

than an entertaining prelude, an active interlude and a calamitous close. It is to such, more in the experiences of the mind than in the circumstances of life, more in the unseen possessions and attainments of the soul than in the accumulation of material objects, that gratify desires. When death comes, death is not feared. When death has done its utmost, it has done but little. It has threatened much, but effected, what? It has produced changes, but extinguished nothing. The last words of one on his death-bed were: "I have been dying for years, now I shall begin to live." "It is a change which never changes." "Man, by his fears and with his unenlightened mind, makes a death which neither God nor nature ever made." "He that liveth and believeth in me, shall never die." This is one of the nobler sympathies which we, collected in this room on this funeral occasion, have with this bereaved family. Among the last words which Mrs. Barber spoke, were: "Remember that I shall be with you though you do not see me, and though I seem to go away from you, yet I shall be with you." How the doctrines of Christianity had penetrated and possessed her mind. Spiritual thought and desire had completely triumphed over the limitations of earthly life. There was not a shred of fear, not the faintest tinge of apprehension present to her mind. All the unharmonious elements of life were blotted out; all human defectiveness of vision was removed; all the clamor and craving of the sense life were hushed; all regret and conflict and impatience, all wishing, doubting, sighing, relenting, were overcome and cast out. The noble spirit rose superior to the corporeal nature, longed no more for bodily pleasure, looked no more through natural eyes, listened no more through natural ears. The spirit slowly climbing out of its physical abode, began to see all things with clearness. Absolute vision took the place of partial; perfect outline the place of incomplete; illumination the place of obscuring mists; glory the place of sunlight; and the presence of God filled the world within and without. The soul had direct perception of all the great realities of life and circumstance. It took immediate recognition of God and being, of truth and eternity. What increase of intelligence, what addition of joy came along with this unobstructed

realization of things imperceptible to sense. Our own conversation with her and your loving testimony lead us thus to witness to her clarified and transported mind. We sympathize with this family in its strength and attainment, witnessed in the experience and victory of the deceased, as well as with it in this greatest loss to a diminishing household circle. While calling one day we observed that she was serene and hopeful, though wasted and helpless. We inquired if such a mood was natural to her. She replied that it was not, but that her twenty-five years of sickness, instead of having ended in despair and gloom and melancholy, had wrought peace and hope in her. We asked her again, if she had no doubt about this having been the result of her afflictions, and she replied, "none." Her sufferings were sanctified to her, because she read her Bible, and maintained communion with God and her Saviour. Where trials are many and trials are heavy, the spiritual attainments of the *devout and humble* soul are great. Her thoughtful and retiring disposition contributed toward this beautiful and happy outcome. All retiring natures are exceedingly sensitive and impressionable, moved and moulded by every event and circumstance. We will ever find the noblest and best, the most amiable and perfect characters built on the foundation of a quiet and unobtrusive disposition. Christ's miracle in the land of Galilee is repeated in every modest christian soul. Cold water is inspired with the warmth and hue of wine. She chose the christian religion, was steadfast in it, and her death was a tribute to its divine effects.

She was not, however, totally absorbed in her exalted subjective states; but like a true Christian, like a true disciple of her Lord, until the last she had a tender solicitude for the good of her household, both now and in days to come. She was self-forgetful, and this is one of the integral qualities of every true christian character. She herself was almost through with this bustling, ceremonial world, but, like the Saviour, she wished to amend the lot of others, so gave her affectionate counsel to some and her beautiful example to all. Few expected her to have remained so long, but the longer she tarried her example of patience, assurance, spirituality and joy became in-