

personal strength was concerned, which a sense of approaching death aroused him to employ, and one which he felt it necessary to transmit as a means of affording the truest consolation under the deprivation which he now foresaw to be certain; a declaration of his confidence in the mercy of God and in the faith of his Redeemer. It is addressed to those whose anxiety he knew, would on his account be the deepest; to those whom, in those appalling hours of approaching separation from the world, it can easily be understood that his heart would yearn with peculiar intensity of filial love; to those whom in this brief record of his dying hopes, he terms his "dearest parents." Calm amidst his sufferings, and tranquil amidst the solitariness and gloom of his situation he thus writes: "Should I not live to reach home, this small note, which is all I am able to write, will be forwarded to you by the captain of the ship. But it will be some consolation to you to know that I die in full faith of the mercy of my God, and that I have a firm hope that through his grace I shall attain eternal rest. What a dreadful disappointment to all your fond hopes! But God wills it, therefore we must submit." This pathetic testimonial of his Christian confidence, which is all that I shall extract from the brief letter in question, and which is pathetically subscribed "your affectionate but dying son," is assuredly enough to afford the fullest satisfaction as to his being of that blessed number who "die in the Lord." It bears the strongest internal evidence of this fact;—a declaration, clear and firm, of dependence upon the mercy of God through his Saviour's blood, for this, the only means of acceptance he well understood;