

nize the great Preserver who has brought you through the unnumbered dangers of the past year and has made your cup to run over — and are you truly grateful for all his blessings. Let your language be, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." In the day of thy gladness remember the poor. How far do we act upon the *spirit* of our Saviour's command. "When thou makest a feast call the poor, the maimed, the lame and the blind; and thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee; for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just."

It is a season for the expression of benevolence and friendship. "Children beseech time mercifully to spare the guides of their youth. The father and mother hope to see their dear offspring long coming around them. The husband congratulates the desire of his eyes, and the wife hails the companion of her journey. Friendship renews every lively desire; and all, however indifferent at other seasons, yield to custom and wish your returns of this day to be many and happy. We can only wish that such expressions were increased so much the more, and that they were uttered in deeper sincerity. But, would that we were equally solicitous for the spiritual welfare of our friends — that Christ may be formed within their hearts the hope of glory, and that they may be going from strength to strength on their journey heavenwards.

It is, or at least should be, a season of solemn recollection. Memory recalls many mis-spent hours, many fruitless days. Let us begin another year with the resolution to live to a higher, holier purpose. Let us ask with Saul of Tarsus, "Lord, what wilt

thou have me to do?" Let man ask himself, "How can I glorify God?" Is there not a Bible to circulate, are there not missionaries to support? Are there none perishing within your own reach? Have you no irreligious neighbor for whose salvation your prayers and your efforts might be blessed? Have you not some relative or friend — some brother, sister, or child, yet in the gall of bitterness and the bond of iniquity?"

As we look back our spirits are chastened by the remembrance of some once with us, but here no longer. Think at the same time of the ravages of death among the Heathen. Twenty millions have passed away for ever — and as many more will go this year. Let not the statement of this fact enough to cause every fibre of our souls to thrill with ardor for their salvation, and nerve us to renewed exertions to send to them the Word of Life?

We are now reminded of the instability of the world and the rapid passing of time. It should make each of us feel the sentiment of Job, "When a few years are come I shall go the way whence I shall not return. To a wicked man God once said, "This year thou shalt die;" and to a considerable number of our readers, whether in Christ or not, the same sentence is going forth. We know not to whom; wisely has this been concealed from us. Surely this should lead us to be prepared for such an event. Supposing it to come, what shall it prove to us? Will it be a blessing or a curse? Will our dwelling be with everlasting burning, or will we "enter into peace, and the days of our mourning be ended."

Home Department.

The reports of missionary labor performed by probationers since the meeting of Synod, have lately come unto our hands. They contain evidence of the diligence of our probationers as well as of the interesting fields opening up to our church. We have thought it wise to give a selection from these. We commence with the report of our mission to Harvey by the Rev. James H. Lean of Mabou.