

Beloved brethren, we *all* belong to a period of declension. It is too late for the Church, collectively, to return ; but let us, at least, individually, avoid this slippery path. Let us watch against the world, and mistrust even its fairest baits, seeking, in these closing days, to be amongst the faithful ones to whom the Lord can say, "I will come in to *him*, and will sup with *him*, and *he* with Me." (Rev. iii. 20.) God grant that holy separation from the world, and increasing communion with the Lord, may characterize us until the close of our course.

(*To be continued, D. V.*)



FRAGMENT.—Worldiness and earthly-mindedness have blinded the minds and hardened the hearts of Christians, now-a-days, to an extent very few have any idea of. There are, I am persuaded, very few cases touching upon the safety, and well-being, of the Church of God, which can be left to be judged by the mass of believers. On whom can one cast one's burden of responsibility as to the spirituality of the saint's walk and conduct? In cases innumerable which have occurred, I have found that the affections to the person of Christ have not been lively enough to make Christians indignant at open insults put upon Him—and they have had neither the heart nor the mind to stand apart from that which was the expression of indifferntism to Him.