

No additional proof is necessary on this point. We have learned, first that God commanded the Jews not to intermarry with other nations: secondly, they violated this injunction, and apostatized from the true worship of God: thirdly, as a punishment God permitted them to be carried into captivity: fourth, the consequence was disastrous to their offspring—they spoke half in the speech of Ashdod and half in the language of Canaan.

Notwithstanding the wisdom and virtue of Solomon, his wives lead him away from his God, and were instrumental in his becoming a worshipper of idols.

From these considerations it becomes still more evident that it is hazardous for a christian to marry an unbeliever. The Jewish law would not permit an Israelite to plow with an ox and an ass together. This would not be more incongruous, it appears to us, than for a christian woman of refined feelings and sensibilities to be married to a man "without hope and without God in the world." The ancient Israelites often suffered much by forming alliances with the nations around them. Such an alliance, however, was temporary, and its evils might possibly be corrected, though this was seldom done. The marriage alliance is for life. It is the most important transaction that can possibly take place between two human beings. It gives character to one's after life, and is productive of great happiness or much misery. The marriage compact gives character to future generations, and influence, for weal or woe, is felt in time and eternity! And yet there are professing christians who seek rich husbands for their daughters, regardless of almost every other qualification. They may be children of the devil—sons of night—walking in the pathway of vice and folly; but all these are overlooked and their dear and tender offspring put up to the highest bidder, and often sold to the devil. Far better follow them to the tomb! Far better fold them up in their winding sheet, and deposite them in the silent grave! They are buried alive—they are dead while they live. How can a child of God form such an alliance with a child of the devil?

This is an important subject. Light is wanting upon it. The happiness of thousands is involved in it. The education and proper christian training of future generations, depend upon it. The stability, the extension, and the perpetuity of the christian religion in the world, depend upon the religious and moral training of succeeding generations. Parents to do this must be christians. The stream can never rise higher than the fountain. There is a responsibility here which is fearful indeed. Christian parents are not alive to their obligations and responsibilities. They must be waked up on this subject, and made to realize how much of happiness or misery, of good or evil, depends upon their action. In future numbers we shall discuss this question in the light of the New Testament.

AT HOME AGAIN IN HEALTH.

Many excellent friends and brethren have expressed a desire to learn the state of my health. Some little surprise has been evinced