

into their secret, or our honor with their assembly to be united! Let us remember this mortal will put on immortality, and then all such acts will increase in magnitude of guilt in proportion to the height of our privileges and the extent of our duration.

But it was as a professing christian that I knew him, and it is in this light that it is most important for us to consider him. He had been from his youth favored with the advantages of religion, and ever seemed disposed to acknowledge its importance. But it was not till the year 1825, in the 61st or 62d year of his age, that he made an open profession by becoming united with this Church, of which he became afterwards an office bearer. Of his conduct and feeling during the first part of that period, you who were his fellow members and office bearers can best judge. But I can speak of his constant attendance, christian forbearance and tender feeling, and of the deep interest which he has felt in the success of the gospel here, and the prosperity of this church ever since I came among you. We shall all feel his loss; and when I look to his place and remember how constantly it was filled, and now think that he shall fill it never again—that we shall hear his silver voice—behold his intelligent look no more, to take part in our praises and our prayers—I too am ready to repine at his removal, and to exclaim—we are bereaved!

His last illness was neither protracted nor very severe. He had nearly attained the limit of human life, and we need not wonder if a frame which had so long contained an over-active mind, should have been visited with trouble and sorrow. But his mind retained its wonted vigor; it seemed as clear and strong as ever; both memory and judgment continued to his very close. This was evinced in many ways, but especially by his sense of the benefit of christian intercourse and his grateful acknowledgement of the kind offices which his situation required. He knew well how readily they were performed, yet he could not help expressing his regret at the trouble which they caused; and to one friend at parting he said, I thank you for all your christian kindness. Nor did he neglect to warn others and entreat them to secure by a full and speedy surrender of themselves to God through the mediation of Jesus, the better blessings of eternity, and thus to be prepared for the ills of life and the approach of death.

He labored under considerable doubt and depression during his illness. This arose neither from disbelief of Divine truth nor from mere fear of death. It was from a view of the exceeding sinfulness