

is danger that in the end he may meet with disappointment. How much more then ought that "hope which maketh not ashamed,"—which always ends in complete fruition, to support the Christian in the midst of trial, and to stimulate him to remain "steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord!"

But we turn from these useful reflections to the contemplation in the next place.

III. Of the character of the righteous man who is to inherit this rest as exemplified in that of our late lamented Father and Bishop.

In what I shall say concerning the character of this eminent servant of Christ I shall endeavour to "speak forth the words of truth and soberness." But though they are rare in the world, compared with others, yet there are some whom to describe, is to praise, and of whose worth there is more danger that we shall say too little than too much. But however seldom such persons are to be met with, nevertheless, we have a remarkable instance of them in the person of him whose loss we this day mourn. He has gone,—a Father in Israel. He has "fought the good fight of faith,"—he has "finished his course" upon earth:—he has departed in the full assurance of hope;—he has been called, leaving as an example that we should follow, "to exchange an earthly mitre for a heavenly crown."

So far had the fame of this good Bishop extended, and so highly were his virtues appreciated by Christians of all denominations both in Europe and America that his death will be felt, not merely as the loss of the Established Church in these Provinces, but as the loss of the Church Catholic. If this then was the general estimation in which he was held;—if amidst the contending zeal of sects and parties, he thus claimed the sympathies of all, he must have been emphatically a good and righteous man;—he must have been one of those of whom the apostle says "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."—It will therefore afford an illustration of the meaning of this expression "which die in the Lord," in our text, to contemplate in him some of the more striking virtues for which he was preeminent.

If I were asked briefly to describe what constitutes the Christian character, I would reply, faith, resignation to the will of God, patience, meekness, obedience in all things, charity and benevolence towards all mankind, a desire to glorify God in all things, and an ardent zeal for the spread of the Gospel.

And if on the other hand I were asked to describe the most