

“The troubled conscience knows thy voice ;
 Thy cheering words awake our joys ;
 Thy words allay the stormy wind,
 And calm the surges of the mind.”

The christian's conscience should be void of offence towards God and towards man. This is attained amid the engagements of a consistent christianity. An unreserved consecration of heart, and life, and all, brings with it the approbation of a good conscience. In religion a straightforward part is acted, while a hypocritical and time-serving policy is avoided, *then*, who can prevent the flow of peace as a river? The conscience beareth witness in the Holy Ghost. To the enjoyment of a good conscience a proper acquaintance with our rule of duty is necessary. In some lands the light of nature only shines—when the Gentiles, who have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the meanwhile accusing or else excusing one another;—we however in this land, possess also the light of God's word. That light must shine into the soul. Ignorance, superstition, fanaticism, are no friends of a good conscience. In God's light we shall see light. He that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God. Hence, in the absence of obedience to the truth, the terrible nature of those stripes with which an accusing conscience shall smite a conscious and an immortal being—self-reproved and self-condemned. We read of being beaten with few and with many stripes, and that according to the knowledge of the Lord's will. How utterly inconsistent that with soul-sleeping and soul-annihilation: errors with which the consciences of men are drugged in this age. Since there are few and many stripes, it cannot be true that nothing happens to man's soul from death to the judgment, and then at the judgment a common lot of annihilation to overwhelm the wicked. No,—the light of mercy, the privileges possessed, these affect man's weal or woe for time and for eternity. This is the condemnation, that light has come into the world, and men have loved darkness rather than light. Yet this light shines to the joy of the righteous: for them light is sown, and gladness for the upright in heart.

The possession of a good conscience implies further, the use of the precious light of God's truth to educate and guide. That word must be brought to bear on all the duties of life. Its influence will arouse to the performance of what has been omitted. What is wrong it will remedy. “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” Its guidance will especially bring us to Jesus, with whose presence no thorn can pierce the heart or wound the conscience.

Commending the truth to every man's conscience as in the sight of God, we close these remarks; imploring any whose consciences tell them that all is not right with them for eternity, to flee without delay to the cross of Christ.

THE DEPUTATION TO ENGLAND.

Our readers will be glad to learn that the Rev. F. H. Marling, and those of his family who accompany him, arrived safely in England by the *Great Eastern*, after a voyage of nine days. Letters from him to his friends in Toronto were placed on board the *Hibernian*, which left Liverpool just as the