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"IF I FORGET THEE, O JERUSALEM! LET MY RIGHT HAND FORGET ITS CUNNING."—PS. 137: 5.

1874—1875.

We have approached another era in our history—passed another mile-stone in the journey of life, and are travelling, with hurried steps, over the highway of 1875. What we are to meet on the march is known only to the Omniscient One; whether we will be permitted to reach its utmost limit, is more than human wisdom can predict. But, come what may, of this we are fully persuaded—that "all things work together for good to those that love God."

The season is an appropriate one for solemn reflection and self-examination. When the mind wanders back over the twelve months that have just closed, and reviews the record of our lives, we see much for which to thank God—the smiling of His countenance, the plenitude of His bounty, the greatness of His forbearance, the wonders of His love—much, also, to lament over and reprove ourselves for. Have we done "that which it was our duty to do?" Have we obeyed the voice of God in His Word and in His providential dealings with us? Have we lived up to our privileges? Have we taken advantage of the means of grace, the ordinances of the Gospel, the different spheres of usefulness that have been opened up for us in our various walks of life? Have we given bread to the hungry,

the "cup of cold water" to the thirsty, or clothed the naked, or visited the sick, or comforted the dying, whenever God, in His Providence, gave us the opportunity? Have we fulfilled our obligations to each other? Have we done justly, as well as loved mercy? Have we made our light to shine, or kept its rays obscured? Have we, in our intercourse and dealings with others, exhibited the christian graces or the devil's cunning? Have we influenced others for good or for evil? Has our conduct been such as to make them "take knowledge of us that we have been with Jesus," or such as to cause them to resolve that they would rather have to do with an infidel than a professing Christian? Have we ever caused the angels in Heaven to cover their faces at the iniquity of our ways? God forbid. Then, is the world any the better for our being in it last year?

How have we served our Redeemer? What proportion of our time, talent, substance, have we devoted to the promotion of His cause in the earth? How many times has our pew been vacant? How often have we failed to be present at the prayer-meeting? How much money have we contributed to maintain the ordinances of religion at home? how much to send the Gospel abroad? How many wanderers