

terminated to take revenge upon him.—“And it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.” This, as it was the earliest, was one of the most unnatural murders ever committed, and affords a most convincing proof of the desperate wickedness of the human heart.

Though the voice of Abel was hushed, yet his blood cried for vengeance from the righteous Judge of all; and He, whose ears are not heavy that He cannot hear, inquired of Cain, but in such a manner as implied an accusation, “Where is Abel, thy brother?” Still wrathful and impenitent, he is again offended at God; and, in the most daring manner, asks, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” The curse pronounced against this base murderer is one of the most severe which imagination can conceive. Immediate death is not inflicted upon the abandoned profligate, but his life is spared, and a mark set upon him, lest any finding him should kill him. The avenging furies of remorse haunt him night and day, and the poor miserable outcast is compelled to urge that his punishment is greater than he can bear.

Thus Cain lived, rejected by God, abhorred by men, and a terror to himself; he therefore went out from the presence of the Lord; that is, he no longer associated with the children of God, but deserted their society, and literally became a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth. He removed to the east of Eden, to the land of Nod. Cain is the first mentioned in history as having built a city, which he named Enoch, after that of his son. His descendants imitated his wicked example; Lamech, in particular, was similarly stained with the crime of murder. Some of them became distinguished for their proficiency in the arts, among whom was Tubal-Cain, an artificer in brass and iron.—*Scripture Cabinet.*

Memoir of John Adam.

(Concluded.)

On the night before his death, calling his brothers to his bedside, he told them that he was with Jesus; and taking them one by one holding their hands in his, he (though some of them were older than himself) exhorted them never to go with thoughtless or godless companions, or do anything to dishonor their Saviour, or grieve their kind parents, whom he enjoined them to honour and obey.

To his youngest brother he said, “Tho-

mas, I was the youngest who attended our sister Janet’s funeral—you will be the youngest at mine. But when you assist in letting down my body into the cold clay, my soul will have taken its flight to heaven, there to join the company of my departed sister and brother, and be for ever with the Lord. Farewell—be sure to meet me in heaven. Oh! what a grief it would be to me, if I thought any of you would not meet me there.”

Taking his father and mother by the hand, he thanked them with much feeling for their kindness to him through all his life, but especially during the long nights and days of watching they had by his dying bed, and said, (no doubt to comfort their drooping hearts) that though he was leaving a kind father and mother, he was not sorry to die, for he was going to a far kinder Father in heaven.

Having by this farewell, as it were, finished the setting of his house in order, and broken the last cord that bound him to earth, he proceeded to wind up the solemn transactions of the evening by repeating the 55th Scripture Paraphrase, of which, however, he had only repeated two verses when he said he felt very weak, and spoke no more till the next morning, when, in answer to a question put by his mother as to how he felt, he said, (referring to restlessness from severe suffering) he had been impatient during the night, but Jesus had been precious.—Those were the last words he uttered, and shortly after his happy spirit took its flight to God.

What I have now related has been variously collected, furnished, however, principally by his parents; and now before concluding, as I had, for about three months at least, weekly opportunities of seeing him, I will mention some of the features of his character with which myself was peculiarly struck.

One of these was the remarkable submission to the will of God which he continually manifested. I frequently asked him if he wished to recover; to which he invariably replied, “If it were the Lord’s will, I would like very well to recover; but if not his will, I am perfectly ready and willing to die.”

Even after this he had seasons of severe suffering. During one of these, I asked him if he did not feel as if God were punishing harshly with him. He seemed to shudder at the very thought of entering such an idea, and ever replied in language somewhat as follows: