

was set; they betoken an uncommon measure of spirituality of mind. We regret, however, the extreme uniformity of their subjects. Being almost all letters of consolation, they exhibit their author's mind only in a single aspect. Still this light is one of the most amiable and engaging in which it could be shewn; and, although deficient in variety of topics and occasions, these letters present a most instructive view of his care to redeem the time, his concern about the salvation of those around him, the yearnings of his heart over his nearest relatives, his fervent aspirations after ministerial usefulness, his strong and deep impressions of the riches of Christ, and his habitual seeking of a city yet to come. Out of a multitude of others equally beautiful and affecting, we give two extracts, both from letters to his father,—the one shewing how his heart was stayed on the exhaustless provisions of the covenant,—and the other, with how unfaltering an eye he could contemplate the putting off his earthly tabernacle.

"Good books suggest good thoughts; they help to fix the wandering mind, and furnish it with rich and suitable food for sacred meditation. In the Bible we have a never-failing fund of consolation and of joy. The promises are all founded in the

love and kindness of Jehovah; they are fulfilled by his faithfulness and power, and they extend to all things, comprehending the life that now is, and also that which is to come. To be heir of the promises, is to be heir of all things: 'all things are yours.' The first and leading promise in the Bible is, 'I will be your God, and ye shall be my people.' To assure us of its certainty, it is repeated more than fifteen times. And if the Lord be the portion of our souls, what can we want? He will give us grace and glory, and no good thing will be withheld. His heart is infinite, but every corner in it is filled with love and kindness to them who know his name, and have embraced him as their treasure and their all. This is a portion which will last. The mountains may depart, and the hills may be removed, but his loving kindness will not depart from us, neither will the covenant of his grace be broken. He rests in his love. He hates putting away; and long after the heavens and the earth have vanished from the face of being, we will be folded in the arms of his mercy, and drinking immortal vigour from the river of uncreated goodness and love. Till the happy time come when we shall see him as he is, let us strive to be near him, let us labour to be like him, endeavour to sit at his feet, and to do the things that please him. Blessed are those servants whom the Lord, at his coming, shall find watching."

"Our own time is short. Yet a little while, and those that weep shall be as though they wept not, and they that rejoice as though they rejoiced not. We must soon enter the world of spirits, and appear before our God and Judge. And, oh! what a blessed and glorious appearance will it be to the Christian. Then he

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ble man on whom these strictures were made is since dead, and he has left no memorial of his gifted mind behind him except such as may be found in the regards of a few surviving contemporaries. Dr. Hamilton, on the other hand, endowed with talents inferior to his, but cultivated and directed by a sanctified spirit—has done much for his own generation—and being dead, he yet speaketh. Without "minding high things," or esteeming himself great, he has acquired an honorable name among those whose honor is of the purest value. His works will continue to occupy a distinguished place among those composed for the edification of the serious. I trust they will become better known throughout our church in Canada, particularly his Treatise on the Law and Gospel, and his Young Communicant's Remembrancer. My affectionate remembrance of this "faithful witness" induced me to take this earliest opportunity of presenting these extracted notices of his life.