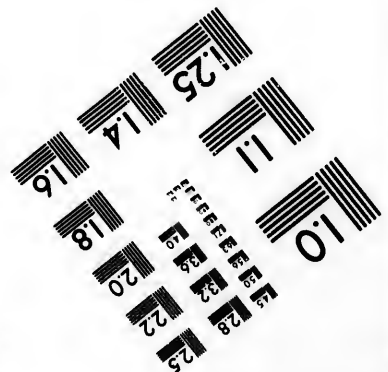
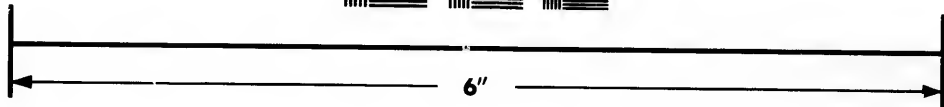
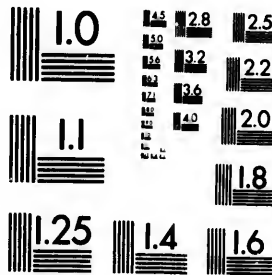


**IMAGE EVALUATION
TEST TARGET (MT-3)**



**Photographic
Sciences
Corporation**

23 WEST MAIN STREET
WEBSTER, N.Y. 14580
(716) 872-4503

LES
1.5 2.8
1.6 3.2
1.8 3.6
2.0 4.0
2.2 4.5

**CIHM/ICMH
Microfiche
Series.**

**CIHM/ICMH
Collection de
microfiches.**



Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions / Institut canadien de microreproductions historiques

1.0

© 1983

Technical and Bibliographic Notes/Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- Coloured covers/
Couverture de couleur
- Covers damaged/
Couverture endommagée
- Covers restored and/or laminated/
Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée
- Cover title missing/
Le titre de couverture manque
- Coloured maps/
Cartes géographiques en couleur
- Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black)/
Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire)
- Coloured plates and/or illustrations/
Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur
- Bound with other material/
Relié avec d'autres documents
- Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion
along interior margin/
La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la
distortion le long de la marge intérieure
- Blank leaves added during restoration may
appear within the text. Whenever possible, these
have been omitted from filming/
Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées
lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte,
mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont
pas été filmées.
- Additional comments:/
Commentaires supplémentaires:

- Coloured pages/
Pages de couleur
- Pages damaged/
Pages endommagées
- Pages restored and/or laminated/
Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées
- Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/
Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées
- Pages detached/
Pages détachées
- Showthrough/
Transparence
- Quality of print varies/
Qualité inégale de l'impression
- Includes supplementary material/
Comprend du matériel supplémentaire
- Only edition available/
Seule édition disponible
- Pages wholly or partially obscured by errata
slips, tissues, etc., have been refilmed to
ensure the best possible image/
Les pages totalement ou partiellement
obscurcies par un feuillet d'errata, une pelure,
etc., ont été filmées à nouveau de façon à
obtenir la meilleure image possible.

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below/
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

10X	14X	18X	22X	26X	30X
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12X	16X	20X	24X	28X	32X

The copy filmed here has been reproduced thanks to the generosity of:

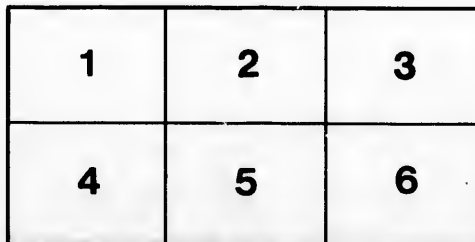
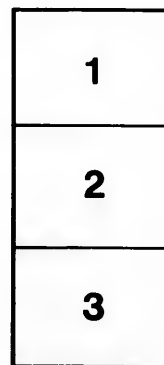
Library of the Public
Archives of Canada

The images appearing here are the best quality possible considering the condition and legibility of the original copy and in keeping with the filming contract specifications.

Original copies in printed paper covers are filmed beginning with the front cover and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression, or the back cover when appropriate. All other original copies are filmed beginning on the first page with a printed or illustrated impression, and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression.

The last recorded frame on each microfiche shall contain the symbol → (meaning "CONTINUED"), or the symbol ▼ (meaning "END"), whichever applies.

Maps, plates, charts, etc., may be filmed at different reduction ratios. Those too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom, as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method:



L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

La bibliothèque des Archives
publiques du Canada

Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

Les exemplaires originaux dont la couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminant par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole → signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ▼ signifie "FIN".

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.

ails
du
diffier
une
mage

rata
c

elure,
à

SERMON,

ON

THE DEATH

OF

The Honorable Richard Cartwright ;

WITH A SHORT ACCOUNT OF

HIS LIFE.

PREACHED AT KINGSTON,

ON THE

3D OF SEPTEMBER, 1815.

BY

JOHN STRACHAN, D. D.

RECTOR OF YORK, UPPER CANADA.

Montreal ;

PRINTED BY W. GRAY.

1816.

R

“

I

for
an
of
tio
Su
th
th
lef
lat

S E R M O N.

REVELATIONS, XIVth CHAPTER, 13th VERSE.

“ AND I HEARD A VOICE FROM HEAVEN, SAYING UNTO ME, WRITE, BLESSED ARE THE DEAD WHICH DIE IN THE LORD FROM HENCEFORTH : YEA, SAITH THE SPIRIT, THAT THEY MAY REST FROM THEIR LABOURS, AND THEIR WORKS DO FOLLOW THEM.”

LIVING under the light of the Gospel, it is difficult for us to conceive the state of darkness, uncertainty and dismay, which good men of ancient times, ignorant of divine truth, but possessed of sensibility and reflection must have experienced at the approach of death. Such persons, at this awful period, were incapable of throwing off entirely all belief in the superstitions of their age ; but the more they reflected upon them, the less did they contribute to their tranquillity and consolation. Amidst the wanderings of their minds and the

faint hopes of futurity, which they were eager to indulge, it frequently became a question among them, whether annihilation was not preferable to a continuation of existence, if exposed to the like troubles and afflictions which disturb the present life. To this important question, an answer seems implied in my text. It pronounces those blessed, and those only who die in the Lord : others have no rational grounds to expect that the continuation of their existence, in a future life, shall prove a blessing, or even more agreeable than the present, tho' our merciful Creator will never suffer any to perish, who have acted up to the light that is in them.

When addressed to a Christian Congregation, the text, by blessing those who die in the Lord, certainly excludes from that blessing such as knowing their Redeemer, have rejected him. It is impossible that such can inherit the promises. Their situation is infinitely worse than that of the good men of ancient times, for they reject the revelations which such men were anxious to obtain, and refuse that salvation which is offered to a sinful world, by the infinite love of a benevolent Creator,

But this circumstance, so much to be lamented, is not always without a remedy. The greater number of those who are indifferent to religion, are so rather from misunderstanding its infinite importance and amiable foundations, than from wilful errors, or a preference of iniquity.

iniquity. To bring such to a due sense of the merits of a crucified Saviour, we should rather appeal to their hearts than their understandings; we ought to shew that this religion to which they are indifferent, has an intimate connection with all that we know and feel of existence; that it gives the most true and comprehensive views of the nature of man, and of the Supreme Being; that it teaches nothing harsh, nothing revolting to the best affections of the heart; that it presents the most noble motives for the regulation of our lives, and the only rule by which we can reach eternal felicity.

It is not by a severe and contemptuous tone of argument, that such are to be won, we are to awaken their sensibility, to engage their affections, and when we have done this, we have obtained the victory. They will then proceed of themselves, their errors will vanish, for they will discover that that Gospel which they have been accustomed to consider with indifference, is altogether lovely; they will feel themselves attracted on a nearer view with its irresistible charms, and their hearts will open to the impressions of divine grace, which the serious perusal of it can never fail to produce. By carefully reading, and reflecting upon the Gospel, they will feel themselves gradually becoming Christians, true and zealous servants of God. Their souls will be opened to new enjoyments, of which they had formerly no conception. They will be astonish-
ed

ed at their former torpor and indifference, and that they should have allowed their whole faculties to be absorbed in present objects to the destruction of their immortal souls. It is by this affectionate appeal to the hearts of those who seem indifferent to the Gospel, by making them experience that the happiness of living and dying in the Lord, is above all price, that they are restored from darkness to light. "It is to want of consideration that the wicked lives of Christians is to be attributed. It would appear impossible for men who have any reasonable persuasion of the truth of revelation impressed upon their minds, to be deliberately and habitually wicked; for the wrath of God is revealed from Heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men. Still we find many who would think themselves injured, by being called Infidels, who live almost in one continued round of dissipation and folly, or are so glued to the world, and its perishing concerns, that God appears not in all their thoughts. This inconsistency between profession and practice, in nominal Christians, can only be accounted for from the want of serious reflection, which would render their faith a vital and practical principle, influencing their lives, and elevating their hopes from earth to Heaven. Without this effect, their faith is no more than a barren assent. We are told that the Devils believe thus far, and that they tremble as they believe. We have reason to fear, that if careless

Christians,

Christians continue long in this state of darkness, and error, they will begin to give way to the suggestions of an evil heart of unbelief, and at last totally depart from the living God. Such men may be best reclaimed by the gentle methods I have just described, if they can only be prevailed upon to listen to the voice of religious wisdom. It is one of the greatest misfortunes that can befall a rational creature to be brought up in ignorance, and practised in evil from the first dawn of reason, till the mind becomes torpid and callous, and (as we read of those who perished in the deluge) till all the imaginations of the thoughts of the heart are evil, and that continually. These must be corrected by the rod of justice ; but they have immortal souls, and claim our tenderest pity, and we are required to use our best endeavours to induce such hardened and unfeeling offenders to consider their ways, and turn their feet into the ways of Peace. It is also the greatest blessing that heaven can bestow upon a youth to be brought up from a child (like good Timothy) in the knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make him wise unto salvation, through faith, which is in Christ Jesus. To observe the rising youth thus trained up in the fear and nurture of the Lord, affords the highest satisfaction which a good and religious mind can feel ;” * for what can be

* I am indebted for this excellent passage to the Reverend Mr. Addison, Rector of Niagara, whose scientific and classical attainments place him high a-

Be more grateful than to hear the voice of infancy praising God, and the tongue employing its first motions in calling upon his holy name.

What can be a better preparation for religious instruction and the impressions of faith, than the simplicity, the docility, the ignorance of evil, which characterize this tender age. When life is so begun, and so continued, the text may be applied to us at any period of our lives, whether we are cut off in early infancy, in the bloom of youth, the strength of manhood, or the maturity of age. Are you then, my Christian Brethren, anxious to render yourselves worthy of the blessing pronounced by this voice from heaven.

I. Behold with what becoming fortitude and resignation good men bear the labours and afflictions of life.

II. With what propriety their works, possessing Christian purity and excellence, are said to follow them to Heaven.

III. And in what manner they are prepared to die in the Lord, that by following their example, you may inherit the promises, and sit down with them in Paradise.

Are

mong Scholars, and whose services as a Divine, and benevolent exertions as a Christian, during the late war, confer upon him a still higher title, and decidedly obtained for him the grateful acknowledgements of the Provincial Legislature.

Are you anxious of attaining the blessing of the text? Behold, in the first place, with what becoming fortitude and resignation good men bear the labours and afflictions of life.

God loves all his Children; the whole creation speaks the language of affection and gratitude. He points out happiness as our true and legitimate destination, the object which we ought ever to have in view, and misery the object of abhorrence, which we ought always to shun. To become happy is, therefore, the end of our being; to this all the works of nature, and all the powers and faculties of our minds are intended to contribute; and yet we meet with grievous afflictions—no man passes through life without many trials and sufferings: the clouds of adversity frequently surround us, and place the day of felicity at an unmeasurable distance. Are we then to conclude that the misfortunes, the afflictions, the labours of life are at variance with our happiness? Do they exclude us from our birth-right, the object which God had in view in our creation? No, it cannot be; they must have some advantage, some good must attend them sufficient to over-balance all the evil, and instead of obstructing they must forward our felicity. Yes, afflictions have a real, a permanent value, as the means or instruments of our purity. They are harsh and unpleasant in their admonitions, but they are the salutary causes of our progress in holiness. It is their effects that are to be

considered ; they must in themselves be disagreeable ; frequently do they harrow up the soul, and fill us with anguish and despair ; but even then they rouse in us the sparks of virtue that had perhaps been asleep ; they give new force and energy to our character.

The conviction that God is love, that his goodness and tender mercies are infinite, must at once assure us that our suffering, however great, will at length contribute to our everlasting advantage. Had not Abraham been³ tried, would his faithfulness have been so conspicuous ? If Joseph had not borne his afflictions with fortitude and resignation, trusted in God, when sold by his Brethren for a slave in a foreign land, resisted the temptations that assailed him in Egypt, and maintained his integrity in the gloom of a dungeon, his character would not have been so perfect. What a noble example of pious resignation, and patient suffering is exhibited by Job ; virtues which would never have been called forth, had his prosperity continued.

The calamities of life acquire their value by the use that is made of them ; to all they are not instructive, for some they harden, and make more wicked, but in general, they teach us temperance, self denial, and the value of moral restraint. We feel in poverty the advantage of temperance, and that the sober fare which we are enabled to procure, is more conducive to health, than the costly viands of the luxurious.

In

In the hour of calamity, we perceive how frail we are; how little any of those things, which are reckoned most valuable in the world, can contribute to our happiness. We perceive, in fact, how little we depend upon temporal benefits, when the heart is engaged with its own sorrows, and is able to appreciate the real value of present things.

The advantage of calamity is positive, it brings us to a proper sense of ourselves, of our situation, and of our mutual dependence. Even the labours and occupations of life, which to the majority of mankind, appear to be grievous burdens, are absolutely necessary to its enjoyment, and our protection from evil. Idleness is the greatest corrupter of the human heart, and industry is one of the greatest supporters of virtue.

The calamities and afflictions of life teach us humanity and all the charities of our nature. He, who has wanted a friend to sooth his sorrow, a bosom on which to lean in the day of his adversity, a heart into which he could pour his sorrows, and be paid with sympathy and consolation, will be ready to relieve the distresses of others. Having formed a just estimate of human life, he hastens to mark its progress, by doing good; his heart expands at the tale of woe, and the tear of sensibility flows; not that ^{use} ~~spurious~~ sensibility which exhausts itself with a tear or a sigh, but that active benevolent exertion, which willingly undergoes any labour to restore a fellow creature to happiness and peace.

Afflictions soften the heart, detach it from earth, and raise it to Heaven. Surely then the conviction that God is good, that all the labours and afflictions of life render us better men, and more worthy of his protection, ought to enable us to bear them with fortitude and resignation.

It is thus that the Christian feels and reasons ; it is thus that he experiences the advantages of tribulation ; it is the fire assaying the gold, he rises purer from every trial.

He that aspires to the blessing in my text, so uses his labours ; they contribute to his perfection in virtue ; He beholds the most eminent men, Prophets, Saints, and Martyrs, struggling with calamity, and emerging with brightness, from the billows of the storm ; above all, he beholds our blessed Saviour himself, suffering every kind of calamity from the ingratitude of those he protected, the faithlessness of friends, the cruelty of enemies, yet rising superior to the last.

In humble imitation of this illustrious example, good men, in the most distressing and alarming situations, behold their divine mercy shining through the cloud. They receive his correction as that of the most tender of parents, assured that, however gloomy things may appear, and trying, the calamities that assail them. if they persevere in well doing, and bear them with patience, they will assist greatly in conducting them to
the

the regions of never failing happiness. Yet the devout and humble Christian, at length becomes weary of the contentions and disorders of this mortal scene ; he bears his afflictions with resignation, but he is anxious, like the apostle, to be gone, and to be relieved from the pain and sufferings attendant on his earthly tabernacle, is to him, as the text declares, an essential blessing.

II. Are you, secondly, my Christian Brethren anxious to inherit the blessing in my text : behold with what propriety the works of those who die in the Lord follow them to heaven

Your works of love and mercy must not be confined to good wishes, soothing expressions or humane dispositions, but they must consist in the active practice of good. You must not tell the hungry and the naked to go and be fed and clothed, but you must feed and clothe them ; you must not lament over that ignorance which you can remove ; the widow must not solicit your aid in vain, nor are you to be deaf to the orphan's complaints, or the cry of the oppressed. It is by the exercise of active benevolence, in relieving the miserable, and giving comfort to the sorrowful, instructing the ignorant, reforming the wicked, and exerting all your faculties in promoting the temporal and eternal felicity of mankind, that you render your works worthy of following you to Heaven. The same mind must be in
you

which was also in Christ Jesus; the same profound veneration, ardent love, and cheerful obedience to the will of God; the same pure devotion, unwearied goodness, and unconquerable love to all mankind; the same faithful and tender friendship, sincerity, prudence, meekness, patience, and affability. In fine, the life of the true Christian is a hymn of praise to God; his Redeemer is ever before him, he becomes a living evidence of the truth of the Gospel, an evidence which prevails when all other arguments fail. He forms a kind of Heaven in the bosom of his own family, which arrests the attention of the unbeliever, and makes him exclaim, that something more than human reigns in that place.

III. Thirdly, my Christian Brethren, if you are anxious to inherit the promises, behold in what manner good men are prepared to die in the Lord.

When we hear the voice of lamentation and mourning following to the grave a bosom friend, an affectionate child, or a tender parent, we generally confine our attention to the survivors, and deplore with them the blank that has been made in their relations, and the afflicting loss which they have sustained, and this is proper; it is good to sympathize with our brethren under affliction, and endeavour to sooth and relieve them. But it is no less advantageous at times, to follow in our souls the corps into the grave, and to ask ourselves,

is this man prepared to die? The answer will be made perhaps by our own conscience, which leading us rapidly to our own state, will ask whether we can answer this most awful, but important question, as we desire.

Frequently to think of death, and to consider what preparation is necessary for his approach, ought to be the duty of every Christian; yet many never think of death, some will not allow the word to be mentioned in their presence. Is it any wonder then that so few are prepared to die. To think of death often becomes a great incentive to virtue. It teaches us the true value of life, namely, that it is a preparation for eternity. What man would be wicked, if he verily believed in his heart, that in a little time he would surely die? In the midst of the most ardent pursuits, a serious thought of death stiffens our nerves, chills our ardor, and arrests our career. What are the trappings of power, the glitter of riches, or even the praise of friends at the approach of death, and does not a frequent recollection of what we shall then think of these things, teach us in the mean time their real value, and suppress that immoderate desire for their attainment, which we see daily exhibited around us. Nor will such contemplations repress proper exertion, rational enterprise, or persevering industry, for who is likely to be so successful, as he who knows his own strength, and the value of the objects for which he is contending.

I readily grant that much of the bustle of the day would be repressed, because it is occupied with trifles, which are at best useless, but more generally pernicious, if obtained. But the change would not lessen the sum of labour, it would only give a new direction to our pursuits; a thousand things which now excite our most vehement desires, and most strenuous efforts, would then excite no particular emotion; our objects would be confined to the useful and good, not to the frivolous or pernicious, and who that considers how much may yet be done for the temporal benefit of man, how many improvements may still be made in the arts of life, in the situation and œconomy of the poor, in the benevolent distribution of wealth, in forwarding the arts and sciences, can help perceiving that ten thousand avenues of useful labour may be pointed out sufficient to supply employment for those whom the serious contemplation of the end of life might induce to leave the vain and the foolish, and cease to pamper depraved appetites, and licentious passions.

But in a moral view, the advantage arising from this awful consideration, that death is at our door, is infinitely greater. Rivalships would immediately vanish; why spend those days in fierce contention, in nourishing the worst passions of the heart, in accumulating misery upon ourselves, which might be so much more profitably employed in preparing for eternity. Envy itself, that canker worm of the soul perishes in this serious contemplation,
those

those that excite it will soon be in the grave ; there, all their grandeur, their abilities and fame will soon be forgotten , the lifeless clay will no longer be followed by admiring crowds, or be addressed with the language of applause.

When we look at a friend or companion sinking into the grave, when the surrounding Physicians have pronounced the disease mortal, and he is left to die, what then can sooth his mind. Are we to speak to him at this awful hour, of the pleasures of life, the pomp of power, or the charms of renown—alas ! we feel that topics of this sort are by no means suitable to the serious occasion, they sink into insignificance, they raise disgust. All the passions have subsided, even those which we used most willingly to indulge ; the grief for example for those we loved, vanishes away, we are soon to follow. All human friendships must commence upon the principle that one shall weep over the other's tomb.

Not that the righteous man requires even these incentives to teach him the proper value of present things, and the necessary preparation for death. The sight of a friend or companion going to his long home, may indeed invigorate such contemplations, but they are frequently indulged, for he knows that the preparation for death, such as a christian undertakes, unites the present and future worlds. He does not consider the lawful indulgence of his appetites and passions, in an innocent

nocent degree, any part of this preparation, because thus far reason recommends, and prudence justifies, as necessary to present health and comfort. Nor does the cultivation of his taste, affording innocent, but elegant gratifications, nor the improvement of his intellectual powers, so pregnant with pure delight, appear to him parts of this preparation, because those only heighten his happiness here, and are dictated by true wisdom.

Things which begin and end in this life can only command so much of his attention, as they confer pure happiness; but in preparing for death, he is chiefly careful to attend to those things, which though sown in corruption, shall rise in glory.

He bewails not the certainty of death, for what then would restrain folly, what assuage the griefs and pains that flesh is heir to; he sees the wisdom, the necessity of this monitor to persons in our situation, he spends no part of his time in idle lamentation, and impious discontent, but turns his whole soul to active preparation.

Addressing himself to the Father of Spirits, in humble prayer and supplication, he raises his soul to the contemplation of all moral excellenc. The perfections of his heavenly Father swell the emotions of love, admiration and gratitude in his soul, to their utmost extent. He is lifted up on the pinnacle of the temple, from which he looks back on the trials and temptations of the world below, the calamities it contains, the sufferings it in-

flicts

n, because
ustifies, as
r does the
ut elegant
ntellectual
ar to him
heighten
isdom.

can only
nfer pure
is chiefly
gh sown

what then
and pains
necessity
e spends
impious
paration.

a humble
contem-
s of his
miration
nt. He
a which
e world
s it in-
flicts

licts, and from there he turns his eyes steadily above, where heaven is displaying its glory. Supported by faith, resting on obedience and sincere repentance, he soon feels that he has an interest in Christ, that God reigns over all things, and has revealed himself through his blessed son.

Determined to continue in the true path, shall not his soul indulge in love, peace and hope; what shall he fear under a government so gracious; he knows from experience, that death is swallowed up in victory, and may join the blessed apostle, in exclaiming, *O Death where is thy sting? O Grave where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law; But thanks be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.* Animated by encouragements so precious, the sincere christian remains *stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as he knows that his labour is not in vain in the Lord.*

Is it then difficult for the Christian, thus encouraged, to be patient, or even joyful in tribulation. Death covers us with his dark veil only for a moment, for our Saviour hastens to our relief, frees us from our burdens, dries up our tears, and receives us into his kingdom.

In fine, my brethren, holiness here, and happiness hereafter, are inseparable; it is the cause and the effect.

He that practises goodness on earth, shall taste enjoyment in heaven. Rise, then, my brethren, above the objects of time and sense, imitate the example of good men; apply to yourselves a lesson of wisdom from every friend and neighbour, that is passing away; imitate his virtues, and avoid his errors, and frequently picture in your imagination, the purity, the dignity, the happiness of that celestial society, where charity never faileth, and where love for ever reigns; so shall your thoughts be led from earth to heaven; and in humble dependence on your Saviour's assistance, you will attain the divinest pleasures, and at length join the company of the Saints, who shine forth as the sun in the Kingdom of their Father.

enjoy-
 oove the
 of good
 from e-
 ; imi-
 quently
 dignity,
 charity
 o shall
 and in
 ce, you
 join the
 sun in

THE serious and important subject to which I have called your attention, was suggested by the recent loss which this society has sustained. For, notwithstanding the happy exemption of Kingston from the evils of the late war, and the increased number and prosperity of its inhabitants, who that was acquainted here only a few years ago, who is not struck with a change that wealth and numbers cannot restore. Three friends, the props of this society, its pride and ornament, differing in their dispositions and habits, but all combining in rendering it agreeable, have passed away.

First, your beloved Pastor; a man whose primitive virtues, strength of understanding, and suavity of manners, endeared him to all his parishioners, and whose talents and learning would have rendered him conspicuous in any country.

Next, a gentleman whose hospitable disposition and kindness of heart, reflected much credit on the town, and whose elegance of manners and amiable attentions, were felt by all strangers and inhabitants, was suddenly called into the presence of his Creator.

Now we are called upon to lament the last of these three friends; a man whose character can never be too
 much

much appreciated. All must have a laudable curiosity to become acquainted with every thing relating to this eminent person, so universally respected and admired. There is indeed in the review of his life so much to raise us to moral and intellectual improvement ; so much to recommend and inspire the love of virtue, and so much to illustrate the rewards of rectitude, and the consolations of religion, that we cannot rise from the recital without feeling our good principles invigorated and the powers of our conscience strengthened and extended.

RICHARD CARTWRIGHT, was born at Albany, in the state of New York, then a British colony, on the 2d of February, 1759. His father, an emigrant from England, was highly respectable, of great hospitality, and possessed of the most agreeable convivial talents. His mother, born of a loyal Dutch family, was remarkable for her strength of mind, excellent judgement, and tenacity of memory ; gifts which descended with increased vigour to her affectionate son. His education commenced at a private school, and much pains was taken by his parents, to gratify that strong desire of information which he exhibited from his earliest infancy. He was permitted to peruse every book which came in his way, nor was such promiscuous reading found injurious to his taste, nor inimical to his progress in useful learning ; for the accuracy of his judgement soon taught him to distinguish the useful from the trifling.

So retentive was his memory, that he seldom forgot any thing that he read ; when, therefore, he removed to another school, where the classics and higher branches of education were taught, his industry and abilities secured to him the affection of his teacher, who saw with admiration and delight, his rapid progress in latin and greek. Indeed his retention of memory gave him a facility in acquiring languages which has been seldom equalled.

To these attainments he added, by private study, an intimate acquaintance with almost all the classical works in the English tongue.

Arrived at an age, when he was to look forward to his exertions for an honorable support, he began to consider of a profession. The extent of his knowledge, and the pleasures which he had reaped from the cultivation of his mind, had given him, as frequently happens, a distaste for mercantile pursuits. The law was not congenial to his mind ; in that lucrative profession, there are many transactions which open rather a sombre view of human nature. The various apparatus necessary to secure property and reputation, rights, public and private, become a severe satyr on mankind, and as he knew that much talent is employed in delaying justice, and defending wrong, he could not reconcile his mind to such exertions. This did not prevent him from admiring many in this profession, nor blind him

to the great good which a lawyer of superior talents and inflexible integrity, might effect, in preventing wrongs, and terminating contentions, directing the doubtful, and instructing the ignorant.

Possessing those qualities in a most eminent degree, which constitute a great character and a virtuous man, he had no ambition to figure in public life, and after mature deliberation, he turned his views to the Church. Perhaps a misfortune which had befallen him early in life, assisted in leading him to this determination. A boy in playing, struck him with a stone in his left eye, which deprived him almost entirely of its use, and turned the ball outwards, by which his countenance, otherwise remarkably fine, was somewhat deformed.

Of a parish priest, such as his imagination presented, he spoke always with enthusiasm. He considered him a person appointed to preserve among his people the spirit of vital religion, to be their moral guardian, to keep them in unity, and in the constant practice of mutual love and good offices one towards another. The Clergyman should be a pattern of moderation, temperance and contentment, to all his parishioners; by this he will extend his influence among them, increase their felicity, and prepare them, by a living example, for securing that blessed immortality which the gospel announces. Not that he was ignorant of the difficulties which a Clergyman has to surmount in this country,

from

talents
venting
ng the

degree,
us man,
fter ma-
Church.
arly in
on. A
left eye,
nd turn-
, other-

esented,
ed him
ple the
ian, to
of mu-
The
emper-
this he
their

for se-
el an-
culties
ountry,
from

from the laxity of religious principle; from the want of early impressions, and the general indifference to, and total neglect of gospel ordinances. But those difficulties he was accustomed to say, would rather stimulate, than impede the conscientious Priest, who would find infinite delight in forming a congregation where there had been none before; changing darkness into light, promoting industry, sobriety, and humanity among his people, and proving to them, that even in this life the sincere christian enjoys infinitely more happiness than any other man, and this in a great measure independent of transient things; other stations might, he said, possess greater pomp and show, but he knew no social condition which united so many sources of the highest enjoyment, so many objects for gratifying those passions which lead to self satisfaction.

Animated by these sentiments, he turned his vigorous mind to a full preparation for discharging with ability and success the duties of a parish Priest. He read the works of the most eminent divines, he applied himself to the study of Hebrew; he could not bear the idea of mediocrity, and being able to read with care the New Testament in the original Greek, he was desirous of reading the Old Testament, as it had been revealed.

He was proceeding with his accustomed rapidity, and had even ventured upon biblical criticism, when the American rebellion broke out, and changed the objects

of his life. In love with retirement, and turning his whole attention towards a station which made peace and harmony the foundation of its exertions, he had never taken any interest in the various disputes which divided Great Britain and her colonies.

But the time was now come, when neutrality could not be maintained, and when it became necessary for him to take a side. Brought up in habitual reverence to the King and Parliament by his loyal parents, he did not hesitate a moment in making his choice. Well acquainted with the history of his country, he knew that Great Britain had been involved in two long and expensive wars, to defend the colonies, and that they had contributed little or none of the expence; he thought it but reasonable that they should give something towards remunerating the parent state, for the vast burdens she had incurred.

It is not probable that his early age enabled him to ascertain the degree of authority which might be rightfully exercised by the mother country over her colonies. It had always been asserted that parliament possessed the power of binding them in all cases; this was the opinion of the best informed; it was recognized in many states, and admitted by the legislatures of all the colonies, nor was it ever controverted by argument, till the colonists had been taught, by the opposition in the British parliament, the subtle distinction between acts

for

for the regulation of commerce, and those which regulated their interior arrangements,

The first opposition to the mother country originated from that republican disposition of the New England people, which always submitted with reluctance to the constitutional authority of a Government, in which monarchy made a considerable part. Ever discontented and jealous of usurpation, they were continually at variance with the Governors, and claiming exemptions and privileges which could not be granted. But active in diffusing their sentiments through the other colonies, the spirit of dissatisfaction became at length so general, as to enable them to break out in open rebellion. The various artifices made use of to deceive the people, the false news invented, the cruelties exercised on those attached to the King, did not escape the notice of our excellent friend, who was disgusted with their proceedings, and more zealous in defending the side which he had chosen. He was convinced that the rebellion originated from a restless democratic spirit, and that it gained ground only by the imbecility of the measures taken to crush it, the assistance of the opposition in parliament, and the treacherous conduct of the commanders employed by sea and land.

Displeased with the selfish views of the disaffected, feeling no oppression from parliament, nor greater restrictions than appeared necessary for the unity of all

parts of the empire, and convinced that if any grievances existed, rebellion was not the proper remedy, he maintained his loyalty. He had no interests to serve, he fought not for power or emolument from commotions and bloodshed; yet he was the steady friend of rational freedom, and as ready as any man to stand up in its defence. But the contest was not about liberty, for he uniformly maintained, that there was less of true liberty among our neighbours, than when they were colonies; for the dominion of the party, which now regulates every thing, renders all pretensions to liberty ridiculous. It is a faction that has always been turbulent, cruel, and vindictive, discovering oppressions where none existed, supporting insolence, and trampling upon virtue. Not is it doubtful that the most rational and best informed, would rather live under a mild mixed government, possessing the power of enforcing its decrees, than in their present disjointed democracy.

Actuated by these principles, he accompanied his parents into Canada, and for a time attended Colonel BUTLER of the Queen's Rangers, as his Secretary. In this station he had several opportunities, during two campaigns, of giving specimens of that penetration and courage which were such prominent parts of his character.

After the conclusion of the war, which, by giving success to rebels, has produced so many miseries to mankind, there appeared no prospect for him in the church;

he

he was therefore obliged to relinquish his favourite pursuits, and to engage in a profession by no means congenial to his mind.

At the solicitation of a near and worthy relation, he formed a connection with the Honble. ROBERT HAMILTON, a gentleman of such varied information, engaging manners, and princely hospitality, as to be justly esteemed an honor to the province. His memory is gratefully remembered by thousands, whom his magnanimous liberality rescued from famine. This connection subsisted with great satisfaction to both parties for several years, when on account of the extent of their business, a separation took place by mutual consent, Mr. HAMILTON going to Niagara, and Mr. CARTWRIGHT remaining at Kingston; but their mutual regard and friendship ^{was} only dissolved by death.

Although, Mr. CARTWRIGHT had found it necessary to relinquish his views of becoming a minister of the Gospel, yet he indulged always in a serious turn of mind, and a strong predilection for the sacred character. Often has my venerable friend, who was accustomed to address you from this sacred place, with so much profit to your souls, lamented that circumstances had prevented a person of such eminent abilities from entering the church, of which he must have become its chief ornament. The excellence of his disposition, his discrimination of character, his acquaintance with the human heart, would have made him singularly useful. That

That elevation of mind which accompanies high principle and extensive knowledge, while it presided over his mercantile pursuits, prevented him from strictly attending to petty gains, or from being tenacious of always obtaining what may be deemed in common language his just rights. He knew that justice, unless mixed with benevolence, may frequently become cruelty; and therefore he was lenient to his debtors, and notwithstanding his extensive concerns, seldom had recourse to law. Riches are not every thing, they may be too dearly bought. And I may venture to say, that never was he the cause of misery to any family. But, though this inflexible integrity and honourable dealing, which produced the same uniform conduct with young and old, ignorant and knowing, and which was more ready to recede than to be severe, had made him less wealthy than he would have otherwise been. He was possessed of all he desired, a liberal competence; and by his honorable conduct, he gave a complete example of those liberal views and magnificent principles, which have raised the character of the British merchant so high in the eyes of the world.

Soon after his settlement in Kingston, he was appointed Judge of the Common Pleas; the duties of which he discharged, without any emolument, in a way most honourable to himself, and beneficial to the public. His patient attention to the causes before him, his inflexible impartiality, his singular penetration, and the strength

strength of his judgement, added to the energetic firmness of his character, enabled him to perform, in the most correct manner, the duties of this important office. One of his brethren, in another district, used to say with much naiveté, that Mr. CARTWRIGHT was worth them all; while we are poring and studying, he sees a thing almost intuitively; overawing us by his very manner, giving dignity to the court, and inspiring a respect for its decisions. On the bench he had no prejudice or predilection of any kind. Accordingly, he was most attentive, mild and discriminating, for he aspired to no praise, but that which might be given to the conscientious discharge of his duty. In performing the more humble, but various and useful duties of a magistrate, you are all witnesses of his eminence. His addresses to the grand juries, at the Quarter Sessions, will be long remembered for their sound principles, liberal views, and tempered dignity. In exerting himself to keep the peace, in apprehending and committing felons, and performing all the troublesome duties of this office, he was indefatigable. He did not drive away the injured who came to complain of the oppressor, nor did he attend to his private affairs in preference to theirs. Very few understand the duties of a magistrate, they are so numerous, and embrace so great a variety of objects, that the country is under great obligations to any worthy man who shall prepare himself for this office, and discharge its duties without any sinister motives of his own.

No sooner ^{were} ~~was~~ the provinces divided, than he was appointed a member of the legislative council ; and I believe was never, during the remainder of his life, absent from a single session of parliament, except one. In a pecuniary point of view, this attendance every season for twenty three years, was accompanied with great expence, besides the loss of time, in conducting his private business. Nor was it merely, while at the seat of Government, that he was occupied in legislation ; many an hour did he spend in collecting and preparing materials for useful laws, in order to render the province prosperous and happy. He was not one of those intuitive legislators, who can sit down of a morning and write a law upon any whim that strikes their fancy ; such crude excrescences could only raise his contempt and indignation. He deliberated coolly, he collected information with care, he weighed the words and sentences with the most scrupulous anxiety, that the meaning might be plain and simple, and that each clause should express that meaning perspicuously, and no other. Nor was he one of those narrow minded, though well intentioned, statesmen, who look for an immediate effect from their legislative labours ; he knew that from the nature of mankind, many evils after the law had afforded a remedy, disappeared slowly ; that there were many enactments of the most useful kind, which seemed to take no effect, but which proceeded in silence with slow but steady pace, to produce the most beneficial results.

sults. Possessing great comprehension of thought, and the most vigorous talents, attended with a patience of research, and a self control highly advantageous, he was frequently content to give way to the less extended views of his colleagues, and to accept of an imperfect measure, rather than lose it altogether.

You can never, he would say, bring all into the same way of thinking; some measures of great and lasting advantage to a state, are slow in their operation, and appear to produce, for a season, no beneficial effect, which are yet in the end pregnant with the most precious advantages; but you cannot expect in a public assembly, always to transfuse your own views and sentiments into the minds of others. Some are too ignorant to comprehend the force of your arguments; some too lazy to attend to them; many are blinded by prejudices, and some have already adopted the contrary side, which they are determined, at all hazards, to maintain; if, therefore, you remain inflexible, even in the attainment of good, nothing will be accomplished, you must concede and leave a good measure to make its own way after it has began to operate. Nor is it just that you should carry all your plans, however disinterested your intentions, others may be equally so, though differing in opinion, and it is right that they should sometimes decide against you, even though wrong, that they may know from experience that they are in possession of liberty,

To those who complained of the little interest many took in preparing for their legislative duties, and their narrow views, in turning every thing to their own country, or their own village, he used to say, that the great imperfection of national, as well as domestic government, arose from the little virtue and soundness of principle, not only in making laws, but in putting them in execution. That, instead of finding fault, it would be much better to act, and to remember that the wisest laws are of no use, unless executed by virtue. Almost every statute that goes into general operation, must be delegated to many different persons, judges, juries, constables, &c. who, if not governed by conscience, will abuse their discretionary power. Make a nation virtuous, and the laws will be wise, and their execution sure. He looked for more good from a rational plan of education, disseminating moral and religious principles among the people, than from legislative enactments.

He had been frequently offered a seat in the Executive Council, which he declined, not only from a conscientious feeling, that he could not discharge its duties strictly, living at a distance from the seat of Government, but also because he was convinced that he could do more good as a Magistrate and Legislator, by not being identified with the government, as an Executive Counsellor must frequently be. Though never aspiring to popularity, his known probity had given him a degree of influence which no other man possessed.

This

This made him anxious to guard the independence of his character from any possibility of imputation. His great ambition was to be useful to the Province, and to promote the prosperity of its inhabitants.

In every situation in which he was placed, we behold the same dignity of character maintained, the same forgetfulness of self, the same elevation of principle, which satisfied with the approbation of conscience, and future hopes, depended not upon the applause of men, but on the contrary, sometimes exerted itself when friends and acquaintances were displeas'd, and even amidst frowns and menaces. It is true, that those did not continue long, his inflexible probity shone through transient clouds, and many who had determined to find fault were left in admiration.

It was in this elevated situation, long at the head of this society, and possessing the love and esteem of good men, and the respectful homage of the wicked, that the late war found him: For tho' taught from former experience, to look for every thing base and degrading from the faction that ruled our unhappy neighbours, yet he could hardly believe that open war would have been the consequence. Sound policy, interest, and affection, were in favour of peace; much might be lost, but nothing could be gained by hostilities. When he found himself mistaken, all the enthusiasm of former times kindled in his bosom, and tho' sinking under domestic affliction, his love for his country gave him new life. His patriotism

triotism during the whole war, burnt with the most noble brightness. Not satisfied with the active discharge of his duties as colonel of the militia, he endeavoured by his writings to inspire every inhabitant of the colony with sentiments and reflections suitable to the dangerous situation of the country. Writing from the heart, and with the most lively zeal, in the important cause, he contributed in an eminent degree to preserve that noble spirit of independence, which enabled us to close the contest so gloriously. When our vindictive enemy threatened to drive us from the fertile fields, that we had gained from the wilderness to sever us from our parent state, to deprive us of all that gives dignity to man, and renders life valuable, he was found actively employed in animating the militia to resistance, pointing out the folly of the boastings of the foe, and the certainty of their defeat. His unremitting exertions were continued long after the disease that destroyed him had made great progress, the strength of his body was not equal to the firmness of his soul; but he continued till within a few weeks of his death, to discharge public duties of the most important nature.

Should any suppose, that because he was always found on the side of government, and strenuous in protecting it from the machinations of secret, and the attacks of open enemies, that he was not friendly to liberty, they would be much mistaken. No man ever displayed more firmness or independence than he in every situation.

tuation. As a Legislator, he thoug' t always for him- self, and was even somewhat jealous of his liberty. But when he differed from his colleagues, and opposed a measure desired by the government, it was a difference arising from conviction ; it was not a factious opposition to exhibit his power, and gain popularity, nor did he ever allow a spirit of insolence and contradiction to thwart any measure in agitation. His opposition was therefore equally honourable as his support, and such was the conviction of his pure integrity, that it extended his influence, and consequently his usefulness. Always a supporter of the liberty and independence of the subject, and the steady asserter of all those privileges which every Briton enjoys by our happy constitution, he knew how easily they were reconciled to the firmest loyalty and patriotism.

By those, indeed, who consider the institutions of our neighbours, as the *ne plus ultra* of perfection, he might be supposed not friendly to liberty. He was no admirer of them, he was too well acquainted with the dishonorable arts, by which they had been cherished. He well knew that there never ^{was} such scenes of corruption exhibited by any public body, as those of many of their legislatures, that there was no check from feelings of honour, and that there was no comparison in the administration of justice between the two countries. A firm and rational admirer of the British Constitution, he perceived in that of our neighbours only a crude and frightful

frightful imitation ; wherever the resemblance was preserved, it was advantageous, but every deviation was an error. Nor could he, for a moment, conceive it possible for any person to believe, when contrasting the British Parliament with the Congress at Washington, that there was any room for comparison. Never was the British Legislation ^{un}accused by its greatest calumniators of proceedings, approaching in disgrace to the infamous and bare faced jobs, which have been transacted in Congress. Can it be supposed that men of high principle and education, who feel that they must respect public opinion, that reputation can only be preserved by the consistency and propriety of their political conduct, are to be compared with men, without education or principle, who have no character to lose, and who have been elected by a faction, to support certain measures, and no other.

In all essential points of a good government, our neighbours have completely failed ; but had there been any doubt, the conduct of the two legislatures, during the late contest, puts it to rest for ever. While the Parliament of Great Britain, by magnanimity and firmness, has raised the nation to the highest pinnacle of human glory, congress by the most insidious time-serving policy, has sunk the United States to the lowest point of degradation. On the one side, we behold the British Parliament supporting the true and legitimate rights of man against the presumptuous and arrogant pretensions

pretensions of a cruel despot, rescuing oppressed nations from his grasp, and maintaining the contest at the hazard of every thing that was dear, making the greatest sacrifices for the benefit of the civilized world, and while left alone, never despairing for a moment, but rising superior to misfortune. Persevering under every circumstance, however unfavourable, and holding out (as has been emphatically said) a clear and bright flame amid the darkness that overspread the nations of Europe, that soon rose into a pillar of fire to light them to security, independence, and peace.

On the other hand, the American Government, like cormorants, delighted in the contests which agitated Europe, laughed at the groans of the dying, and fed upon the slain, had no sympathy with the fallen; and when at length the despot had trampled upon all the continental nations, and nothing was seen but desolation and despair, when Britain alone was left to combat with his colossal power, and her means of resistance appeared to be fast diminishing, this government, lost to every feeling of honor and glory, hastened to join itself to the oppressor of nations, and to congratulate him on the total destruction of the liberty of the world. Expecting to share in the spoils of their parent state, they proceeded to a declaration of war, on pretences so utterly false, that they are all abandoned by those who urged them with the greatest fury, and have not so

much

much as been mentioned in the treaty of peace. Posterity, better than the present age, will be able to appreciate the conduct of the two governments during the convulsions of Europe, and while Britain will appear an example of magnanimity, unequalled in history, the star that has directed the European family to happiness and peace, America will be consigned to bitter execration, as the betrayer of the liberty and independence of mankind.

But though from deep conviction, he was not an admirer of the institutions of our neighbours, and saw much corruption in their laws and policy, he was not insensible to the high principle and just views of many individuals. Men whose talents and accomplishments would do honour to any country, and whose exertions have never been wanting to give that change to public opinion, which would raise the character of their native land. That their efforts might be successful, was one of his most ardent wishes.

In this province, my brethren, we all feel that we possess every blessing of the British Constitution, with none of its inconveniences, and if during the war we have had to bear many privations, and felt a momentary suspension of right, it is hoped that ample remuneration will be given, and all must admit that we are well repaid for such sacrifices by the tranquility, peace, and happiness, which we now enjoy, and by the reputation which we
have

ce. Poss-
 no appre-
 ing the
 appear
 ory, the
 appiness
 execra-
 dence of

t an ad-
 and law
 was not
 of many
 shments
 exertions
 o public
 r native
 s one of

hat we
 a, with
 war we
 mentary
 eration
 l repaid
 ppiness,
 hich we
 have

have acquired for loyalty and patriotism, and deter-
 mined resistance to our open enemies. These calami-
 ties are blown away by the winds of heaven, and we are
 now to meet as friends, those whom we have beheld as
 foes. Let us then exercise towards them that charity
 which thinketh no evil, forgetting the past, let us anti-
 cipate good from the future, and by treating them with
 kindness and hospitality, shew them that in a Christian
 land, the moment the sword is sheathed, all the tur-
 bulent and hostile passions are buried in the ground.

WE have been hitherto contemplating this excellent man as a public character, but his domestic life as exhibiting a more forcible delineation of his moral nature, is still more worthy of our attention. All are called upon to discharge the duties of private life, while few are required to appear in public stations. As a husband, no man was ever more attentive to soften the cares of his amiable companion, and to render it a union of hearts, a scene of the most refined friendship; always alive to her wants, he never failed to provide for her that convenience and accommodation, which became their rank and circumstances. As some recompense for the solicitude and sufferings incident to the nourishing of a large family, she always experienced from him the warmest affection, and the kindest and most obliging attentions. He was aware, that in a family, the share of cares which fall to the tender mother, are greater than those of the father, that they are the hardest and most ungrateful. Her anxieties, her troublesome and incessant labour in training up children to mature and ripened life, well deserved his most cordial love, and endearing sympathy. His affection sweetened her labours, and encouraged her to a cheerful and constant attendance on her family concerns, and the moment that he could assist with propriety in superintending his children,

children, he hastened to relieve her, and then by tempering with rational indulgence the reins of parental authority, he inspired them with the warmest gratitude, and most tender regard. As they grew up, the necessary restraints of authority gradually dropped away, till at length the father sunk into the friend.

A mutual confidence then took place of parental authority, while the known firmness of his character, and his abhorrence of every deviation from virtue, continued to strengthen and guard those moral principles which it had inspired. Never were children more attached to their parents, and their fear of displeasing him became a strong motive for their continuance in well doing. Only four years are passed away since we beheld his charming family, consisting of six sons and two daughters, in the full enjoyment of all the happiness that virtue and innocence could confer. A more amiable and delightful groupe never lived.

It was at this time that his situation appeared to combine every thing that was desirable upon earth. Possessing a rare combination of excellent qualities, the most inflexible integrity, and the fairest reputation, derived from a long and uninterrupted course of steady and meritorious conduct, I could not help mentioning to him, that he derived even in this life, the most grateful rewards of virtue, the esteem, the love, and the veneration, not only of those who were intimately connected

ted with him in the bonds of friendship and kindred, but of all who were witnesses of his actions, and capable of appreciating the motives which produced them. In his memorable reply, he says, "this day closes my 52d year, and I can, I think, safely say, that I have lived as much and almost as happily as any body in the same time; what providence may prepare for me in the remainder of my course, it is impossible to foresee, but I shall always have the consolation, that hitherto my life has not been idly or uselessly spent."

Enjoying so much domestic comfort, and that singleness of mind which accompanies the consciousness of well doing, it seems that such a state was too happy for man, and by one of those mysterious decrees of providence, which astonish and confound human calculations, he was doomed to suffer the most severe calamities that could be inflicted; the blows of adversity were aimed at his heart. That cheerful and promising family, in the bosom of which he saw rising the most engaging virtues, and from which he anticipated great happiness, was doomed to wither away before him. He was to mark the slow but certain progress of death prevailing over lives that were dearer to him than his own.

First, his second son left a blank in this house of domestic felicity, and his death was accompanied with circumstances that give it an interest which cannot fail to engage the warmest sympathy of every feeling heart.

It was the reaction of virtuous principles warring against a degrading habit, which had prevailed over his good dispositions, at a time when he was not under the eye of parental restraint. The grief, the agitation of contending passions, and the firm determination never again to deviate from the true path, ~~was~~ ^{were} too much for his physical powers to sustain. The conflict threw him into a decline, life ebbed slowly away, but virtue continued to triumph. It was this victory over temptation, which had been accustomed to prevail, though purchased with his life, that rendered his death so bitter to his affectionate father, his sorrow was the more deep and heartfelt, as it must be concealed from a censorious and unfeeling world. From this severe blow, he might have returned to the world, and while he lamented the loss of a son, who displayed in his last moments a firmness of soul capable of raising his character to the highest rank in human excellence, he had still many children of the fairest promise.

But, alas, his first born was at that very time, slowly sinking under a decline, with little or no hopes of a recovery. I am sure I may, with confidence, appeal to all who knew this amiable young man, whether they ever saw one so universally beloved; the most affectionate of sons, the kindest of brothers, joining to the strictest moral and religious principles, a heart expanding

to

to every benevolent thought, with a temper of uncommon sweetness, his understanding was clear, and his views noble: never did a more excellent young man claim the sympathy of his friends. Social, cheerful, and affectionate, he was loved by those who knew him almost to enthusiasm, for his cheerfulness, arising from a mind at peace within itself, never failed to enliven his friends, and make them happy. Uniformly good humoured, easy in his conversation, of purity of disposition never surpassed, and of habitual piety, he had been for some years the most pleasant and instructive companion that his father ever enjoyed. Judge, then, of his feelings, and of the bitter tears which he shed over him, when the hand of a relentless disease was leading him to the grave. He could not behold the brightest of his sublunary hopes vanishing away without unutterable anguish; the prop of his declining years, the protector of the family, to whom they might have applied with confidence, as their kind and faithful guardian, when from the course of nature, his own head should be laid low. From this terrible calamity he never recovered entirely; the consolations of religion were his, but the fondest hopes of his heart were blasted, and although resigned, the world had lost its charms; his grief undermined his health, food was leathsome; he became too abstemious, and laid the foundation of that afflicting disorder, which brought him to the grave. His declining health appeared for a time rather a source of joy than of sorrow, and

and while employed in his usual avocations, nothing appeared capable of interesting his heart, till a new calamity taught him that he had still duties to perform, and rousing anew his tender affections, seemed to give him new life and energy, and again to awaken in him a wish to live. His eldest daughter was seized with a cruel disorder, which threatened her speedy dissolution; all the tender feelings of the father were again called into action, every exertion was made for her recovery, and for a time with success, but it was only a transient return to health. The remedies given for her recovery, undermined a constitution naturally delicate, and while they cured one disorder, laid the foundation of another still more fatal. He had the misery to behold his amiable and affectionate child put to death by a disorder at once painful and lingering. In her departure were seen, in the strongest light, the peculiar blessings of a peaceful end; but, alas, her parents were overwhelmed by this new and terrible calamity; they were deprived of a diamond that gladdened their hearts, and possessing all those excellencies of beauty and mind which they could desire. Her figure was elegant, her action graceful, the timid modesty of her countenance shewed the ingenuoufness of her soul. Her disposition was so friendly, humane, and gentle, that it was impossible to know, and not to love her. Above all, she had a well grounded assurance of the truth of christianity, which smoothed her path to the grave. Endowed with un-

common

common sweetness of temper, her premature death filled this place with deep concern. All sighed at the departure of a person so richly gifted with every requisite to make her lovely; no wonder that her parents severely felt her loss. A model of filial piety, she spoke not of the progress of her disease, lest she should give her parents uneasiness, and suffered without a murmur the most excruciating pain. It was at this period that she displayed that christian patience and fortitude, which resulted from deep reflection, and habitual devotion, and which not only strengthened the gentle qualities of her nature, but enabled her to submit with meek resignation to the divine will. "It has pleased Heaven," says her heart-broken father, "to take from me those who knew me best, and loved me most; those whom parental affection mellowed into the tenderest friendship had entwined most closely around my heart. I, however, claim no exemption from the calamities of life, and pretend not to murmur at the dispensations of providence; but the wounds made by this revulsion will bleed. Where can I expect another James and another Hannah on this side the grave, the sources of our most delightful anticipations, the ornament and pride of our house." And again he observes, "young was James in years, but mature in virtue. Since he was capable of reflection, he never gave, by his conduct, a moment's pain to his parents, and the only consolation they can have for his loss, is the hope that their

“ their surviving children will imitate his example.”
 And he observes of Hannah, if ever child repaid a parent's care, or merited their fondest love, it was her.
 “ Beautiful, kind, unassuming, unaffected, she was adored
 “ and beloved by all her acquaintance, and almost doated
 “ on by her parents.”

I may be thought to dwell too long upon the death of those excellent young persons, but it gives me a melancholy enjoyment, and how seldom can we speak so favourably of those who are snatched to an early grave ; never in all my experience have I found persons of their age, so pure, so perfect, and may all who hear me pray to God, that he may give them grace to live such a life and die such a death, since it is impossible to doubt of their eternal felicity.

The progress of the war threw upon Mr CARTWRIGHT so many duties, that we thought his mind would be so much occupied, as in time to divert his grief ; he ceased indeed to complain, but his constitution was impaired, and his heart was broken. With that dignity and firmness, which were the basis of his character, he seemed to a stranger, to have recovered from his misfortunes, but the wounds which they inflicted, never ceased to bleed.

Never did he omit a particle of his duty by night and day, he was ready with his sword and pen, to defend this happy province, and his incessant application to business,

siness, undoubtedly aggravated his disorder. A fresh calamity was threatening him, his fourth son, the most promising in point of intellectual talents of all, fell into a consumption. "It pleased God," says this excellent man, "to take to himself my dear Stephen, and though "I had long expected this termination of his disorder, "I was not the less affected by it, when it did arrive. "Our children seem to entwine themselves about our "affections in proportion to their helplessness, and he "was withal so patient and considerate, that the separation was like tearing my heart strings asunder. "When I compare the present state of my family with "what it was but three short years ago, I am ready to "sink under those repeated visitations, which have destroyed my fairest prospects of earthly happiness."

Little more than a year intervened between Stephen's death and his own; yet during that period, he shrunk not from business; he attended his duties in the Legislature, he assisted at the Board of Claims, and while scarcely able to articulate, or to swallow food sufficient to support him, he continued to perform the most important functions. At length the progress of his disorder threatened his immediate dissolution. He was prepared to die, but always alive to the claims of his family, he was willing to try every means to continue a little longer among them. With this intention, he went to Kamouraska to bathe in the sea; this aggravated the symptoms, and on his return, he died in Montreal.

To strangers, Mr. CARTWRIGHT was distant and reserved; there appeared even a coldness in his manner at your first approach, but this vanished by degrees, and his conversation was unrivalled in its power of varied amusement, in rich display of original observations and facility of quotation from the best classical authors, English and Latin. His opinion on literary productions was exceedingly correct, for he was an excellent judge of style, and his acute discernment easily detected a fallacy in reasoning. He loved poetry, and was extremely sensible to its charms; he had even cultivated a poetical turn, which he possessed from nature, to a considerable extent. He relished in a high degree all our best classical poems, and there was hardly a passage of excellence in Shakespeare, Milton, Dryden, Pope, Thomson, and Goldsmith, or any other celebrated Poet, that he could not repeat. In social discussion, he possessed powers of no common stamp, combining accuracy of science with precision of method and richness of illustration. His character was bold, energetic, and firm. Seldom do we find such a combination of eminent talents, such extensive knowledge added to so fine and excursive an imagination. Possessing an innate love of justice and abhorrence of iniquity, he enforced upon all occasions, the strictest integrity, an enemy to affectation and insincerity, he despised intrigue of every kind, or what in modern language is termed address.

From the steadiness of his character, it naturally fol-

lowed, that he was constant in his attachments. Never did he desert any of his friends, whom after trial and selection, he had pressed to his heart. Enjoying his invaluable friendship without interruption from our first acquaintance, I feel his loss as that of an elder brother; my wisest counsellor and surest protector to whom I could always apply for instruction and consolation. With the warmest affection for his friends, he joined an eagerness to do them good which no difficulties could diminish; is it then to be wondered though he carry to the grave their love and veneration. In their bosoms his memory will be cherished, while their hearts beat and their souls are capable of reflection.

His strict probity and inviolable love of truth gave him an influence in the country which no other person ever attained; never did any man court popular applause less, and never was any person so much esteemed by the general voice of the Province: It was a homage paid to virtue. Those virtues threw a lustre over his character, and it was the study of his life to transmit so precious an inheritance to his children. To accomplish this most important object, and to give them a proper foundation, he laboured unceasingly to inculcate the principles of our holy religion upon their hearts, which he justly deemed the root of all true virtue. His was a practical religion, transfused into his life and governing his actions; not only directing his intercourse with the world, and penetrating the retirement

ment of the closet, but entering the secret recesses of the heart. He was aware of his situation long before his death, but not a murmur escaped him, no repinings, no fretfulness, all was peace and composure, and a steady resignation to the will of God. His anxiety was only for his family and friends, for himself he was ready, nay, joyful, as going from a world of pain and suffering to another of infinite happiness and duration.

In a letter addressed to his friend, but not to be opened till after his decease, he says, " My infirmities are increasing so fast upon me that it would be insatiation in me to expect to live long, and I may very possibly be called away in a few days. To me this is no otherwise an object of anxiety than as it may affect my family,

" Adieu my dear friend ; before this reaches you I shall have finished my earthly career, which has been shortened by the afflicting events which have in the three last years prostrated my fairest hopes. I shall, without dismay, resign my soul into the hands of its Creator, trusting to the merits of our Saviour for all the blessings which christianity offers to her friends."

Few such examples of moral rectitude and christian devotion can be offered to our imitation, and it is profitable to reflect upon them ; they are torches sent to illumine our way, and to light us to a blessed immortality.

*Inscription for the Tablet to be placed in
the Protestant Church in Montreal.*

SACRED TO THE MEMORY

OF

THE HON: RICHARD CARTWRIGHT,

WHOSE REMAINS ARE DEPOSITED IN THE PROTESTANT
BURIAL GROUND OF THIS CITY;

MEMBER OF HIS MAJESTY'S LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

OF

UPPER CANADA.

GIFTED BY DIVINE PROVIDENCE

WITH RARE ENDOWMENTS OF MIND,

IMPROVED BY A LIBERAL EDUCATION,

AND AN EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF MANKIND;

FIRM IN CHARACTER, AND WISE IN COUNCIL;

ENDEARED

TO THE BRAVE AND LOYAL INHABITANTS OF
UPPER CANADA,

BY HIS PUBLIC VIRTUE AND PRIVATE WORTH;

AND

LAMENTED AS ONE OF THEIR BRIGHTEST ORNAMENTS,
AND DISINTERESTED BENEFACTORS;

A KIND HUSBAND;

AN AFFECTIONATE AND EXAMPLARY PARENT;

A STEADY FRIEND;

FEELINGLY, BENEVOLENT, AND INFLEXIBLY JUST;

A TRUE PATRIOT,

AND

A PIOUS MAN.

HE DIED ON THE 27th OF JULY, 1815.

AGED, 56.

THE following short notice of the Hon. RICHARD CARTWRIGHT, drawn up by his friend the Honorable Thos. Scott, Chief Justice of Upper Canada; is so neatly characteristic, that its insertion must prove agreeable to all my readers. It is a tribute of Friendship, which does equal honor to the head and heart of the amiable writer :

“ On the 27th day of July, at Montreal, DIED, much lamented, the Honorable RICHARD CARTWRIGHT, Member of the Legislative Council of the Province of Upper Canada, Colonel of the Militia, and one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in that Province.

“ *Richard Cartwright*, was born at Albany, then subject to the crown of Great Britain, now a part of the United States of America. During the revolutionary war, from Loyalty to his King, he left the place of his birth, and emigrated into Upper Canada. After the conclusion of that war, he entered into co-partnership in trade with the Honorable ROBERT HAMILTON, of Queenstown, (a name that ought ever to be mentioned with respect in this Province) and finally settled in the town of Kingston as a merchant.

“ That he was honorable and punctual in his Mercantile concerns, was the least part of his praise—endowed by nature with a firm, dignified, and discerning mind, instructed by a liberal education in his youth, acquainted with mankind by observation and experience in his riper years, he dedicated the fruits of that instruction, observation, and experience, to the service of his Country, his Family and his Friends.

“ Regardless of private emolument and care, when in competition with his duty to the public, he allowed no obstacle to prevent him from a faithful attendance to that duty as a Member of the Legislature of this Province; in which capacity, zeal for the public good, tempered with moderation and knowledge, was the governing principal of his conduct. Nor was he restrained even when struggling with disease from performing, when his country called for his aid, the important, but laborious services incident to the high station which he held in the militia of this Province.

“ As the head of a family, his worth was above all praise, his affection, tenderness, and care, endeared him to his children, while profiting by the example of the moderation, piety, and goodness of the best of fathers.

“ When

“ When year after year it pleased Providence to remove by death, part
“ of his amiable family, the manly and christian fortitude which he then
“ displayed, will never be forgotten by his friends.

“ The last act of his life was perhaps the greatest ; whilst laboring un-
“ der a disease, where no hope remained of a cure ; when conscious of death
“ approaching with a slow but sure pace, he did not complain, but sup-
“ ported by the remembrance of a well spent life, patiently waited to re-
“ sign his soul into the hands of a merciful Creator.

“ Reader—whilst lamenting the death of a worthy man—follow his
“ example.”

th. part
he then

ring un-
of death
out sup-
ed to re-

llow his

