

heard of his death: 'Help, Lord, for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men.'* What can be in store for the Church when such men as Willoughby, Milnor, and Duv, are removed in the midst of their labours! On the other hand, our Schools are sending forth annually, large numbers of men who decry some of the greatest and most precious doctrines of the Gospel; and, instead of making their people hunger and thirst after righteousness, lead them to hunger and thirst after *Rome*! But this I know, that 'the Lord reigneth,' and his cause shall finally triumph." The friend whose departure we mourn, was fully alive to this reality: "*God*," he would observe, in witnessing similar dispensations of Providence, "*needs not any of us*."

True it is, my beloved friends, that the righteous are sometimes taken away as a judgment upon those who remain. They are not appreciated by us, the talent is not improved, and, being prepared for their change, they are removed from the evil. Such a visitation as has lately befallen us ought to lead to "great searchings of heart." The former world could not be overflowed until the believing patriarch and his family had first been rescued. The

* Psalm xii. 1.