

but there are other ways in which the knowledge of our inward selves, brought about by self-examination, may be brought to bear. We have learnt as a matter of fact, that certain positions of life, certain societies and companies, have brought us into serious dangers, and that many vexations have followed thereupon. Reason says, "Avoid such positions, societies, and companies for the future."

4. At the banquet or the festival, at such and such houses, and on such and such days, I have lost all power over my appetites, and gave loose to unbecomingly things. By the excitement under which I laboured, the flatteries by which I was beset, the congenial dispositions of the men whom I met, leading me on further than I meant to go, I was induced to do many things which I know, in system, are wrong; I was guilty of hasty and inconsiderate words, and of much exaggeration in my talk; I was led into much egotism and self-exaltation; I spoke even malignantly of others. I argued for victory's sake, or self-display, and not for the advantage of truth. My self-examination on these points has repeatedly caused me much sorrow and bitterness. What shall I do? Reason immediately makes an induction from it all, and says, "Never again visit such houses or join in such proceedings; keep separate and apart from them."

5. When I have been reading books of this or that description,—books of poetry character, and trivial in their objects, though I may have been amused and occupied in them for a time, I have inwardly found that my mind and spirit has been in proportion lowered and degraded, and lost its relish for higher and purer things; I have been drawn away from the more vital things of religion and of God, and my mind has wandered to questionable, if not to sinful, topics of thought. Reason would immediately say, "Set aside such books, and seek better."

Such arguments, however, as these might be used by Aristotle or Cicero. I mean, that they are obvious even to a heathen. They appertain to us, as I said, in the nature of man. But, as Christians, we have higher and better weapons; we have a Saviour, a Gospel, and a Church, and thence are means of knowledge and means of grace, which, of course, agreeing with reason, yet so far exceed and absorb reason, as to say, all else is nothing, even as the world is nothing before God. If you say, falling into sin as you do, "I have an evil heart, evil thoughts, I cannot resist them," it is obvious that the Church of which you are a member will reply, "Have you come to me to seek for methods of resistance?" The Saviour of the world will say, "Have you come to me as I have hidden you? Come unto me all ye that labour, and I will give you rest."

In the first place, have you resorted to Prayer? Being as you are, a child of God by Holy Baptism, have you gone to your father, and said, "Abba, Father?" In the boiling up of your heart, and the lusts of your imagination, have you striven to cool them down and assuage their fierce thirstings, by kneeling down and saying, "Have mercy upon me, O God, for without thee I can do nothing?" Have you been taught that there is nothing whatsoever in this wide world which you may either fear or desire, but that you may deprecate it on the one hand or seek it on the other? Have you not heard about "knocking at the door," of "asking," and "seeking," and what the result is promised to be?—"It shall be opened; ye shall receive; ye shall find." There is God's sanctuary, and the prayers of the congregation. There is your own chamber, where you can shut to the door, and pray to your Heavenly Father which is in secret. Have you, when receiving the foul assaults of the devil, resorted to this duty? If not, how can you find fault, and say you are deserted? And if you have, still you must question whether you have done it rightly, perseveringly, and faithfully. All these points it behoves you to ascertain before you give yourself to murmuring. Whatsoever foul things trouble you—howsoever you be vexed—howsoever strong the tempter may be in pursuing you—pray for the opposite qualities of those which he suggests. If he suggests lust, pray for purity. If he suggests ambition, pray for contentment. If he suggests carnal, worldly pleasures, pray that you may have a mind that can delight in the spiritual pleasures of the eternal throne of God. On your knees uplift your voice. Crush the first rangings of the thought. Spit upon the foul imagination as you would upon a foul gangrene—an ugly monster. Lift up the hands, and seek of God the spirit of grace.—*Bennett's Letters.*

On time is an universal talent, that every man that lives to discretion hath. Every man hath not a talent of learning, or of wealth, or of honour, or of subtlety of wit, to account for; but every man that lives to the age of discretion hath time to account for.—*Sir Matthew Hale.*

News Department.

From Papers by R. M. S. Canada, August 18.

ENGLAND.

THE PRONOGATION.

On Tuesday, August 14, Parliament was prorogued by commission. The Lord Chancellor read her Most Gracious Majesty's SPEECH, as follows:—

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"We are commanded by her Majesty to release you from further attendance in Parliament, and at the same time to express the warm acknowledgments of her Majesty for the zeal and assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the discharge of your public duties during a long and laborious session.

"Her Majesty has seen, with great satisfaction, that while you have occupied yourselves in providing means for the vigorous prosecution of the war, you have given your attention to many measures of great public utility.

"Her Majesty is convinced that you will share her satisfaction at finding that the progress of events has tended to cement more firmly that union which has so happily been established between her Government and that of her ally the Emperor of the French.

"Her Majesty trusts that an alliance, founded on a sense of the general interests of Europe, and consolidated by good faith, will long survive the events which have given rise to it; and will contribute to the permanent well-being and prosperity of the two great nations which it has united together in bonds of honorable friendship.

"The accession of the King of Sardinia to the treaty between Her Majesty, the Emperor of the French, and the Sultan, has given additional importance and strength to that alliance, and the efficient force which his Sardinian Majesty has sent to the seat of war to cooperate with the allied armies will not fail to maintain the high reputation by which the army of Sardinia has ever been distinguished.

"Her Majesty has commended us to thank you for having enabled her to avail herself, as far as has been found to be required, of the patriotic offers of extended services which she has received from the Militia of the United Kingdom, and for the means of reinforcing her army in the Crimea by an enlistment of volunteers from abroad.

"Her Majesty acknowledges with satisfaction the measure you have adopted for giving effect to the convention by which, in conjunction with her ally the Emperor of the French, she has made arrangements for assisting the Sultan to provide the means which are necessary to enable him to maintain in efficiency the Turkish army, which has so gallantly withstood the assaults of its enemies.

"Her Majesty, in giving her assent to the bill which you presented to her for the local management of the metropolis, trusts that the arrangements provided by that measure will lead to many improvements conducive to the convenience and health of this great city.

"The abolition of the duty upon newspapers will tend to diffuse useful information amongst the poorer classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

"The principle of limited liability which you have judiciously applied to joint-stock associations will afford additional facilities for the employment of capital, and the improvements which you have made in the laws which regulate friendly societies will encourage habits of industry and thrift amongst the labouring classes of the community.

"Her Majesty trusts that the measures to which she has given her assent for improving the Constitutions of New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania, and for bestowing on the flourishing colonies of Australia extended powers of self-government, will assist in the development of their great natural resources, and will promote the contentment and happiness of their inhabitants. Her Majesty commands us to say that she has been deeply gratified by the zeal for the success of her Majesty's arms, and by the sympathy manifested for her soldiers and sailors throughout her Indian and Colonial Empire; and her Majesty acknowledges with great satisfaction the generous contributions which her subjects in India, and the Legislatures and inhabitants of the colonies, have sent for the relief of the sufferers by the calamities of war.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"Her Majesty commands us to convey to you her cordial thanks for the readiness and zeal with which you have provided the necessary supplies to carry on the war in which her Majesty is engaged.

"Her Majesty laments the burdens and sacrifices which it has become necessary to impose upon her

faithful people; but she acknowledges the wisdom with which you have alleviated the weight of those burdens by the mixed arrangements which you have made for providing those supplies.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"Her Majesty commands us to say that she has seen with pleasure, regret that the endeavours which, in conjunction with her ally the Emperor of the French, she made at the recent conferences at Vienna to bring the war to a conclusion on conditions consistent with the honour of the allies, and with the future security of Europe, have proved ineffectual; but those endeavours having failed, no other course is left to her Majesty but to prosecute the war with all possible vigour, and her Majesty, relying upon the support of Parliament, upon the manly spirit and patriotism of her people, upon the never failing courage of her army and navy, whose patience under sufferings and whose power of endurance her Majesty has witnessed with admiration, relying upon the steadfast fidelity of her allies, and above all upon the justice of her cause, her Majesty humbly puts her trust in the Almighty Disposer of events for such an issue of the great contest in which she is engaged as may secure to Europe the blessings of a firm and lasting peace. On your return to your several countries you will have duties to perform little less important than those which belong to your attendance in Parliament. Her Majesty trusts that your powerful influence will be exerted for the welfare and happiness of her people, the promotion of which is the object of her Majesty's constant care, and the anxious desire of her heart."

LIVERPOOL, August 18.—The great event of the week to the commercial and general reader is the destruction of the fortress of Sveaborg,—a place hitherto deemed almost impregnable, by the small mortar vessels and gunboats of the English and French fleets in the Baltic. It is believed that the effect produced upon Russia will be no less moral than physical, showing her clearly that she can place no great reliance upon granite walls when opposed to the giant powers of England and France.

The money market has been in an easy position, and no change has occurred in the rates of discount either at the Bank of England or at the discount houses of Lombard-street.

The return of fine weather has removed the feeling of uneasiness caused by the rain last week, and the future course of the money market will, no doubt, be materially influenced by the prospects of the approaching harvest. Consols quoted at 91½.

The Ripon sailed for Malta on Saturday, with drafts of troops amounting to 900 men, and thirty-four tons of camp equipage, for the Crimea.

The 51st Regiment, which has for some time been stationed in Manchester, embarked yesterday, 450 strong, at Liverpool, on board the steam-transport *Emu and Andes*, for Malta. Upwards of 400 men, comprising detachments from the 51st and 48th Regiments, and the 3rd Buffs, have also embarked on board the same, which were to sail last evening.

In anticipation of the winter, the Government has entered into extensive contracts for fur clothing for the troops in the Crimea. The number to be supplied is—coats lined with rabbit fur, 45,000; trousers ditto, 45,000, and fur waistcoats, 45,000; 10,000 of each of the foregoing articles of a better description are also to be supplied. The waterproof clothing contracted for is to consist of 50,000 cloaks with sleeves, 50,000 capes, and 60,000 ox-hide boots, impervious to snow water. The greater portion of the above-mentioned is to be delivered into store by the 1st of September.

RUSSIA.

Prince Gortschakoff, writing on the night of the 10th, says there is nothing new before Sebastopol, and that the fire of the allies is feeble. French letters indicate pretty distinctly that another assault is to be attempted to-day, the Emperor's fête-day. That it will be attempted with ultimate, if not present, success, even the *Austrian Military Gazette*, with its Russian sympathies, allows:—

"The French Engineer," it says, "have now got so near to the east fort and the Karabelais fortifications that the first Russian line of defence can hardly withstand the next assault. It would, of course, be possible to hold the second line, even when the allies had taken the Malakhoff Tower, but General Osten-Sacken well knows the danger which at this moment threatens the Marine suburb and the Admiralty buildings, and has given orders preparatory to the eventual evacuation of this part of the town, and a retreat to Fort Nicholas. General Chreleff directs the defence of the Karabelais, and has his headquarters in Fort Basil. It is inferred, from his latest measures that, while prepared for the worst, he is resolved to defend his ground to the utmost."

A French letter from Kamietch, in the *Moniteur de la Flotte*, tells us that—

"The Malakhoff commands all the lower part of Se-