

THE GOSPEL OF PEACE.—GURNALL.

WRITTEN TWO-HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

Now the Gospel is a Gospel of Peace if taken in this notion also, which we shall briefly speak to, viz: The Gospel and only the Gospel can knit the hearts and minds of men together, in a solid peace and love, this next to reconciling us to God, is especially designed by Christ in the Gospel, and truly without this the saint's happiness would be sadly defective, except God should make a Heaven for every one to live by himself in. John Baptist's ministry was the preface to the Gospel divided into these two heads 1. To turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God; and 2. To turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, to make them friends with God and one another, this is its natural effect, to unite and endear the hearts of men and women in love and peace; this is the strange metamorphosis of which the prophet speaks, Isa. xi. v. 8. "The Wolf shall dwell with the Lamb, and Leopard shall lie down with the Kid, &c." and how is all this, see v. 9, "for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord. Indeed it is in the dark that men fight and draw upon one another in wrath and fury; if gospel light comes savingly in, the sword will soon be put up, the sweet spirit of love will not suffer these doings where he dwells, and so peculiar is this blessing to the Gospel that Christ has made it the badge by which they should not only know one another, but should be known by strangers from all others, John xiii. 35. If we would see the effects of this love, let us gaze with admiration on the display of it in the case of those who first embraced and professed the Gospel in sincerity, and then glance by the eye of faith at this beautiful flower full blown and diffusing its celestial fragrance in an unchanging atmosphere of love. Among the primitive saints how sweet was the harmony and peace, those who had been enemies now lived and loved as if each one's heart had forsaken its former abode to creep into his brother's bosom; they parted with their Estates to keep their love entire, with the bread out of their own mouths to feed their brethren in want—were more merry in emptying their bags in charity than in filling them with gain and did eat their bread with gladness and singleness of heart and if we look at the state of things in Heaven when the hearts of saints shall be fully *Gospelized* and all the promises be accomplished, then above all the peace of the Gospel will appear, here it is put out and in like a budding flower in the spring, if a warm day opens it, a cold one follows and it's soon closed again. The silence in this lower heaven is but for the space of half an hour, Rev. viii. 1.

But this Gospel propounds powerful arguments for peace and unity such as are found no where else; cords of love that were never wove in nature's loom, being all supernatural and of divine revelation, Eph. iv. 3.; and how does the Apostle persuade them to

keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace:—First, one body, such a one as philosophy treats not of; again, one spirit, the same holy Spirit which quickens all true saints and is to the whole number of them what the soul is to the whole man, and is as it were a prodigious violence to the Law of Nature for the members by intestine war among themselves to drive the soul out of the body, so much more is it for Christians to force the Holy Spirit from them by their contentions; and how can they open a wider door for him to depart. But again he presseth unity from the one hope of our calling, There is a day coming when we shall meet lovingly in heaven and sit at one feast without grudging what lies on another's trencher. Full fruition of God shall be the feast and peace and love the sweet music that shall for ever accompany and augment the harmony and the blessedness.

For the Gospel Tribune.

DEATH SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY.

Died, at Brampton, Canada West April the 26th, Mary, the beloved wife of John Snell, sen., aged 67 years.

Mrs. Snell was a native of Burrington, Devon, England, which country she left for Canada sixteen years ago.

Her departure out of this life, while a great loss to her sorrowing family, was a blessed testimony to the power of the Gospel, and all who knew her as a Christian are encouraged "not to sorrow as those who have no hope."—1. Thess. iv. 13.

Her whole Salvation was Christ. Two days before her death, after the 23rd chap. of Isaiah had been read, she remarked, "It is true, He has suffered *all* for us;" and when some in attendance noticed that she was suffering from bodily pain, she replied, "our sufferings are nothing to His." To another she remarked, "Though He was rich, yet for our sakes He became poor that we through His poverty might become rich."

She evinced a deep solicitude about her family, and when they were gathered together to witness her end she said, "I am glad that all my dear children know the way but mind you walk in it." She several times besought her children to give themselves entirely to the Lord and to give up the world; once she said "O the world, the world, the world! forsake the world. To another she said, "I shall soon be gone from you: I hope you will look to the Lord: He is worth looking to: mind you don't be forgetful:" and then, as if viewing Him herself she exclaimed, O my dear Lord Jesus.

The Lord was her portion. As one was weeping over her bed, she begged him to desist adding, "I shall soon be in a better place: glory be to God:" and the manner in which she repeated the following part of a favourite hymn, shortly before her departure, will long be remembered,

"O Jesus, O Jesus, thou balm of my soul,
'Twas thou my dear Jesus that made my heart whole:
O bring me to view Thee Thou precious sweet King,
'In oceans of glory thy praises to sing."

"Farewell my dear children my Lord bids me come,
Farewell my dear children I soon shall go home."

Now, to Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, to him be all the glory.

W. M.