

From the Church of England Magazine.

EARLY INSTRUCTION.

Mother, watching o'er thy child,
 Father, fill'd with anxious care;
 In the soil by sin defil'd,
 Sow the seed, and sow with prayer:
 Though through many an anxious year,
 Neither fruit no flower appear;
 Though the winter o'er it spread,
 Hard and frozen, and the seed
 Seem forever lost and dead,
 Only seen the noxious weed,
 Yet refrain not in despair;
 Though in sleep, the seed is there,
 And the spring of grace will shine
 With the Spirit's sun and shower,
 And the heart in warmth divine
 Feel its vivifying power;
 Haply late, yet surely so;
 Though thou see not, yet it shall be;
 Though thou live not, it shall grow,
 Certainly and fruitfully:
 Sacred lessons thou hast taught,
 Burst the ground, and wake to life,
 One by one each word and thought,
 Springing vigorous and rise:
 First the blade and then the ear;
 And last the ripen'd corn appear,
 Till the golden harvest stand
 Ready for the mower's hand;
 Though perhaps it meet thine eyes
 Only when 'tis gathered in:
 Hous'd and garner'd in the skies,
 Safe from every blight and sin.
 Parent,—friend,—the soil prepare:
 Sow the seed, and sow with prayer.

JAMES EDMESTON.

For the Colonial Churchman.

MORNING MEDITATIONS.

—O—

"Begin and end every day with God. In the morning when you awake, accustom yourself to think first upon God, and let him have your first awaking thoughts. Lift up your heart reverently and thankfully to God for rest during the night past. Spend the time which must necessarily be allowed in dressing yourself in fruitful meditation."—Burkit.

Although, Messrs. Editors, numerous and powerful reasons might be adduced in favor of the duty of devoting specially to God, the first fruits of our thoughts, yet too many of us neglect or slight this solemn and important employment. Some, perhaps, pass it by from not having immediately before them some guide for meditation, although the blessed word of life is at the same time the most proper and most fruitful help to Devotion.—With a view of assisting your readers and myself in arriving at that blessed state which enabled the Psalmist to exclaim—"When I awake, O God, I am still with thee," 139 Ps. 18, I have prepared the following selections from Scripture, and from the writings of holy men,—and with your leave, shall continue them for periodical publication. Who knoweth but that God may vouchsafe somewhat of His blessing on these our "Morning Meditations?" SIGMA.

July, 1838.

THURSDAY.

Repentance.—Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish—13 Luke 5. Each is to look upon this solemn warning as spoken to himself, and to conclude from it the indispensable necessity of his own individual repentance. So in all the precepts of a holy life, we are to think ourselves as particularly concerned as if we had been among Christ's hearers on the mount.—Burkit. A. D. 1693.

FRIDAY.

Holy Fear.—The fear of the Lord endureth for

ever—19 Ps. 9. St. Bernard calls fear the most vigilant porter of the soul. It diligently watcheth that no evil thing do enter at which our great Master might be offended. Nor is this fear inconsistent with the love of God.—Comber 1684.

SATURDAY.

Love or Charity—1 Cor. 13. Charity never faileth.

Love still shall hold an endless reign,
 In earth and heaven above,
 Where tongues shall cease, and prophets fail,
 And every gift, but Love.

SUNDAY.

Peace.—Seek peace—1 Pet. 3. 11 v. Bring me, O Lord, of Thy great mercy to those regions of bliss and glory, where no contentions or animosities shall have any place—but where love and harmony—peace and concord, shall reign for ever and ever.—Waldo.

MONDAY.

Meekness.—Read 7 c. Josh. 19. Some hot spirit would have said—Thou wretched traitor, how hast thou pilfered from thy God, &c. But like the disciple of Him whose servant he was, Joshua meekly entreats that which he might have obtained by violence—"My son—I beseech Thee, give glory to God."—Bp. Hall. 1650.

TUESDAY.

Christ is the head, and believers are his members: He is the root, and they are the branches that grow upon Him: He is the husband, and they are the spouse and bride: God is the Father, and they are His children. Christ is their elder brother—their Advocate—their King.—E. Erskine.

WEDNESDAY.

Resignation.—1 Job 20. Then Job fell down upon the ground and worshipped.

Oh! will vain man complain and murmur still,
 And stand on terms with his Creator's will?
 Shall this high privilege to clay be given?
 Shall dust arraign the Providence of Heaven?

THURSDAY.

The Resurrection.—He must rise again from the dead—20 John 9.

Go to the grave, which, faithful to its trust,
 The germ of immortality shall keep:
 While safe as watch'd by cherubim, thy dust
 Shall, to the Judgment-day in Jesus sleep.

Go to the grave; for there thy Saviour lay
 In death's embraces, ere he rose on high;
 And all the ransom'd, by that narrow way,
 Pass to eternal life beyond the sky.

From the (London) Weekly Visiter.

DANGER OF TRIFLING WITH CONVICTIONS.

Perhaps there is no minister of the Gospel who could not furnish some most affecting illustrations of the sentiment, that impressions and convictions do not always end in conversion. I began my own religious course with three companions, one of whom was materially serviceable, in some particulars, to myself; but he soon proved that his religion was nothing more than mere transient devotion. A second returned to his sin, "like a dog to his vomit, and a sow that is washed to her wallowing in the mire." The third, who was for some time my intimate friend, imbibed the principles of infidelity; and so great was his zeal for his new creed, that he sat up at night to copy out Paine's "Age of Reason." After awhile he was seized with a dangerous disease; his conscience awoke; the convictions of his mind were agonizing; his remorse was horrible. He ordered all his infidel extracts, that had cost him so many nights to copy out, to be burned before his face; and if not in words, yet in spirit—

"Burn, burn," he cried, "in sacred rage,
 Hell is the due of ev'ry page."

His infidel companions and his infidel principles forsook him at once, and in the hearing of a pious friend, who visited him, and to whom he confessed, with tears and lamentations, his backsliding, he uttered his confessions of sin, and his vows of repentance. He recovered; but, painful to relate, only to relapse again, if not into infidelity, yet into an utter disregard of religion.—James.

INTELLIGENCE.

From the Christian Witness.

LOSS OF THE STEAM-PACKET PULASKI, with a crew of thirty seven, and one hundred and fifty or one hundred and sixty passengers.—On Thursday, the 14th instant, the steamer Pulaski, Capt. Dubois, left Charleston for Baltimore, with about 150 passengers, of whom about 50 were ladies.

At about 11 o'clock on the same night, while off the North Carolina coast, say thirty miles from land, weather moderate, and night dark, the starboard boiler exploded and the vessel was lost.

We think it highly important to state in the first place, that gentlemen of unquestionable character and judgment concur in saying the fatal explosion was caused by gross negligence on the part of those who had the direction of the machinery. Solomon, a black waiter on board; who had once been a fireman,—states, that a little after 11 o'clock, as he turned from the fire-room, he heard the 2d engineer, who was on duty, turn the water-cock, and from the shrill whistle which ensued, he knew that the water had gotten too low, and that there was imminent danger. Mr. Couper, Mr. Lovejoy and others gave it as their opinion, that the blow-cock had been negligently left open—that the boilers had been emptied—which alarmed the engineer, and caused him in his fright to fill them suddenly with fresh water. The boiler being heated to redness, this body of water was instantly converted into steam, with an expansive force which the sides of the boilers were too feeble to resist.

In the breaking up, the whole boat went under water, but upon the separation of the keel from the upper part of the boat the bow and stern emerged again. Very shortly after the forward portion of the stern was depressed beneath the water, and the hinder portions elevated into the air, upon the highest portion of which were from 50 to 60 persons, more than two thirds of whom were ladies and children. This continued within view of those passengers, upon the bow of the boat, (from whom this statement is made,) about one hour, when it entirely disappeared.

Fifty-nine souls in all have escaped a watery grave.

Major Heath states, that he had just retired to his state-room, about 11 o'clock on Thursday night, but had not yet gone to bed, when the explosion took place, and was followed by a scene of the utmost noise and confusion. The passengers rushed immediately on deck, where, all the lights being extinguished, they could form no accurate idea of the extent of the injury. Our informant having been in the forward cabin, found his way to the bow of the boat, and stood there with some forty or fifty others in the most intense anxiety, the vessel tossing violently to and fro, and the air filled with the agonizing shrieks of the wounded and the dying, mingled with the fruitless appeals of those in the water asking for help.

In less than an hour after the explosion, the boat parted in two, and the larger portion of it, to which the machinery was attached, immediately sunk, carrying with it many passengers, particularly the ladies who were in the cabin. It was subsequently ascertained that four portions of the wreck continued to float, all of them supporting a greater or less number of sufferers. On that part of the wreck on which our informant was, there were about thirty. The portions of the steamboat remained for some time near each other, but were finally separated by the waves, and were not afterwards seen.

Of Capt. Dubois nothing was seen after the explosion of the boiler, and the supposition is, that he was immediately killed.

Whilst they were on the wreck, several died of fatigue and hunger, and at one period a proposition was made to draw lots who should be killed, for the sustenance of the rest, but it was at once rejected, and never afterwards renewed.

When they arrived at Wilmington, the inhabitants of that city extended towards them every possible kindness that it was in their power to bestow. Medical advice, which was much needed, was immediately afforded them. Their houses were thrown open, and their wardrobes and purses freely tendered to