

social feeling, and made it a law of his kingdom that we shall derive our highest enjoyment from their exercise. And one of the purposes for which the ever-blessed Son of God came into the world, was to augment our happiness, by elevating and refining our social sentiments.

It is no wonder, then, that we experience a deep degree of mental depression and sorrow, when our social intercourse is interrupted or destroyed. Even when the hope is cherished, that, after a season, it will be renewed in circumstances of greater satisfaction, it would yet be with a heavy heart we would part. A thousand pleasing recollections of the scenes and incidents of past life would come upon the mind, and give a pensive character to the thoughts that were not absolutely distressing; and the remembrance of the happiness that had been enjoyed in each other's society, and the mutual kindness that had been experienced, would awaken deeper and sadder emotions. If there had been any bitterness or strife in the past, it would be forgiven and forgotten. If there had been any opportunities omitted of aiding and befriending each other, they would be remembered with regret, and in some measure atoned for, by the rush of a warmer and fuller tide of affection to the heart, and the most sincere purpose to be kind to one another, and to do good to one another, in time to come, even as we may have opportunity. But now that we are about to sepa-