

"The time is short; it remaineth that both they that have wives be as though they had none, and they that weep as though they wept not; and they that rejoice as though they rejoiced not, and they that buy as though they possessed not; and they that use this world as not abusing it; for the fashion of this world passeth away."

But perhaps the same truths, printed before your eyes, if taken up from time to time, (it may be when the writer's hand is mouldering in the dust) will find a place in the memory, when the words of the lips will have been long forgotten. So may it be now. My "heart's desire and prayer to God for you all," without exception, is, "that you may be saved." And the nearer I approach to the Scriptural bound of human life, the more anxious surely, ought I to be, to give "full proof of my ministry, to take heed to myself and to the doctrine, that I may both save myself and them that hear me." To teach every man and warn every man, "declaring unto you the whole counsel of God," leading you by precept and example, to Him who is the way, the truth, and the life,—striving to present you perfect in Christ Jesus, that you and I may rejoice together, when our race is run, and our warfare is accomplished, when we shall have done with earth and all its trials and temptations, its short-lived joys and its many sorrows. To the attainment of this most desirable consummation, I feel that every power of mind and body, with which the gracious God has endowed me, ought to be consecrated. But alas! I feel also, how sadly I have come short in this matter. When I look back to the solemn moment of my ordination by the first Bishop of Quebec, (now nearly 43 years ago,) and remember that injunction, which he so impressively delivered to me from the Ordination service "never to cease my labor, care and diligence until I have done all that in me lies, to bring those committed to my charge, to ripeness and perfectness of age in Christ." When memory recalls that serious hour, such misgivings will often arise as can only be calmed by the blessed truth, that we have to do with a merciful Master, who knows how frail we are, whose "strength is made perfect in our weakness, and whose blood cleanseth from all sin." Yes, dear brethren, *that* is the only sure dependence for saint or sinner, minister or people, Prince or beggar, Bishop, Priest or Deacon. Cling to that "faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance,"