

on the earth." Present attractions are many, and the earth has often an undue influence upon the Christian pilgrim, so as materially to tarnish the purity and glory of his heavenly character. He is apt at seasons to act in a manner unbecoming his high vocation, and too readily to conform to principles and usages detrimental to his spiritual health and vigour. The times are trying, but we must not on any account lose sight of the fact, that as *Christians*, we are *not of this world*, even as *Christ* was not of the world. Our "home" is above, and we should be in readiness to go home at our Father's bidding.

The patriarch Jacob had something of this feeling, when blessing his children, he said, "I have waited for thy salvation, O Lord," Gen. xlix, 18. And Simeon participated in this spirit, when, after seeing the child Jesus, he exclaimed, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word : for mine eyes have seen thy salvation." Luke ii, 29, 30.

Perhaps we are nearer our home than we anticipate. A few more years at most and we shall be there. But whether near or more distant let us hold fast our integrity as its heirs and expectants. Whatever our trials of faith, let us "bind the Gospel to our hearts," and brave the storm of unbelief which seems to be gathering around many. "Be thou faithful unto death," says the great Master, "and I will give thee a crown of life." "Hold thou me up, and I shall be safe."

J. T. B.

Trans-Atlantic Retrospect.

There is but little of importance to communicate this month on English religious matters. The melancholy wreck of the Anglo-Saxon and the loss of the mails has deprived us of our last batch of newspapers with any intelligence they might contain ; would that the damage was no heavier than this, but the loss of so large a number of lives is a terrible disaster and will, we fear, bring sorrow and suffering into many homes. The Colenso controversy continues in full force, the Bishops and clergy of the Church of England unable to free themselves from the alliance of a man who so strangely uses his position, are doing their best to show that they have no sympathy with him, and that it is not their fault if he still continues a professed teacher of that which he denies. Golden chains are sometimes as strong and as galling as Iron ones. A large body of the clergy having addressed the Archbishop of Canterbury on the subject, he makes a reply of which the following are the principal parts :—

"I cannot be surprised at the feelings of sorrow and indignation with which you view those works, as impugning, in your judgment, the authority of the Holy Scriptures ; and as derogatory to the person, the attributes, and the work of our Divine Redeemer ; for happily it is without precedent that such published opinions should have emanated from a bishop of the Church of Christ.

"To the diligent student of God's Holy Word, who looks for light and guidance from above, the books to which you refer are absolutely harmless ; but they are pregnant with mischief to the ignorant, the half-informed, and to all who rejoice in anything which can free them from the troublesome restraints of religion. A