

their appearance, I could scarcely believe my own ears; it seemed as if these persons had been like a certain insect with which you are acquainted, which in the spring bursts its chrysalis, and, from being a caterpillar, comes forth with its beautiful wings to the sun. These men talked like experienced Christians, when, at the same time, they exhibited this extraordinary appearance; from being savages—from being the lowest grade of savages—from being in a situation where they never heard the gospel—these very men, by the labors of a Bosjesman who had received the Society's Bible and read to them that Bible, were brought to a knowledge of the truth, and awakened to a sense of their condition.

**THE PIOUS PHYSICIAN.**—It was the daily practice of that eminent physician, Dr. Boerhaave, throughout his whole life, as soon as he arose in the morning (which was generally very early) to retire for an hour for private prayer and meditation on some part of the Scriptures. He often told his friends, when they asked him how it was possible for him to go through so much fatigue, "That it was this which gave him spirit and vigour in the business of the day." This, therefore, he recommended as the best rule he could give. "For nothing," he said, "could tend more to the health of the body than the tranquillity of the mind; and that he knew nothing which could support himself or his fellow-creatures amidst the various distresses of life, but a well grounded confidence in the Supreme Being, upon the principles of Christianity."

If the mass of a nation, privileged with the Bible, have their portion at last with the unbelieving, it must not be forgotten, that there is in every age a remnant, who trust in the Saviour whom that Bible reveals. The blessings which result from the

possession of the Scriptures are not to be computed from what appears on the surface of society. There is a quiet under-current of happiness, which is generally unobserved, but which greatly swells the amount of good to be traced to the Bible. You must go into families, and see how burdens are lightened, and afflictions mitigated, by the promises of holy writ. You must follow men into their retirements, and learn how they gather strength from the study of the sacred volume, for discharging the various duties of life. You must be with them in their struggles with poverty, and observe how contentment is engendered by the prospect of riches which cannot fade away. You must be with them on their death-beds, and mark how the gloom of the opening grave is scattered by the hope which is "full of immortality." And you must be with them, if indeed the spirit could be accompanied in its heavenly flight, as they enter the divine presence, and prove, by taking possession of the inheritance which the Bible offers to believers, that they "have not followed a cunningly devised fable." The sum of happiness conferred by revelation can never be known until God shall have laid open all secrets at the judgment. We must have access to the history of every individual, from his childhood up to his entering his everlasting rest, before we have the elements from which to compute what Christianity hath done for those who receive it into the heart. And if but one or two were gathered out from a people, as a result of conveying to that people the records of revelation, there would be, we may not doubt, such an amount of conferred benefit, as would sufficiently prove the advantage of possessing the oracles of God.—*Rev. H. Melville.*

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, in all wisdom.—*Paul.*