

holy unity, binds the things on earth with the things in heaven, and imparts an earnest of that unspeakable happiness which flows from the brotherhood of saints in heaven.

Nor is this all. Experience demonstrates that family religion has not only a salutary influence on the formation of character, but is also one of the best safeguards of our privileges; one of the strongest barriers that can be erected against the encroachments of vice.

Often in the hour of temptation the recollection of early scenes in life has been the means of keeping the tried from sinning against God. Often, when lost to every feeling of shame, and deaf to every remonstrance, such recollections have awakened in the heart of the profligate youth feelings of compunction and sorrow, not the "sorrow that worketh death," but that which leads to life and peace. Often, when exposed to the withering influences of a selfish, wicked world, and far removed from a parent's watchful care, has the benefit of parental godliness been felt by the child with reviving influence. Even long after father and mother have been committed to the grave, their instructions, their prayers, their examples have been called to mind with a tenderness that has overpowered every other feeling, and sanctified every deed. Although dead, they continued to speak to the heart in the same accents of love that soothed the mind and charmed the earlier years of life. When the erring child has thought on the days when he kneeled down with his parents before the Throne of Grace, ere his heart was engrossed with the cares, and made callous by the vices of the world, and at the same time reflected on his views and actions; Oh, how unlike what they once were! ashamed of his conduct he has returned unto God, and joined himself unto the Lord in a perpetual covenant that shall not be forgotten.

SECOND—THE CHURCH IN THE LAND

has been an instrument no less effective in raising and preserving the intellectual, the moral and spiritual defences of our native land.

By the "Church in the Land," we mean the whole body of Believers who profess the true religion revealed in the word of God. No one can doubt that the body of men constituting the visible Church has a powerful moral influence on the world at large—more especially when the greater number of them are associated in Christian fellowship. In this respect we have much reason to thank God that