

for the people of God." Thus it is that in approaching Death the man whose thoughts have been habitually conversant with all that it implies for the people of God, and who has a conscious interest in the Redeemer's work of grace, can rise above all natural apprehensions and think of his departure as a going home to be "forever with the Lord." And as it is with such an one in the anticipation of this final hour, so it is in the actual experience which sunders soul and body, and ushers the immortal part into its endless home. Many and varied are the outward form of this departure. Sometimes in mortal anguish, which, like a tempest, shakes down the earthly tabernacle; sometimes in physical unconsciousness of the last act of dissolution; sometimes by a sharp and sudden stroke, which in an unexpected moment cuts off the thread of life; and sometimes by a soft and gentle motion which bears the spirit homeward, as a vessel rounds the headland of her long desired haven. But amid all variations in the method of departure, the essential thing is that the issue of the change is "peace." "For" so says the Apostle, "shall an abundant entrance be ministered unto you, into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." On this point,