

eyes, and seemed to recognise those around her. She continued in this condition for several hours, during which period she occasionally uttered the most heart-touching and unearthly groans I ever heard from a mortal being. They distressed me—they distressed us all.

‘At last, putting my mouth close to her ear, I said, “Mary Ann, do tell me, what mean these unearthly groans which we hear from you? What is the matter, my dear child? If it is in your power to tell me, do, I beseech you.” And never shall I forget the reply. She opened her once beautiful eyes, slowly raised her pale and attenuated hand, and fixing on me a look that made my very soul ache—such was its solemn intensity—she said, with an audibleness of voice that utterly astonished us all, “*Doctor, Doctor, there is a difference between a life of amusement and a life of prayer. Oh, it is hard to die without an interest in Christ.*” She closed her eyes, her hand fell and all was silent. And, my soul, what a silence was that!—Soon the earthly anguish of the sufferer was ended,—she spoke not again.’—*The Appeal.*

TRUE KNOWLEDGE.

Alas for the knowledge that knows no Saviour. Alas for the science which includes no gospel. The most erudite of lawyers was Selden. Some days before his death he sent for Archbishop Usher, and said,—‘I have survived most of the learning which is among the sons of men, and my study is filled with books and manuscripts on various subjects, yet at this moment I can recollect nothing in them all on which I can rest my soul, save one from the sacred scriptures, which lies much on my spirit. It is this—‘The grace of God which bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God, and our Saviour Jesus Christ; who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a people, zealous of good works.’

THE BROKEN SPRING.

‘What is the matter, sister? something has disturbed you,’ said Mr. A—, as he found his sister angrily demonstrating with her little boy, who stood like a young culprit before her,

‘Yes, I am angry and hurt with Charley; I believe he has carelessly thrown down my watch, which I desired him never to touch, and he stoutly denies it. Go away, sir, and when I ask you again, let me find that you have determined to tell the truth,’ and away flew the little delinquent, most happy to make his escape.

‘He is getting a naughty boy,’ said his mother, ‘I cannot imagine where he has learned that dreadful habit of lying.’

‘It seems that he disobeyed you by touching the watch, and is afraid that you will punish him for having injured it?’

‘Yes, and instantly denies all knowledge of it, that he may escape; but I shall punish him for the falsehood if he persists in it: and really, if you knew how carefully I kept him from all risk of contamination through associating with other children, you would wonder how he could imagine anything so abominable as a falsehood.’

‘No, I should not, sister. Has it not occurred to you that he may inherit such an imagination?’

‘Inherit it, brother!’ exclaimed the lady, with a look of indignation and astonishment. ‘Pray, from whom can he inherit anything so disgraceful? His father’s character is truth and honour itself, and I believe his mother abhors deceit with all her heart.’

‘I beg your pardon, dear sister; I did not mean to insinuate anything disrespectful of either of you.’

‘Well, I know you have some very odd notions, brother; still I should be thankful if you could advise me how to correct my child. Of course everything will depend on his education, which we are endeavoring to conduct on the most approved plans. I must content myself with hoping that when his mind expands with knowledge, and his reasoning powers are developed, he will rise above these degrading propensities, and learn to love only what is noble and true. But, brother, do look at the watch for me, it does not go.’

‘I fear it is seriously injured,’ said Mr.