

true religion. The former, who, I have reason to believe, sometimes drank with him, began to read, but soon gave up, for he saw that R——n's mind was wandering. In this state he continued till Sabbath morning, when his spirit passed away into the presence of Him whose name he had so often blasphemed. The funeral was appointed to take place in the afternoon of the following day, at 2 o'clock. An inquest was held in the morning. From the evidence it was plain that drunkenness, with exposure to the cold, had brought on the disease of which he died. He was but poorly clad. He died a few days before Christmas. The verdict, however, was in effect that he died from natural causes. Although he was to be buried close to the Manse, I arranged to have a short religious exercise before the funeral party left the house. The fact that the departed was once a school-mate of mine, was with me a special reason for accompanying the remains to the grave. When I went to the place at the time appointed, I found that the coffin had not yet come. With great want of forethought, the carpenters, instead of beginning their work in the morning, put off till after the inquest. While waiting, I caused some of his hair to be cut off, to send to his friends. At length, about 3 o'clock, the coffin came. With little preparation, the body was put into it, and closed up. The devotional exercise had to be made very short. We then set out on our mournful journey, I taking the lead. As we were going through the gate to the highway, the step-father of the woman already spoken of came up to us on his way home. He was quite drunk. For a considerable part of the way he had to bring up the rear. It was very sad to see one in a drunken state attending the funeral of a drunkard. After we had gone a short distance, my driver proposed to me to go at a quicker pace,

as, otherwise, owing to the shortness of the days, darkness might overtake us before we would reach the burying-ground. At first I was unwilling to do so, as it seemed unfeeling. However, I soon found it necessary to take his advice. The rest followed our example. Poor R——n's remains were thus, for the most of the way, taken to the grave at a trot. But few attended. He was well-known on the line, yet not one of those engaged on it was present, though many of them had drunk with him during his lifetime. It was very dark when we reached the Manse. I, therefore, got my lantern, and stood beside the grave of my former school-mate while it was being filled up. I suppose that very few of the readers of this magazine have ever witnessed a burial by artificial light. In the case of one of whom we cannot warrantably cherish the slightest hope, there is something which appears very awful. The manner in which poor R——n was buried was in keeping with that in which he lived and died. I have laid a large stone at the head of the grave to mark it. While I am here, there will be one who still looks on it with interest. My school-mate lies in a dishonoured grave, awaiting the day when the many who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt. I do not say what is his state now. I leave him with his God. But I do not speak uncharitably when I say, "Let me not die his death, let not my last end be like his." It might have been with me as it was with him. O, Lord God, Thy grace alone has made the one differ from the other.

The following additional particulars may not be uninteresting. The books, instruments, and papers belonging to the departed one, were put into my keeping. I found among the latter, a letter from a gentleman of influence, in which the writer said that he had