

the bottom of the sea, and carried another in a chariot of fire to heaven. What has not prayer done?—*Ryland.*

DOMESTIC PIETY.

“Let them show piety at home.”—1 TIMOTHY v. 4.

PARENTS if your children do not meet with a spirit of piety in your houses; if on the contrary, your pride consists in surrounding them with external gifts, introducing them into worldly society, indulging all their whims, letting them follow their own course, you will see them grow vain, proud, idle, disobedient, and extravagant. They will treat you with contempt; and the more your hearts are wrapt up in them, the less they will think of you. This is seen but too often to be the case; but ask yourselves if you are not responsible for their bad habits and practices: and your consciences will reply that you are; that you are now eating the bread of bitterness which you have prepared for yourselves. May you learn thereby how great is your sin against God, in neglecting the means which were in your power for influencing their hearts; and may others take warning from your misfortune, and bring up their children *in the Lord*. Nothing is more effectual in doing this, than an example of domestic piety.—*Christian Citizen.*

PREACHERS MUST BE EARNEST.

To be born, to live, and to die, are real events. Pain, grief, and dissolution, are serious things. The Saviour of the world was serious and earnest in all his labours, both as a teacher and worker of miracles. The Prophets and Apostles were serious, solemn, earnest, pointed, conscience awakening, and soul-stirring preachers. It is said that Jerome used to say, “that he never entered the pulpit but the trumpet of the judgment day seemed to be sounding in his ears.” The most successful ministers of the gospel have not been eminent as school-trained rhetoricians, but eloquent in their own way: eloquent, because they loved the souls of their fellow-men, and loved the truth by which they were to be saved, and earnest in presenting it to them. We believe the want of point, plainness, and earnestness, to be an error of many of the preachers of our times. They are not successful, because they are not earnest. They do not realize the full meaning of their message, and the awful responsibility of their vocation. Eminent orators have always been earnest speakers. Hall, Chalmers, Griffin, and Payson, were serious, earnest, impassioned preachers. Eternity, and the rewards of a well or ill-spent life, are serious realities. Surely, if men should ever be serious and earnest, it is when they are addressing their fellow men about their eternal welfare.—*Protestant.*

WHY DO WE SIT STILL?

AWAKE ye slumberers in the vineyard of the Lord. Religious indolence admits of no apology. Activity in the cause of Christ is beneficial to the physical frame, and for the intellect no exercises are more useful than those required by the Saviour. An increase of piety would render the mental powers more efficient. “They are continually throwing on their own natures, that live unconcernedly about their future, eternal