

melteth upon it even in the very beating ; and therefore she casteth the rod into the fire, and calleth the child, giveth it an apple, and dandleth it most motherly. And to say the truth, the love of mothers to their children is but a trace to train us up to behold the love of God towards us ; and therefore saith he, ' Can a mother forget the child of her womb ? ' as much as to say, ' No, but if she should do so, yet will I not forget thee, saith the Lord of Hosts.' Ah, comfortable saying !—I will not forget thee."

Wait awhile, and the light which is sown for the righteous shall bring forth a harvest of delights ; but water the ground with the tears of thy repentance, lest the seed should long tarry under the clods. As sure as thou art a quickened soul thou wilt, in the dreary winter of thy Lord's absence, pant for renewed communion, and be thou sure to use all means to obtain this boon. Do as thou didst when thou didst first come to Christ. Read and practise the directions given to the seeking sinner in the third chapter,\* for they are well-adapted to thine own case, and then take the advice which follows :—

1. Hunt out and slay the sin which has caused the coolness of fellowship between thee and thy Lord.
2. Most humbly confess this sin, and ask grace to avoid it in future.
3. Come again as a poor guilty sinner to the cross of Christ, and put thy trust implicitly in him who died upon it.
4. Use thy closet and thy Bible more frequently, and with more earnestness.
5. Be active in serving Christ, and patient in waiting for him, and ere long he will appear to cheer thy spirit with floods of his surpassing love. If all these fail thee, tarry the leisure of thy Master, and thy work shall certainly be rewarded in due time.