

according to the *rule* of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus, the believer can with the fullest assurance arrive with perfect safety to this most desirable attainment. The apostle Peter speaks thus, "According as his divine power hath given unto us *all things* that pertain unto *life and godliness.*" Mark, it is here stated that, *all things* are given to *us* (every believer or true christian) that belong to these admirable qualifications. "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature. And besides this (that is, besides being partakers of the divine nature), giving all diligence, add to your faith, virtue." Let your moral goodness and chasity be pure and unimpeachable. "And to virtue, knowledge." Be skilful and intelligent in the law of the spirit of life. "And to knowledge, temperance." Let your moderation and sedateness run commensurate with your christian character and outward deportment. "And to temperance, patience." Be calm and resigned in the midst of severe affliction, endure reproach and opposition with much long suffering. "And to patience, godliness." Continue piously and righteously toward God. "And to godliness, brotherly kindness." Be very strict in carrying out the nature, principle, and quality of this grace, so as to exemplify all the fruits of a heaven born soul. "And to brotherly kindness, charity." Suffer long, and be kind, envy no one, nor be puffed up; do not behave yourself unseemly; seek not your own; be not easily provoked; think no evil; rejoice not in iniquity, but rejoice in the truth; bear all things, believe all things, hope for all things, endure all things. "For if these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." 2 Pet. i. 1—8. "And this is life eternal, that they might *know* thee, the only *true* God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent." The apostle Peter goes on to say, "For if ye do these things ye shall never fall. For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." A thorough knowledge of God and his Son Jesus Christ, and a complete submission on our part to all things taught by Christ and his Apostles brings us to this excellent state of holy living. And this holy living brings us (at the resurrection of the just) to the tree of life, in the everlasting kingdom.

CONDONO.

**SPIRIT OF RELIGION.**—Christ re-established the unity of human nature. He taught us the principle of eternal justice, and the grand secret of all harmony and happiness, on earth as in heaven—love. Till we arrive at that point of his system, we are unacquainted with Christianity, and are ignorant of our natures and our destinies. The dogmas and the mysteries that even the very highest disciples have wrapped round this glorious sun of the Christian system—this all-embracing sentiment of universal love, have only obscured its light from us, and screened from us its vital warmth. The gospel does not consist in doctrines and ceremonies [only], but in love.

But to love we must know who are worthy of our love; and here again the revelation of Christ embraced the infinite: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." And then came the question, "who is thy neighbor?" And the answer expressed in an immortal story was, "Every one who needs thy help."—*Extract.*