

and to be called the one whom He loved, and then compare with them any other state we can picture to ourselves, as happy and blessed in this world, and we shall find none worthy to be desired! Let us set these before us; for we may become like them, or at least follow them, if we will but "Remember our Creator in the days of our youth," and seek with the same earnestness and faith that Saviour who redeemed them from the snares of youth, and preserved them to his everlasting kingdom. The same Lord, who so loved them, and so honoured them, stands now at the door of our hearts, and knocks. If any man open to Him, He will enter in with the same mercies and grace in his hand; and you may be well assured that the longer the grace of God is tasted, the greater number of years any one enjoys it, the richer and more precious it becomes. That faith is ordinarily the most strong, and the most full of joy and blessedness, which has had long time to grow. When it has been planted and rooted in the proper spring-time of life, and has been nourished by all the sun and rains of summer, how much better will it be able to withstand the wintry blasts, and to live through the perils and trials to which it will be then exposed!

MEMORABLE DAYS.

OCTOBER.

1.—The decoy business in Lincolnshire allowed to be commenced by Act of Parliament.

14.—1066. Battle of Hastings, which secured to William, hence called the Conqueror, the throne of England.

16.—1555. Bishops Ridley and Latimer burnt at Oxford for their opposition to popery, by order of Queen Mary.

16.—1793. Marie Antoinette, Queen of France, beheaded.

18.—St. Luke. He was by profession a physician, and was for the most part the companion of St. Paul. He is supposed to have died at the advanced age of eighty-four, about the year 70.

21.—Battle of Trafalgar, in which the gallant Lord Nelson lost his life.

25.—St. Crispin's Day. It is said that this good man and his friend travelled into France from Rome, in order to propagate the Christian religion; and, to avoid being a burthen to others, they followed the trade of shoemakers, but being discovered by the governor, they were beheaded. From this period the shoemakers have made choice of them for their tutelar saints.

25.—1739. Was laid the first stone of the Mansion House, a residence for the Lord Mayor of London.

28.—St. Simon and St. Jude.

28. Died Alfred the Great, King of England.

A CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE MINISTER OF A PARISH AND ONE OF HIS PARISHIONERS.

John. If you please, Sir, will you be kind enough to explain to me the text, "Love your enemies?"

Mr. B. Willingly, John; and I am glad you have asked me, instead of rejecting a hard saying because it is hard to understand.

John. Then, Sir, will you begin by telling me *exactly* who the enemies are we are commanded to love?

Mr. B. All those that hate us, that have injured or striven to injure us. All such we are strictly enjoined to love.

John. But surely we cannot be required to love them?

Mr. B. Indeed we are to love them from our hearts, as I will prove to you from Scripture. "Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thy heart." Levit. xix. 17. All men are our brothers.

John. But how must we show our love to them, Sir?

Mr. B. By forgiving their injuries not only until seven times, but until seventy times seven. Luke xvii. 4. By never seeking revenge. "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." Rom. xii. 19. By wishing them all possible good.—"Neither have suffered my mouth to sin by wishing a curse to his soul." Job xxxi. 30. Again, by praying for them, as our Saviour has commanded us to do; "Pray for them that despitefully use you and persecute you," Matt. v. 44; not only that God would pardon their sins, (which none can refuse to pray for, who call to mind our Saviour's prayer, when in the agonies of death, "Father, forgive them, for they know what they do," St. Luke, xxiii. 34: whose example was followed by the martyred Stephen, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge," Acts vii. 60); but we should also pray that He would turn their hearts to us, and reconcile them to Himself.

John. I see it is not so hard as I thought at first; I shall not forget, in future, to pray for my enemies.

Mr. B. Stay, John, this is not all; there is a harder duty yet to perform. We are to do them all the good in our power; we are to show to the world that we have freely and fully forgiven them, and that we *really* bear no malice nor hatred in our hearts. This is not so easy, is it?

John. Why no, Sir, I cannot say I had thought this was necessary; but I should like, if you please, to hear how you make it out, and where it is commanded.

Mr. B. Here, then, it is commanded. "Do good to them that hate you." Matt. v. 44. "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men." Gal. vi. 10. And the way is pointed out to us in many places. We are to do good to their souls, by gently pointing out to them their errors, and reasoning with them mildly. "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual restore such an one in the spirit of meekness;