

thought he had in any respect dishonoured God, he has never done with calling it to mind with sorrow ; though he was assured that God had forgiven it, yet he never forgave himself. And his present sins, that he daily found in himself, were an occasion of daily sorrow of heart.

His religion was not like a blazing meteor, flying through the firmament with a bright train, and then quickly going out ; but like the steady lights of heaven, that are constant principals of light, though sometimes hid with clouds. Nor like a land-flood, which flows far and wide, with a rapid stream, bearing down all before it, and then dried up ; but like a stream fed by living springs ; which though sometimes increased and at other times diminished, yet is a *constant stream*.

Mr. Brainerd's comforts were not like those of some other persons, which are attended with a spiritual satiety, and put an end to their religious desires and longings, at least to the ardency of them ; resting satisfied, as having obtained their chief end, which is to extinguish their fears of hell. On the contrary, how were they always attended with longings and thirstings after greater degrees of conformity to God ! And the greater and sweeter his comforts were, the more vehement were his desires after holiness. For his longings were not so much after joyful discoveries of God's love ; as after greater spirituality, an heart more engaged for God, to love, and exalt, and depend upon him : an ability better to serve him, to do more for his glory. And his desires were powerful and effectual, to animate him to the earnest, eager pursuit of these things. His comforts never put an end to his seeking after God, but greatly engaged and enlarged him therein.

His religion did not consist only in *experience*, without *practice*. All his comforts had a direct tendency to practice ; and this, not merely a practice *negatively* good, but a practice *positively* holy and christian, in a serious, devout, humble, meek, merciful,