

OLD AGE.

Let it always be respected. It has its dark side always; and its bright side, when the life has been virtuous. But in all cases let the young revere the aged, and honour the old men and aged women. Our heart always goes out to the children who are kind and respectful to the occupant of the old arm-chair; who love to wait on the grandmothers and grandfathers.

Old age—we are always glad to see it in comfortable circumstances. When people have been industrious to bear the burdens of life in the heat of the day, it is a peculiarly pleasant sight to see them surrounded by a competency in old age. It is a bad policy that squanders in youth and the vigor of manhood, instead of accumulating something against the day of old age. At that period the sprightliness of youth and the strength of mid-life have passed. The infirmities of age, the load of years, when "they that look out at the windows are darkened, when one starts at the sound of the bird, when fear is in the way"—all these make it desirable that the aged be most kindly administered unto, by children, grandchildren, and all other members of the household. And this care and respect of old age, the Bible enjoins as a filial and sacred duty upon the young.

Old age may be the lot of any of us; and we have said it has its bright side. Sometimes it is contemplated with much pleasure. You and I love to see an old man, reverend in years, glorious in gray hairs, and in the fruits of a long religious life. There is a patriarchal halo and brightness resting on the last years and acts of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, &c. There is a cheering record given us of Simeon in the temple, and one of "about four score and four years, who served God with fastings and prayers night and day." Fathers and mothers in Israel, these and thousands such there are among us now, who seemed preserved by a gracious Providence, as the salt of the earth, for the two-fold purpose of contrasting the present with past generations, and of praying to God for the peace and prosperity of the Church of God.

Emphatically is it true that kindness done to them, are the same as if done to Christ. And if the aged be poor, and if some of them have been pious even in earlier portions of life's journey, still be kind to them. For God has borne with such four-score years, then our children and grandchildren can a few days. "Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head." But religion shall make old age a welcome closing and ripening scene to well-spent life. A glorious sunset is as pleasant to look upon as a sunrise. These wait for thy salvation, O Lord.—*Morning Star*.

PAY FOR SWEARING.

"What does Satan pay you for swearing?" said a good man to one who he heard using profane language.

"He don't pay me anything," was the reply.

"Well, you work cheap,—to lay aside the character of a gentleman; to cost so much pain on your friends; and all civil people; to suffer such loss of conscience as you must suffer; and, lastly, to risk losing your precious soul, and," (gradually rising in emphasis,) "and all for nothing! You certainly do work cheap—very cheap indeed."