

*in lounging idleness. Experience has proved the utility of the Sabbath Schools in improving the manners and morals of people, in all the common situations of life.*

*And when viewed as among the means of imbibing young minds with an early knowledge of the Scriptures, and the principles of our holy religion, they appear still more important and worthy of support.*

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JOHN McDOWALL,

SECRETARY.

Village of Fredericksburgh,

October 1, 1823.

BY BISHOP HORNE.

THE LEAF.

We all do fade as a leaf.—*Isaiah*

*lii. 6.*

See the leaves around us falling,

Dry and wither'd, to the ground;

Thus to thoughtless mortals calling,

In a sad and solemn sound:

Sons of Adam, once in Eden

Blighted when like us he fell,

Hear the lecture we are reading,

'Tis, alas! the truth we tell.

Virgin, much, too much presuming

On your boasted white and red,

View us late in beauty-blooming,

Number'd now among the dead.

Gripping misers, nightly waking,

See, the end of all your care;

Fled on wings of our own making,

We have left our owners bare.

Sons of honour, sed on praises,

Fluttering high in fancied worth,

Lo! the fickle air, that raises,

Brings us down to parent earth.

Learned sophs, in systems jaded,

Who for new ones daily call,

Cease at length, by us persuaded,

Every leaf must have its fall!

Youths, though yet no losses grieve you,

Gay in health and manly grace;

Let no cloudless skies deceive you,

Summer to autumn must give place.

Venerable sires, grown hoary,

Hither turn th' unwilling eye,

Think, amidst your falling glory,

Autumn tells a winter nigh.

Yearly in our course returning,

Messengers of shortest stay,

Thus we preach this truth concerning,

Heaven and earth shall pass away.

On the Tree of Life eternal,

Man, let all thy hope be staid,

Which alone, for ever vernal,

Bears a leaf that shall not fade.

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