

period on this earthly stage, and then be removed, to bloom forever in the paradise above.

As his years advanced, he grew in favour with his parents and friends, and all with whom he became acquainted. The mildness of his disposition, his condescending manners, and the warm friendship of which he was susceptible, particularly endeared him to all his youthful companions. And the good degree of talent and discretion, which he early began to manifest, combined with steady habit, and the most exemplary moral conduct, seemed to point him out as one who promised to become, not only a credit to himself and his parents, but also a very useful and efficient member of the society in which he might be called to move.

When he was about sixteen years of age, he joined himself as a scholar to the Aylesford Sunday-School, under the superintendence and direction of that pious and faithful minister of Christ, the Rev. H. L. Owen,—and which has been the means, in the hands of God, of abundantly nourishing and promoting the principles of piety and morality, among the youth of the parish. Here, Walter's consistent conduct, united with his diligence and attention, rendered him a worthy example to his fellow-scholars, and earned for him the praise and approbation of his pastor and teachers.

It is not known that, up to the time of his joining the Sabbath-School, he was the subject of any powerful convictions, or awakenings, more than is usual with youths of a reflecting turn of mind. But it happened not long after, that a melancholy dispensation of Providence occurred, which caused him to sorrow deeply, brought guilt and terror upon his mind, and aroused him to a sense of his sinfulness, to the corruption of his state by nature, and the danger he was in while living in a state of rebellion against his God. After he joined the school, he became acquainted, and subsequently much attached, to a young man named L.——M——, who was a fellow-scholar, and belonged in the same class (which was the senior class) with himself. It happened that this youthful friend and associate, some time in the fore part of the summer of 1836,—while in health and the bloom of youth,—was engaged bathing on the shore of the Bay of Fundy; he unfortunately fell from the boat and was drowned, and his body could not be recovered. His young friend's sudden departure from time to eternity, was regarded by Walter, (as doubtless it was by many in the parish,) as a fresh proof of the great uncertainty of life, and a loud call for him "to prepare to meet his God." He now became deeply concerned for the welfare of his soul. He saw that he was a sinner in the sight of God, and while he continued in his sins, he was exposed to eternal misery. In this state of mind, he was led to the determination to forsake his sins, to call humbly on the Lord for his pardoning mercy, and henceforth to live a life of piety. It is probable that few persons ever suffered greater distress of mind than he did, at the period of which we are speaking. While speaking of those feelings to the writer, he has observed,—“I have been so alarmed about my soul, that I dare not go to sleep at night, for fear I would awake in torment.” It is probable

that he continued in this state of mind for a considerable length of time, yet it is not known how long. But alas! the wiles of the enemy, and the fatal allurements of the world, proved too destructive to his good desires, and his strongest resolutions were forced to give way before them. As he did not make his case known to his Pastor, or his pious friends, and did not obtain the blessing which he sought; and being exposed to young and trifling company, he relaxed his pursuit after religion, partook again of the pleasures of the world, and eventually “ceased to pray, and ceased to fight.” But the Spirit of the Lord did not forsake him; and he continued the subject of its gracious influences. He continued a regular attendant at divine worship, either with the Church, or with the Methodists; and always seemed to pay particular attention to the services. He seemed likewise to give earnest heed to the pious instructions he was accustomed to receive at the Sabbath-Schools; and since he professed religion, he would frequently declare the obligations he was under, “to bless God for the religious instructions he had received from the Rev. Mr. Owen.” He never after indulged so freely in folly, and seldom without deep remorse of conscience. Nor did he derive the supposed pleasure, in the practice of trifling amusements, such as dancing, &c., which most young persons do. This is evident from his own language. At one time, when he was a guest with a party of young persons, and all seemed enlivened by mirth and gaiety, he observed to one of his young friends,—“I suppose you think I am enjoying great pleasure this evening;”—his friend answered in the affirmative, and he declared,—“I do not.” After his convictions had worn off, and he became less concerned, it appears that he came to the conclusion, that he could not live a pious life, without the especial interposition of the power of God in his behalf; and at one time, while conversing with him on religious matters, he argued that,—“If it was the will of the Lord that he should be a Christian, he would order it so.”

We now approach an important and interesting period, in the life of our young friend; and as the writer had the pleasure of being on terms of intimacy with him during this time, and to the end of his life, and had each united to the same religious society; he trusts he will be enabled for the most part, to adopt his own language, while tracing the exercises of his mind, during the brief period which elapsed, from the time of his publicly engaging in religion, until his death.

In the latter part of October last, a protracted meeting was appointed by the Rev. Peter Sleep, the Wesleyan Missionary on the Circuit, which was held in the Methodist Chapel, quite near where Walter resided, and where he was accustomed to attend divine worship. At this meeting, the labours of this faithful minister, and his assistants, were greatly blessed; and it was the blessed means in the hand of God, of the conversion of many souls, mostly young persons. Toward the close of this meeting, which continued several days, the Spirit of the Lord began to operate

powerfully on
ple; insomuch
in the public
the prayers
their behalf.
es of the mir
panied by th
duced a pov
aroused, in a
which he ha
rigidly refrain
while conver
and its blisse
admit, “that
session we c
culated to in
ever, that of
addressed b
was not cot
“not partic
him to pray
words,—“I
selves home
feelings; a
ed to make
ward with
prayed for.
his counter
enduring, c
“I am not
sinner, and
may;” an
with cries
earnestly t
into retire
mercy. I
state, as h
he was ble
ing meeti
pious frie
Friday, th
days afte
his mind,
enabled t
God, and
forting w
I will pre
thine ang
And the
was enat
of his a
those wh
sake thei
compani
earnestly
and the
blessing
was Sal
said he
I am—I
pleasure
previou