

I had scarcely uttered the words, when my poor misguided sister, unable to restrain her indignation, at first gave vent to her feelings by a flood of tears, and then, as if reproaching herself for her weakness, she arose, and changing her countenance, (which before had been placid,) to an expression of scorn and hatred, she said, 'then, sir, we must have done with you for ever—you have made us all wretched—we shall be ashamed to see any of our friends; you have brought disgrace and scandal upon us, and will bring the grey hairs of your parents with sorrow to the grave. If your heart is not yet so hardened as to be incapable of being moved at the grief and anguish you have occasioned your aged parents; if you do not desire to be an outcast from your family, from your nation; if you will serve the God of your fathers, instead of being led astray by those Christian idolaters, I entreat you to turn away from them. You are but little acquainted with them as yet. They may appear favorably disposed towards you for a short space of time; but they will soon contemptuously leave you to deplore your consummate folly in giving your society to the heathens, in preference to that of God's chosen people, and the company of strangers, to those of your father's house.' I endeavored (by appealing to her better reason) to soothe her agonized feelings, and assured her, that I did not look to man, but only to God. I said, that the Shepherd of Israel was gathering his sheep into his fold. She would listen to no more, but turning away, instantly left the house.—After her departure, she gave vent to her outraged feelings in a flood of tears, and I was afterwards informed, that she was three several times attacked with violent fits.

"This was a season of great temptation to me; I loved my relations very dearly; for in addition to my having for them a natural affection, I now loved them for Christ's sake, and for their soul's sake.—But even had it been possible for me to have loved them better than I did, my love to Jesus was paramount to all, for the love of Christ constrained me to give up all for Him, whom my soul loved. I now prayed earnestly that I might be enabled in this time of sore temptation to stand my ground, and that the word of God sown in my heart might take deep root. My

family were determined to leave no means untried to win me back to them. Their mode of attack was cautiously planned; they did not offer any violent opposition to me at first, for they expected that *that* would at once have put an end to their hopes of regaining me. They knew how much I was attached to my youngest sister. We were nearly of the same age, and from our earliest infancy, our mutual affection attracted the attention of all who knew us. In our little joys and griefs, there was a genuine sympathy of kindly feeling, and this attachment did not only exist in our early days, but continued afterwards unalloyed by any misunderstanding, up to the time when I was called upon to decide between the love of my Redeemer and my relations. Therefore, this sister was deemed a most proper person to be the bearer of the wishes of my family regarding me; they thought that I could not refuse her any request, and that I should yield to her tears and entreaties. The morning following the day that my eldest sister came, I received a visit from the youngest. She came in and looked at us most piteously, then sinking down on a seat, covered her face with her hands and sobbed convulsively, in a manner that would have been distressing even to a stranger; what then must it have been to a brother who had always shared her sorrows? We sat like so many statues. I now needed as much as ever the strength of an Almighty arm to lean upon—my natural feelings were overcome, and had I conferred with flesh and blood, I should undoubtedly have yielded in this moment of trial, but God was my stay.

"Nearly an hour had elapsed before my poor sister could give utterance to a word. Vain would any attempt of mine be to describe her appeal to me. It was delivered in broken sentences, now gently reproving, now affectionately entreating; showers of tears continually preventing her speech. 'Oh, Henry,' she said, 'if any of that love remains which you have always shown to all your family, and particularly to me, you will now prove it by saving us from the disgrace and shame of one of our family abjuring the religion of his forefathers; you will assuredly break our hearts if you do not relent.'

"I must here digress for a moment, to