

greeable to our condition, and the dignity of our nature.

STILL further to moderate our grief upon the loss of children; let us be advised constantly to habituate ourselves to a serious, realizing consideration that we must finally be separated from them—that they must leave us, or that we must leave them. The laws of nature and reason; the laws of creation and providence; the laws of scripture and of Heaven; all forbid that we should dwell in this world forever with our children—both parents and children are born to die—death is the common lot, the inevitable portion of all the human race. Death is of all things most certain; the time WHEN is most uncertain. If parents would duly and steadily consider these truths, they would be better prepared to resign their children to God, whenever he sends his grim messenger death to demand them.

It not only behoves us to consider that we must be separated from our children: but that this separation must be in a short time at furthest. Few and evil are the days of the longest pilgrimage that human life can expect. How soon do three score and ten or four score years pass away! how soon are they gone, forever gone! how quickly are they to be numbered among “the years before the flood.”

SHOULD we, and the children, which God hath given us, have our lives continued to the full extent of Methuselah's age; even *that* portion of time, compared to eternity, would be but as the small drop of the bucket, as the light dust of the balance; it would be more easily swallowed up by eternity, than the smallest drop of water by the greatest ocean.

BUT as the case really is, as we find the life of man in fact to be; the longest time, which we can expect to sojourn with our friends and children is but like a shadow, a vapor and a dream: let any person look back thro' forty or fifty years of past time; how short, vain and empty will such period appear! we may with great propriety say—of such a space of time, what the prophet says of the glory of Ephraim and the prosperity of