

copy of Fox's Book of Martyrs. This parlor which had never been swept is the unholy and unsanctified heart of man. Born in sin and growing up with inward corruptions, unchecked and maturing in strength, man may while let alone see nothing either to alarm or dismay. It is thus with sin: let it alone and it smiles on you, wears a face of friendship. Let the serpent of intemperance alone, and it lies basking in the sunshine; but smite it and it turns its deadly fangs and envenomed tooth against you. Let slavery have the sway in the councils of a nation, binding men and women and dragging them to worse than death, defying the law of God and checking all free discussion, it bears itself bravely, as if chivalrous and honourable, but let its claims be disputed and you see the glaring eye of vengeance, and the red brand of war is waved on high. Thus sleeping in sin all seems well, but bring in the claims of law, begin to sweep the defiled apartment of man's heart, and you stir up contentions and difficulties. Law work fails to cleanse the soul. It is a spark to fire the powder of rebellion. Sin taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead. It gives strength to sin. It discovers and forbids, but fails to subdue sin. Cleanse your hearts as you may by deeds of the law, failure is the uniform issue of every attempt. The sweeping of the law may create a commotion in the room of the heart, yet leaves it no better. Like the woman that spent her all on the physicians, and was no better, but rather the worse, so the help that men strive to find from the law is not unto life: it tends to death, "for sin taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me." There was a damsel to whom the Interpreter said, "Bring hither water, and sprinkle the room," the which when she had done it was swept and cleansed with pleasure. "She that brought water and did sprinkle it is the gospel." An influence like the balmy dew distils from the message of the cross. Precious influences to the heart flow from the reception of the gospel.

" Sweet the moments rich in blessing
Which before the cross I spend;
Life, and health, and peace possessing
From the sinner's dying Friend."

Now ye are clean through the word that I have spoken unto you. Christ gave himself for the Church, that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word.

"I saw, moreover, in my dream, that the Interpreter took him by the hand, and led him into a little room, where sat two children, each in his chair. The name of the eldest was Passion, the name of the youngest Patience. Passion seemed to be much discontented, but Patience was very quiet. Then Christian asked, 'What is the reason of the discontent of Passion?' The Interpreter answered, 'The governor of them would have him stay for his best things till the beginning of the next year, but he will have all now; but Patience is willing to wait.'" It was not long before Passion had his desire. "One came, and brought him a bag of treasure, and poured it down at his feet: the which he took up and rejoiced therein, and withal laughed Patience to scorn—soon, however, he had lavished all away, and had nothing left him but rags." The names of these children are plain enough to tell us what is meant; there are many men and women like them. Two distinct classes dwell on earth—the righteous and the wicked—the converted and the unconverted. With many, present objects are all