


and our daily life; there is not a familiar object around us which does not wear a different aspect because the light of Christian love is on it—not a law which does not owe its truth and gentleness to Christianity—not a custom which cannot be traced, in all its holy, healthful parts, to the gospel.”

CHRISTIANS—STARS OF THE FIRST MAGNITUDE.—Dr. Clarke, in his commentary on 1 Cor. 15th chap. has made many important remarks. Among these, few passages exhibit more clearly the fact, that the same of religious society prevailed in England that is so manifest among us now, some half century after him. Writing relative to the small number of stars of the first magnitude. he says: W. W. E.

“The reader is probably amazed at the *paucity* of large stars in the whole firmament of heaven! Will he permit me to carry his mind a little farther, and either stand *astonished* at, or *deplore* with me the fact, that out of *millions* of Christians in the vicinity and splendor of the *eternal Sun of righteousness*, how very few are found of the *first order*! How very few can stand examination by the *text* laid down in the 13th chapter of this epistle! How very few love God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength; and their neighbor as themselves! How few mature christians are found in the church! How few are all things living for eternity! How little *light*, how little *heat*, how little *influence and activity* are to be found among them that bear the name of Christ! How few *Stars of the first magnitude* will the Son of God have to deck the crown of his glory! Few are striving to excel in righteousness; and it seems to be a principal concern with many to find out *how little grace they may have and yet escape hell*! How little *conformity to the will of God*, they may have, and yet get to heaven! In the fear of God I register this testimony, that I have perceived it to be the labor of many to *lower the standard of Christianity*: and to soften down and explain away, those *promises of God* that himself has *linked with duties*; and because they know that they cannot be saved by their *good works*, they are contented to have *no good works at all*: and thus the necessity of Christian *obedience*, and Christian *holiness* makes no prominent part of some modern creeds.”—Dr. Adam Clarke.

ITEMS—Interesting news, some of it laid out for insertion this month, but omitted for lack of space, will yet appear. Brother Black's report arrived after the pages of this No. were principally made up. An article in respect to the scarcity of preachers, from the pen of our esteemed and ever estimable brother Eaton, should have appeared in this No., but was unfortunately misplaced in our arrangement and crowded out. It, and 'Plurality of Elders,' next month:

 We are happy to say that our friends have enabled us to add fifty new subscribers to our list during the month of January. All helpers will be blessed in these efforts, and require no flattering expressions of gratitude from us. D O.