

I felt that in the midst of life we are in death. But the Spirit of God was not in me. I had no peace of conscience. God wrestled with me, and sorely afflicted me. When I was at St. Bee's, in 1850, I gave up all hopes of ever being well again, and I then for the first time felt my danger."

As soon as his distress became so urgent as to force him into a simpler and more direct faith, the light broke like a summer dawn. Here is the crisis of comfort and strength, if not of life, in his soul:—

"I am determined, for the future, not to perplex my mind with seeking for some extraordinary impressions, signs, or tokens of the new birth. I BELIEVE THE GOSPEL. I LOVE THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. I receive with confidence the promise, that 'he that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life.' The new birth must be a change of mind, from ungodliness to belief in and worship of God, through our blessed Mediator."

Henceforth it was day, if not yet high noon. "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away: behold, all things are become new." Among George Moore's old things there was so much of purity, integrity, and benevolence, that the change was not conspicuous to every eye at first; but the great rule held as true in his case as in any other. The new things were such as these:—First, he made earnest, watchful endeavour after his own growth in grace. Secondly, he now took up fresh forms of well-doing distinctively Christian, such as the establishment of daily prayer in his premises at Bow Churchyard and Nottingham, and other means for the spiritual welfare of those under him; a reformatory for discharged prisoners; the City Mission; the Bible Society; the Midnight Mission; the visiting of the sick poor, with no thought of scarlet fever and small-pox; Bible readings in his splendid new mansion at Kensington, at which he gathered his personal friends—these continued for seventeen years, and were blessed to several,* colportage and mission work in Cumberland, secretly helping poor persons—students and ministers among the number—in the most effective and delicate ways; and many, many such works, truly good. And lastly, whatever he did now he did for Christ's sake, and as Christ's servant. "I must not be discouraged; I am doing Christ's work." "If I did not think it Christ's work, I should not submit to the unpleasant duty of beg-

* See pp. 440, 441.