

slain me, and yet, notwithstanding my sins, which call for vengeance, no evil hath happened unto me. How many souls burn in hell fire, which have sinned far less than I, and yet I remain alive ! What had become of me, if Thou hadst taken me away with those at the same time ! How strict had my judgment been, if Thy justice had laid hold on me, laden with so many sins ! Who then, O Lord, hath bound the hands of Thy justice, who hath deprecated for me, when I lay thus lulled to sleep in the security of my sins ? What hath pleased Thee in me, that Thou shouldst deal more mercifully with me, than with those,, who in the midst of their days, in the heat of their youth, are taken away from amongst us ? My sins cried out against me, and Thou stoppedst Thine ears ; my offences daily increased against Thee, yet Thy mercy daily abounded towards me. I sinned, Thou didst expect me : I fled from Thee, and Thou followedst me : I was weary