

## CORRESPONDENCE.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

AYLESFORD, Dec. 5th, 1838.

DEAR SIR.—As the conversion of a sinner from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, is at any time a circumstance worthy of being regarded by all who feel a lively interest in the salvation of men, and as I believe there are many of this class who peruse your valuable miscellany, it may perhaps be interesting to some of them to read the following narrative. It relates not only to the conversion of a sinner, but also to the particular state of the individual, at the time of her conversion, which seems to render the whole more particularly interesting, and leads us to exclaim, "Is not this a brand plucked from the burning?" Never did I perceive the value of time as on that memorable night, when the person referred to was brought to rejoice in God her Saviour; only two hours before she exchanged time for eternity; and I may add, never did I more clearly discover the value of that atonement, by which a poor, guilty, but penitent sinner, becomes reconciled to God.

On the 23rd of September, 1838, after dismissing the congregation at my regular preaching place in Cornwallis, I was requested to visit Mary, the second daughter of Mr. Samuel Condin, who had for some time been a member of my congregation, but had not obtained an experimental knowledge of her interest in Christ.

On entering the room I found her very much dissatisfied both in body and in mind; she was dying without a prospect of future happiness! Here was a scene calculated to penetrate the most obdurate heart, and call forth the strongest sympathies of those who had any disposition to feel for a fellow-creature! She expressed her fears of dropping into eternity without a preparation to meet God, and cried earnestly to the Lord for mercy! After conversing with her for a short time, we all engaged in prayer; and surely the scene was distressing! Father, mother, sisters, and friends, all bathed in tears! but while we were at prayer, I was persuaded that the Lord would set her soul at liberty; and immediately after rising from our knees, I endeavoured to encourage her, by stating that this was my persuasion. But soon after this she seemed as if she had expired, and lay for a few moments with her eyes fixed, and her countenance looking frightfully! And who can describe the distressing feelings of her poor mother on that occasion? when her piercing cries seemed to indicate that the departed spirit was gone to a state of misery! But O the goodness of God! in a few moments she revived again, and soon after this the Lord was pleased to speak peace to her soul. She then called the different members of the family, and embracing each of them in the most affectionate manner, exhorted them all to prepare to meet her in heaven!

The scene, which before was so distressing, was quite changed. The disconsolate parents were now willing to resign their dear child into the arms of her heavenly Father; and all around were ready to unite with the dying Believer, in praying that the Lord Jesus would receive her spirit. Her pain was not so excruciating as it had been, but her thirst was so intense that every attempt to allay it was in vain; this became very distressing, her disorder being such as would not permit of any thing to remain on her stomach: so that every drink she took, immediately increased her affliction. And never shall I forget the affecting manner, in which, when in this state, she said to me "it is all right." She lived about two hours in a very happy state of mind, and then it pleased the Lord to release her happy spirit, and unite her to that blessed company, who have "washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the lamb," on the 23rd September, about 11 o'clock,

P. M. She was in the 17th year of her age, and continued her regular exercises until the Monday before her death; when her state became a lively comment on the 6th verse of the 99th Psalm. The funeral took place on the 24th, and the obsequies were improved by the Rev. W. Chapman, who delivered a very solemn discourse, from Colossians, iv. 3. "May the Lord sanctify the parents, friends, and family, her former companions prepare to meet her in that state of blessedness, where sorrow, pain, and parting shall be no more."

P. M. S. W. M. S.

DEAR SIR,—You will much oblige a Subscriber by inserting in the Wesleyan the following extracts from the Rules of the Society of the people called Methodists, and Mr. Wesley's Sermon on the use of money.

"It is therefore expected of all who continue therein, that they should continue to evidence their desire of salvation: First,—By doing no harm, by averting evil of every kind: especially that which is most generally practised, such as—Drunkenness—Lying or selling spirituous liquors, or drinking them, except in cases of extreme necessity."

"Neither may we gain by hurting our neighbour in his body. Therefore we may not sell any thing which tends to impair health. Such is eminently all that liquid fire erroneously called drams, or spirituous liquors. It is true these may have a place in medicine—they may be of use in some bodily disorders—although there would rarely be occasion for them were it not for the unskillfulness of the practitioner. Therefore such as prepare and sell them only for this end may keep their consciences clear."

But who are they? Who prepare them only for this end? Do you know ten such distillers in England? Then excuse them. But all who sell them in the common way—to any that will buy—are Poisoners General. They murder his Majesty's subjects by wholesale, neither does their eye pity or spare. They drive them to hell like sheep, and what is their gain? Is it not the blood of these men? Who then would envy their large estates and sumptuous palaces? A curse is in the midst of them: the curse of God cleaves to the stones, the timber, the furniture of them! The curse of God is in their gardens, their walks, their groves; a fire that burns to the nethermost hell! Blood—blood is there—the foundation, the floor, the walls are stained with blood. And canst thou hope, oh thou man of blood, though thou art clothed in scarlet and fine linen, and farrest sun prominently every day? Canst thou hope to deliver down thy fields of blood to the third generation? Not so; for there is a God in heaven—therefore, thy name shall be rooted out. Like as those whom thou hast destroyed body and soul! Thy name and shall perish with thee!"

SELF OPINION.—Opinion of ourselves, is like the casting of a shadow, which is always longest when the sun is at the greatest distance. By the degrees that the sun approaches, the shadow shortens; and under the direct meridian light, it becomes none at all. It is so with our opinions of ourselves. While the good influences of God are at the greatest distance from us, it is then always that we come to least of ourselves. As God approaches, the conceit lessens, until we receive the fuller measures of his grace, and then we become nothing in our own conceit, and God appears to be all in all.—Dean Young

Admire genius: respect talent, and regard learning; but, when any one of these is united with an overbearing quantity of self-conceit, I would rather pay my homage to an uncultivated New Zealander.