. Even the seed that has lain buried long in the earth, and was supposed lost, comes up; thus many precious truths, sown like seed, spring up to eternal life. May the Lord revive His heritage, and send long looked for showers of blessing, even as He has sent rain from Heaven.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS ON THE EDUCATION QUESTION.

"The price of Liberty is *eternal vigilance*," and such seems to be the price at which every other acquisition of a nation has to be secured. We thought, some years ago, that, according to the solemn and deliberate language of the Preamble to the Clergy Reserves Act, we had seen the final dissolution of "all semblance of connection between Church and State." But that dissolution was only submitted to as a necessity by some of the parties concerned. The principle of it was never heartily conceded. Let but the opportunity arise, and there would be no scruple about fresh applications to the Public Chest. If a direct endowment of the clergy could not be proposed again, some other form of denominational grants might be obtained, and no chance must be lost!