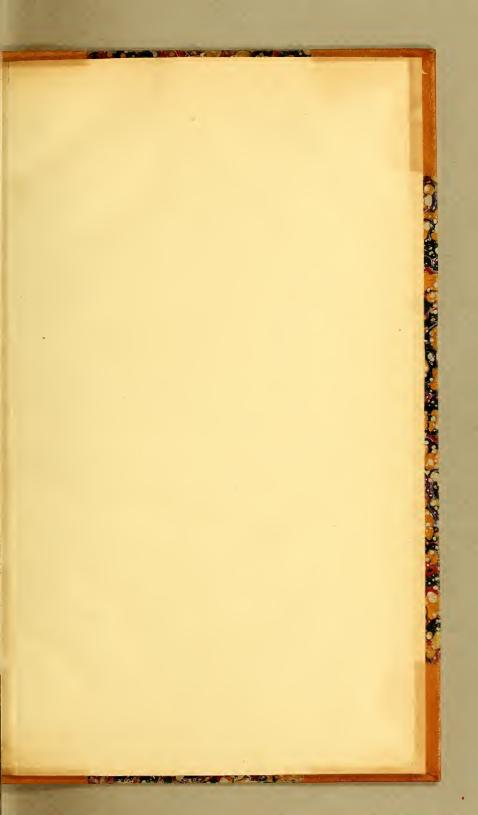


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# SERMON

AT THE EXECUTION OF

MOSES PAUL, AN INDIAN;

Who had been guilty of MURDER,

Preached at NEW HAVEN IN AMERICA.

By SAMSON OCCOM,

A native Indian, and Missionary to the Indians, who was in England in 1776 and 1777, collecting for the Indian Charity Schools.

TO WHICH IS ADDED

A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE LATE SPREAD OF THE GOSPEL,

AMONG THE

# I N D I A N S.

ALSO

OSSERVATIONS on the LANGUAGE of the

# MUHHEKANEEW INDIANS;

COMMUNICATED TO THE

CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES.

# By JONATHAN EDWARDS, D.D.

NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT: Printed 1788.

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#### ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Rev. Samson Occom, author of this diffenirse, is a native Indian. In 1766, and 1767, he was in England, collecting with Dr. Whitaker, for Mr. Wheelock's Indian charity schools, and preached in most of the great towns. He is yet alive, and in the spring of this year 1788, he preached with good acceptance, at the Baptist Meeting House, in New York. Esc. The following Sermon might, perhaps, have been altered in a few places for the better, but it is presumed that good judges will overwook the defects of it, and wonder they are so sew.

it, and wonder they are so sew.

The Rev Dr Edwards, author of the following Dissertation, is a Son of the late Rev. Jonathan Edwards, A. M. president of New Jersey Gollege, whose works on the Freedom of the Will—the Affections—the History of Redemption. Ec. have rendered his memory dear to thousands. Two volumes of Posthumous Sermons, by this excellent man, are now in the press in Scotland, copied from his manuscripts, by the above gentleman, his son, who is a worthy minister at New-Haven in Connecticut, from

whom I lately received both parts of this publication.

I. RIPPON.

# MR. OCCOM'S PREFACE.

THE world is already full of books; and the people of God are abundantly furnished with excellent books upon divine subjects; and it seems altogether unlikely that my performance will be of any great service in the world, since the most excellent writings of worthy and learned men are distributed. But there are two or three considerations that have induced me to be willing to suffer my broken hints to appear. One is, that the books that are in the world, are written in very high and refued language; and the sermons that are delivered every sabbath in general, are in a very high and losty stile, so that the common people understand but little of them. But think they cannot help understanding my talk; it is common, plain, every day talk; little children may understand me. And poor Negroes may plainly any fully understand my meaning; and it may be of service to them. Again, i may in a particular manner be serviceable to my poor kindred, the Indians Further, as it comes from an uncommon quarter, it may induce people the read it, because it is from an Indian. Lastly God works where and when he please, and by what instrument he sees sit, and he has used weak and unlikely instruments to bring about his great work.

# INTRODUCTION.

HAT a night must the last have been before the execution! Methinks I hear the conversation between Mr. Occom and Moses.

Occom. Well, Moses! How do you do this evening?

Moses. Oh sir! It is near: Before to-morrow this time, where will my poor foul be?

Occom. Yes, a few hours more and you will be in eternity :- But

will you tell me the frame of your mind?

Moses. I want to do it, -I fent for you on purpose.

Occom. Moses! Do you really see the evil, the abominable evil of your conduct-of all fin against God, and particularly of that fin for which you are to die? Do you loathe fin?

'Moses. I am in great distress-I deserve to die a thousand deathsyou know what a wretch I have been. Lord have mercy upon me! I

hall never be faved!

Occom. Are you willing to be faved from fin as well as from unishment?

Moses. I do not know: I wish I was. But he will never save me. Occom. He is willing to save every praying, repenting, believing nner.

Moses. But I cannot pray, and repent, and believe.

Occom. I know you cannot without the help of the Spirit of God.

Moses. Ah fir! There is no room left for me to repent and pray nd believe, because I have been so wicked.

Occom. Poor creature, you ought to pray and repent and believe, ecause you are so wicked. The more wicked you have been, the more ou need all these things. Here, here, do take my bible and read a few criptures.

Moses. Sir, please to read them yourself to me.

Occom. Peter said to Simon Magus, "Thy heart is not right in ne fight of God, repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray od, &c. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and the bond of iniquity," Acts viii. 21-23. q.d. Thou art very wicked, nd because thou art, repent of thy wickedness and pray God-you obrve this wicked man was exhorted to repent and pray. Let me read you cts xvii. 30. "But now God commandeth all men every where to epent."—Every finful man is commanded to repent.—It is as proper repent in a prison as in a palace.—And wicked men have been exorted to believe in Jesus Christ who came "a light into the world," he wicked Jews were cavilling at him, but his command to them ins thus, "While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be e children of light." John xii. 34. 36, 46. They were exhorted fo believe in Christ as that it might appear on their believing that they were children of the light.

Moses. It is true, but I may not, and I cannot. I wish I knew it

as right for me to pray and repent and believe.

Occom:

Occom. My poor Moses! now you grieve me very much-what do you think it would be wrong for you to pray and repent and believe?

Moses. O fir, what a vile finner I have been.

Occom. Yes, you have been a vile man, but furely it cannot be wrong in a miserable creature to pray to God for mercy It cannot be wrong for a finner to repent, that is to be forry for fin, and to turn away from it: it cannot be wrong for one who has heard that Jefus Christ came into the world to fave some of the chief of sinners, to believe what God has faid of Christ, and to fly to him as an able and willing Saviour for life and everlasting happiness. Need I make this plainer to you?

I wish to understand it. Moses.

Weil, would it be wrong in you who need mercy to ask it Occom. of God?

Moses

Would it be wrong in you who have finned against God to Occom. be forry for fin, and to turn away from the love and practice of it to God ?

Mefes.

Occom. Would it be wrong for you to believe in Christ?-to believe that Jesus Christ will not cast out the soul that cometh to him, and so to believe it as to go to him yourself and venture your body and foul into his hand?

Moses. No, this could not be a fin-it cannot be wrong.

Occom. Well if it would not be wrong for you to do fo, it would be right, and if it be right, it is your duty to do what is right.

Moses. Dear sir, I now see it is right, and then no doubt it must be

my duty to do what is right, but I cannot, I cannot.

Occom. This is what I want you properly to believe that you cannot do any thing which is spiritually good, without the assistance of the Holy Spirit.

Moses. I do believe it.

You do not believe it properly unless you believe it practically-he that really, that is, practically believes he can do nothing spiritually good without divine help, will endeavour to ask for the Holy Spirit-O Moses, let me beseech you to do it-beg of God to bestow his Holy Spirit upon you, and let this encourage you to it, "Our heavenly Father shall give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him," Luke xi. 13.

Moses. O that I could but ask and pray aright!
Occom. Well let us read the 51st Pfalm—this you perceive was David's prayer after he had murdered Uriah. My dear Moses, do endeavour to make this prayer your own; pray it over all the night if you are awake .- Our God hears and answers prayer. He waits to be gracious.

Mofer. Sir, do pray to God for me before you go. They kneel down. Prayer over. They fix the time of meeting in the morning .- Morning came, -- Forenoon was wet, -- But multitudes of ministers and people were assembled. - After certain preliminary

steps had been taken, Mr Occom began as follows.

The

# The ADDRESS.

BY the melancholy providence of God, and at the earnest defire and invitation of the poor condemned criminal, I am here before this great concourse of people at this time, to give the last discourse to the poor miserable object who is to be executed this day before your eyes, for the due reward of his folly, and madness, and enormous wickedness. It is an unwelcome task to me to speak upon such an occasion; but since it is the defire of the poor man himself, in conscience I cannot deny him; I must endeavour to do the great work the dying man requests.

I conclude that this great concourse of people have come together to see the execution of justice upon this poor Indian; and I suppose the biggest part of you look upon yourselves christians, and as such I hope you will demean yourselves; and that you will have suitable commisseration towards this poor object. Though you cannot in justice pray for his life to be continued in this world, you can pray earnessly for the salvation of his poor soul. Let this be therefore, the fervent exercise of our souls; for this is the last day we have to pray for him.—As for you that do not regard religion, it cannot be expected, that you will put up one petition for this miserable creature: yet I would intreat you seriously to consider the frailty of corrupt nature, and behave yourselves as becomes rational creatures.

And in a word, let us all be fuitably affected with the melancholy occasion of the day, knowing that we are all dying creatures, and accountable unto God. Though this poor condemned criminal will in a few minutes know more than all of us, either in unutterable joy, or inconceivable woe; yet we shall certainly know as much as he, in a few days.

The facred words that I have chosen to speak from upon this undefinable occasion, are found written in Romans vi. 23.

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

EATH is called the King of Terrors, and it ought to be the subject of every man and woman's thoughts daily; because it is that unto which they are liable every moment of their lives: and therefore, it cannot be unseasonable to think, speak and hear of it at any time, and especially on this mournful occasion; for we must all come to it, how foon we cannot A 3 tell;

### 6 Mr. OCCOM's SERMON AT THE

tell; whether we are prepared or not prepared, ready or not ready, whether death is welcome or not welcome, we must feel the force of it: whether we concern ourselves with death or not, it will concern itself with us. Seeing that this is the case with every one of us, what manner of persons ought we to be in all holy conversation and godliness; how ought men to exert themselves in preparation for death continually; for they know not what a day or an hour may bring forth, with respect to them. But, alas! according to the appearance of mankind in general, death is the least thought of. from day to day, as if they were to live here for ever, as if this. was the only life. They contrive, rack their inventions, difturb their rest, and even hazard their lives in all manner of dangers, both by fea and land; yea they leave no stone unturned that they may live in the world, and at the fame time have little or no contrivance to die well: God and their fouls are neglected, and heaven and eternal happiness are difregarded; Christ and his religion are despised—yet most of these very men intend to be happy when they come to die, not confidering that Yea there there must be great preparation in order to die well. is none so fit to live as those that are fit to die; those that are not fit to die are not fit to live. Life and death are nearly connected: we generally own that it is a great and folemn thing But I say again, how little do mankind realize these things? They are bufy about the things of this world as if there was no death before them. Dr. Watts pictures them out to the life in his pfalms:

See the vain race of mortals move Like shadows o'er the plain, They rage and strive, desire and love, But all their noise is vain. Some walk in honor's gaudy show, Some dig for golden ore, They toil for heirs they know not who, And strait are seen no more.

Eternal life is shamefully difregarded by men in general, and eternal death is chosen rather than life. This is the general complaint of the bible from the beginning to the end. As long as Christ is neglected, life is refused, and as long as sin is cherithed, death is chosen; and this seems to be the woful case of mankind of all nations, according to their appearance in these days; for it is too plain to be denied, that vice and immortality, and floods of iniquity are abounding every where amongst all nations, and all orders and ranks of men, and in every fect of people. Yea there is a great agreement and harmony among all nations, and from the highest to the lowest to practise sin and iniquity; and the pure religion of Jesus Christ is turned out of doors, and is dying without; or, in other words, the Lord Tefus Christ is turned out of doors by men in general, and even by his professed people. " He came to his own, and his own received him not." But the devil is admitted, he has free ac-

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cels to the houses and hearts of the children of men: Thus life is refused and death is chosen.

But in further speaking upon our text, by divine affistance,

I shall consider those two general propositions:

1. That fin is the cause of all the miseries that befall the children of men, both as to their bodies and souls, for time and eternity.

II. That eternal life and happiness is the free gift of God,

through Jefus Christ our Lord.

In fpeaking to the first proposition, I shall first consider the nature of sin; and secondly, shall consider the consequences of sin, or the wages of sin, which is death.

First then, we are to describe the nature of sin.

Sin is the transgression of the law:—This is the scripture definition of sin. Now the law of God being holy, just and good; fin must be altogether unholy, unjust and evil. If I was to define sin, I should call it a contrariety to God; and as such it must be the vilest thing in the world; it is sull of all evil; it is the evil of evils; the only evil, in which dwells no good thing; and is most destructive to God's creation, where ever it takes effect. It was fin that transformed the very angels of heaven into devils; and it was fin that caused hell to be made. If it had not been for sin, there never would have been such a thing as hell or devil, death or misery.

And if fin is such a thing as we have just described; it must be worse than the devils and hell itself.—Sin is sull of deadly poison; it is sull of malignity and hatred against God, against all his divine persections and attributes, against his wisdom, against his power, against his holiness and goodness, against his mercy and justice, against his written law and gospel; yea, against his very being and existence. Were it in the power of fin, it would even dethrone God, and set itself on the throne.

When Christ, the Son of the Most High, came down from the glorious world above, into this wretched world of sin and forrow, to seek and to save that which was lost, sin, or sinners rose up against him, as soon as he entered our world, and purfued him with hellish malice, night and day, for above thirty

years together, until they killed him

Further, fin is against the Holy Ghost; it opposes all his good and holy operations upon the children of men. When, and wherever there is the out-pouring of the Spirit of God, upon the children of men, in a way of conviction and convertion; fin will immediately prompt the devil and his children to rife up against it, and they will oppose the work with all their power and in every shape. And if open opposition will not do, the devil will mimick the work, and thus prevent the good effect.

Thus we find by the scripture accounts, that whenever God raises up men, and uses them as instruments of conviction and

conversion, the devil and his instruments will rife up to destroy both the reformers and the reformed. Thus it has been from the early days of Christianity, to this day. We have found it so in our day. In the time of the outpouring of the Spirit of God in these colonies, to the conviction and reformation of many; immediately sin and the devil influenced numbers to rise up against the good work of God, calling it delusion, and the work of the devil. And thus sin also opposes every motion of the Spirit of God, in the heart of every Christian; this makes a warfare in the soul.

2. I shall endeavour to shew the fad consequences or effects

of fin upon the children of men.

Sin has poisoned them, and made them distracted or fools. The Pfalmist fays, The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God. And Solomon, through his Proverbs, calls ungodly finners fools; and their fin he calls their folly and foolishness. The Apostle James fays, " But the tongue can no man tame, it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison." It is the heart that is in the first place full of this "deadly poison." The tongue is only an interpreter of the heart. Sin has vitiated the whole man, both foul and body; all the powers are corrupted; it has turned the minds of men against all good, towards all evil. So poisoned are they, according to the Prophet Isaiah v. 20. " Wo unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for And Christ Jesus saith in John iii. 19, 20. "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, left his deeds should be reproved." Sin has stupisfied mankind, they are now ignorant of God their maker; neither do they enquire after him. And they are ignorant of themselves, they know not what is good for them, neither do they understand their danger; and they have no fear of God before their eyes.

Further, fin has blinded their eyes, fo that they cannot difcern fpiritual things; neither do they fee the way that they should go, and they are deaf as adders, so that they cannot hear the joyful found of the gospel that brings glad tidings of peace and pardon to sinners of mankind. Neither do they regard the Charmer charming ever so wisely.—Not only so, but sin has made man proud, though he has nothing to be proud of; for he has lost all his excellency, his beauty and happines; he is a bankrupt, and is excommunicated from God; he was turned out of Paradise by God himself, and became a vagabond in God's world, and as such he has no right nor title to the least crumb of mercy in the world: yet he is proud, he is haughty, and exalts himself above God, though he is wretched and miserable, and

poor,

poor, and blind and naked. He glories in his shame. Sin has made him beastly and devilish; yea he is sunk beneath the beasts, and is worse than the ravenous beasts of the wilderness. He is become ill-natured, cruel and murderous; I said he is worse than the ravenous beasts, for wolves and bears do not devour their own kind, but man does; yea we have numberless instances of women killing their own children; such women I

think are worse than she tygers.

Sin has made man dishonest and deceitful, so that he goes about cheating and defrauding and deceiving his fellow-men in the world: yea, he is become a cheat to himself, he goes about in a vain shew; we do not know where to find man. Sometimes we find him as an angel of God; and at other times we find as a devil, even one and the fame man. Sin has made man a liar even from the womb; fo that there is no believing nor trufting him. The royal pfalmist fays, "The wicked are estranged from the womb, they go aftray as foon as they are born, fpeaking lies."-His language is also corrupted. Whereas he had a pure and holy language, in his innocency, to adore and praife God his maker, he now curses, swears, and profanes the holy name of God, and curses and damns his fellow-creatures. In a word, man is a most unruly and ungovernable creature, and is become as the wild ass's colt, and is harder to tame than any of God's creatures in this world. In short, man is worse than all creatures in this lower world, his propenfity is to evil and that continually; he is more like the devil than any creature we can think of: and I think it is not going beyond the word of God, to fay, man is the most devilish creature in this world. Christ faid to his disciples, "One of you is a devil;" to the Jews he faid, "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lufts of your father ye will do." Thus every unconverted foul is a child of the devil, fin has made him fo.

Sin is the cause of all the miseries that attend poor sinful

man. I shall consider his temporal death.

His temporal death then begins as foon as he is born. Though it feems to us that he is just beginning to live, yet in fact he is just entered into a state of death: as St. Paul says, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." Man is surrounded with ten thousand instruments of death, and is liable to death every moment of his life; a thousand diseases await him on every side continually; the fentence of death is past upon himas soon as he is born: yea, he is struck with death as soon as he breathes. And it seems all the enjoyments of men in this world are also poisoned with sin: for God said to Adam after he had sinned, "Cursed is the ground for thy sake, in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life." By this we plainly see that every thing that grows out

of the ground is curfed, and all creatures that God hath made for man are curfed also; and whatever God curses is a curfed thing indeed. Thus death and destruction are in all the enjoyments of men in this life, every enjoyment in this world is liable to misfortune in a thousand ways, both by sea and land.

How many ships, that have been loaded with the choicest treasures of the earth, have been swallowed up in the ocean many times just before they enter their defined haven. And vast treasures have been consumed by fire on the land. And the fruits of the earth are liable to many judgments. And the dearest and nearest enjoyments of men are generally balanced with equal forrow and grief A man and his wife who have lived together in happiness for many years; that have consorted each other in various changes of life, must at last be seperated; one or the other must be taken away first by death, and then the poor furvivor is drowned in tears, in forrow, mourning and grief. And when a dear child or children are taken away by death, the bereaved parents are bowed down with forrow and deep mourning. . When Joseph was fold by his brethren unto the Ishmaelites, they took his coat and rolled it in blood, and carried it to their father; and the good patriarch knew it to be Joseph's coat, and he concluded that his dear Joseph was devoured by evil beafts, and he was plunged all over in forrow and bitter mourning, and he refused to be comforted. And so when tender parents are taken away by death, the children are left comfortless.—All this is the fad effect of fin.—These are the wages of fin-

And we are to confider man's spiritual death, while he is here in this world. We find it thus written in the word of God. " And the Lord God commanded the man, faying, of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of knowledge, of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it, for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." And yet he did eat of it, and fo he and all his posterity, are but dead men. And St. Paul to the Ephesians saith, "You hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and fins."-The great Mr. Henry says on this place, that unregenerate fouls, all those who are in their fins, are dead in fins; yea, in trespasses and fins; which may fignify all forts of fins, habitual and actual; fins of heart and life. Sin is the death of the foul. Wherever that prevails, there is a privation of all spiritual life. Sinners are dead in flate, being destitute of the principles and powers of spiritual life; and cut off from God, the fountain of life: and they are dead in law, as a condemned malefactor is faid to be a dead man. Now a dead man, in a natural fense, is unactive, and is of no service to the living; there is no correspondence between the dead and the living; there is no agreement or union between them, no fellowthip at all between the dead and the living. A dead man

is

is altogether ignorant of the intercourses amongst the living:
--just so it is with men that are spiritually dead; they have no agreeable activity. Their activity in sin, is their deadness, and inactivity towards God. They are of no service to God; and they have no correspondence with heaven; and there is no agreement or fellowship between them and the living God; and they are totally ignorant of the agreeable and sweet intercourse there is between God and his children here below: and they are ignorant, and know nothing of that blessed fellowship and union there is among the saints here below. They are ready to say indeed, Behold how they love one another! But they know nothing of that love, that the children of God enjoy. As sin is in opposition to God, so sinners are at enmity against God;

there is no manner of agreement between them.

Let us confider further. God is a living God, he is all life, the fountain of life; and a finner is a dead foul; there is nothing but death in him. And now judge ye, what agreement can there be between them? God is a holy and pure God, and a finner is an unholy and filthy creature :--- God is a righteous Being, and a finner is an unrighteous creature; God is light, and a finner is darkness itself. Further, what agreement can there be between God and a lyar, a thief, a drunkard, a fwearer, a profane creature, a whoremonger, an adulterer, and idelater. No one that has any fense, dare fay, that there is any agreement. Further, as finners are dead to God, as fuch, they have no delight in God, and godliness; they have no taste for the religion of Jesus Christ; they have no pleasure in the holy exercises of religion. Prayer is no pleasant work to them; or if they have any pleasure in it, it is not out of love to God, but out of felf-love, like the Pharifees of old: they loved to pray in open view of men, that they might have praise from them. But probably they were not careful to pray in fecret. These were dead souls, they were unholy, rotten hypocrites, and fo all their prayers and religious exercifes were cold, dead, and abominable fervices to God. Indeed they are dead to all the duties that God requires of them; they are dead to the holy bible; to all the laws, commands and precepts thereof; and to the ordinances of the gospel of the Lord Jefus Christ. When they read the book of God, it is like an old almanack to them, a dead book. But it is because they are dead, and as fuch, all their fervices are against God, even their best services are an abomination unto God; yea sinners are fo dead in fin, that the threatenings of God do not move them. All the thunderings and lightnings of Mount Sinai do not stir them. Though all the curses of the law are out against them; yea, every time they read these curses in the bible, they are curling them to their faces, and to their very eyes; yet they are unconcerned, and go on in fin without fear. laftly

#### MR. OCCOM'S SERMON AT THE

lastly here: Sin has so stupisfied the sinner, that he will not believe his own senses; he wont believe his own eyes, nor his own ears; he reads the book of God, but he does not believe what he reads. And he hears of God, and heaven, and eternal happiness, and of hell and eternal misery; but he believes none of these things; he goes on, as if there were no God, nor heaven and happiness, and as if he had not any fear of hell and eternal torments;—he sees his fellow men dropping away daily on every side, yet he goes on carelessly in sin, as if he never was to die. And if he at any time thinks of dying, he hardly believes his own thoughts. Death is at a great distance, so far off, that he does not concern himself about it, so as to prepare for it. God mournfully complains of his people, that they do not consider; "O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end."

The next thing I shall consider, is the actual death of the body, or separation between foul and body. At the cessation of natural life, there is an end of all the enjoyments of this life: there is no more joy nor forrow; no more hope nor fear, as to the body; no more contrivance and carrying on any bufiness; no more merchandizing and trading; no more farming; no more buying and felling; no more building of any kind, no more contrivance at all to live in the world; no more flatteries nor frowns from the world; no more honor nor reproach; no more praise; no more good report, nor evil report; no more learning of any trades, arts or sciences in the world; no more finful pleafures, they are all at an end; recreations, visiting, tavern haunting, music and dancing, chambering and caroufing, playing at dice and cards, or any game whatfoever; curfing and swearing, and profaning the holy name of God, drunkenness, fighting, debauchery, lying and cheating, in this world, must cease for ever. Not only so, sinners must bid an eternal farewell to all the world; bid farewell to all their beloved fins and pleatures: and the places and possessions that knew them once, shall know them no more for ever. And further, they must bid adieu to all facred and divine things. They are obliged to leave the bible, and all the ordinances thereof; and to bid farewell to preachers, and all fermons and all christian people, and christian conversation; they must bid a long farewell to fabbaths and feafons, and opportunities of worthip; wea, an eternal farewell to God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and adieu to heaven and all happiness, to faints and all the inhabitants of the upper world. At your leifure please to read the destruction of Babylon; Rev. the 18th, most of that description will apply to the case of dying sinners.

Mean while, the poor departed foul must take up its lodging in forrow, woe and misery, in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, where the worm dieth not, and the fire is not

quenched;

quenched; where a multitude of frightful deformed devils dwell, and the damned ghosts of Adam's race; where darkness, horror and despair reigns, where hope never comes, and where poor guilty naked fouls will be tormented with exquisite torments, even the wrath of the Almighty poured out upon their damned fouls; the smoke of their torments ascending up for ever and ever; and hellish groans, howlings, cries and shrieks all round them, and mercilefs devils upbraiding them for their folly and madness, and tormenting them incessantly.—And there they must endure the most unsatiable, fruitless defire, and the most overwhelming shame and confusion, and the most horrible fear, and the most doleful forrow, and the most racking despair. When they cast their slaming eyes to heaven, with Dives in torments, they behold an angry and frowning God, whose eyes are as a flaming fire, and they are struck with ten thousand darts of pain; and the fight of the happiness of the faints above, adds to their pains and aggravates their misery. And when they reslect upon their past folly and madness, in neglecting the great salvation in their day, it will pierce them with ten thousand inconceivable torments; it will as it were enkindle their hell afresh; and it will cause them to curse themselves bitterly, and curse the day in which they were born, and curse their parents that were the instruments of their being in the world; yea they will curse, bitterly curse; and wish that very God that gave them their being, to be in the fame condition with them in hell torments. This is what is called the fecond death, and it is the last death, and an eternal death to a guilty foul.,

And O eternity, eternity, eternity! Who can measure it? Who can count the years thereof? Arithmetic must fail, the thoughts of men and angels are drowned in it; how shall we describe eternity? To what shall we compare it? Were it possible to employ a fly to carry off this globe by the small particles thereof, and to carry them to such a distance that it should return once in ten thousand years for another particle, and so continue until it has carried off all this globe, and framed them together in some unknown space, until it has made just such a world as this is; after all, eternity would remain the same unexhausted duration\*. This must be the unavoidable portion of all impenitent sinners, let them be who they will, great or small, honorable or ignoble, rich or poor, bond or free. Negroes, Indians, English, or of what nations soever, all that die in their sins, must go to hell together, for the wages of

fin is death.

The next thing that I was to confider is this:

II. That eternal life and happiness is the free gift of God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

<sup>\*</sup> Reader, do notice the Indian's Description of ETERNITY.

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Under this proposition I shall endeavour to shew, what this

life and happiness is.

The life that is mentioned in our text, begins with a spiritual life: it is the life of the foul, a restoration of foul from fin to holinels, from darkness to light, a translation from the kingdom and dominion of fatan, to the kingdom of God's grace. In other words, it is being restored to the image of God, and delivered from the image of fatan. And this life consists in union of the foul to God, and communion with God; a real participation of the divine nature, or in the apoftle's words, it is Christ formed within us; "I live, fays he, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." And the apostle John saith, "God is love, and he that dwellath in love, dwelleth in God, and God in him." This is the life of the foul. It is called emphatically life, because it shall never have a period, but is stable, permanent, and unchangeable, called in the scriptures, everlasting life, or life eternal. And the happiness of this life confists in communion with God, or in the spiritual enjoyment of God. As much as a foul enjoys of God in this life, just fo much of life and happiness he enjoys or possesses; yea, just so much of heaven he enjoys. A true christian, desires no other heaven, but the enjoyment of God: a full and perfect enjoyment of God, is a full and perfect heaven and happiness to a gracious foul .- Further, this life is called eternal life, because God has planted a living principle in the foul; and whereas he was dead before, now he is made alive unto God; there is an active principle within him towards God, he now moves towards God in his religious devotions and exercises; is daily, comfortably and fweetly walking with God, in all his ordinances and commands; his delight is in the ways of God; he breathes towards God, a living breath, in praifes, prayers, adorations and thankfgivings; his prayers are now heard in the heavens, and his praifes delight the ears of the Almighty, and his thankfgivings are accepted. So alive is he now to God, that it is his meat and drink, yea more than his meat and drink, to do the will of his heavenly Father. It is his delight, his happiness and pleasure to serve God. He does not drag himfelf to his duties now, but he does them out of choice, and with alacrity of foul. Yea, fo alive is he to God, that he gives up himself and all that he has entirely to God, to be for him and none other; his whole aim is to glorify God in all things, whether by life or death, all the fame to him.

We have a bright example of this in St Paul. After he was converted, he was all alive to God; he regarded not himfelf, but was willing to fpend, and be fpent in the fervice of his God; he was hated, reviled, despifed, laughed at, and called by all manner of evil names; was scourged, stoned and imprisoned;—and all could not stop his activity towards God.

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He would boldly and couragiously go on in preaching the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, to poor, lost, and undone sinners; he would do the work God set him about, in spite of all opposition he met with, either from men or devils, earth or hell; come death, or come liste, none of these things moved him, because he was alive unto God. Though he suffered hunger and thirst, cold and heat, poverty and nakedness by day and by night, by sea and land, and was in danger all ways; yet he would serve God amidst all these dangers. Read his amaz-

ing account in 2 Cor. xi. 23. and on.

Another instance of marvellous love towards God, we have When there was a proclamation, fent by the king, to all his subjects, forbidding them to call upon their gods, for thirty days; which was done by envious men, that they might find occasion against Daniel, the servant of the Most High God; yet he having the life of God in his foul, regarded not the king's decree, but made his petitions to his God, as often as he used to do, though death was threatened to the disobedient. But he feared not the hell they had prepared; the den refembled hell, and the lions the devils. Daniel and Paul went through fire and water, as the common faying is, because they had eternal life in their souls in an eminent manner; and they regarded not this life, for the cause and glory of God. And thus it has been in all ages with true Christians. Many of the fore-fathers of the English, in this country, had this life, and are gone the fame way that the holy prophets and apostles went. Many of them went through all manner of sufferings for God; and a great number of them are gone home to heaven, in chariots of fire. I have feen the place in London, called Smithfield, where numbers were burnt to death for the religion of Jefus Christ\*. And there is the same life in true christians now in these days; and if there should perfecutions arise in our day, I verily believe, true christians would suffer with the same spirit and temper of mind. as those did, who suffered in days past.

We proceed to shew, that this life which we have described, is the free gift of God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sinners have forfeited all mercy into the hand of divine juftice, and have merited hell and damnation to themfelves; for the wages of fin is everlasting death, but heaven and happiness is a free gift; it comes by favour; and all merit is excluded: and especially if we consider that we are fallen sinful creatures,

\* That part of Smithfield on which the Bell lately flood, it seems is the very ground that was hallowed by the feet of the burning Martyrs. A small circular pavement is the only distinction which now remains to ascertain the memorable, the never to be forgotten spot.

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and there is nothing in us that can recommend us to the favour of God; and we can do nothing that is agreeable and acceptable to God; and the mercies we enjoy in this life, are altogether from the pure mercy of God; we are unequal to them. Good old Jacob cried out, under a fense of his unworthiness. " I am less than the least of all thy mercies," we have nothing to give unto God, if we essay to give all the service that we are capable of, we should give him nothing but what was his own, and when we give up ourselves unto God, both soul and body, we give him nothing; for we were his before; he had right to do with us as he pleased, either to throw us into hell, or fave us .- There is nothing that we can call our own, but our fins; and who is he that dares to fay, I expect to have heaven for my fins! for our text fays, that the wages of fin is death. If we are thus unequal and unworthy of the least mercy in this life, how much more are we unworthy of eternal life? yet God can find it in his heart to give it, And it is altogether unmerited; it is a free gift to undeferving and hell deferving finners of mankind: it is altogether of God's fovereign good pleasure to give it. It is of free grace and sovereign mercy, and from the unbounded goodness of God; he was self-moved to it. And it is faid, that this life is given in and through the Lord Jesus Christ. It could not be given in any other way, but in and through the death and fufferings of Christ; Christ himself is a gift, and he is the christian's life. " For God fo loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." The word fays further, " For by grace ye are faved, through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God." This is given through Jesus Christ our Lord; Christ obtained it with his own blood, by the influence of his spirit he prepares us for it; and by his divine grace preferves us to In a word, he is all in all in our eternal, falvation; all this is the free gift of God.

I have now gone through what I proposed from my text. And I shall now make some application of the whole.

First to the criminal in particular; and then to the auditory in general.

My poor unhappy brother MOSES;

As it was your own defire that I should preach to you this last discourse, so I shall speak plainly to you.—You are the bone of my bone, and flesh of my flesh. You are an Indian, a despised creature; but you have despised yourself; yea, you have despised God more; you have trodden under foot his authority; you have despised his commands and precepts: and now, as God says, "be sure your sins will find you out;" so now, poor Moses, your sins have found you out, and they have evertaken you this day; the day of your death is now come; the

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the king of terrors is at hand; you have but a very few moments to breathe in this world .- The just laws of man, and the holy law of Jehovah, call aloud for the destruction of your mortal life; God says, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed." This is the ancient decree of heaven, and it is to be executed by man; nor have you the least gleam of hope of escape, for the unalterable sentence is past; the terrible day of execution is come; the unwelcome guard is about you; and the fatal instruments of death are now made ready; your coffin and your grave, your last lodging, are

open ready to receive you.

Alas! poor Mofes, now you know, by fad, by woful experience, the living truth of our text, that the wages of fin is death. You have been already dead; yea twice dead: by nature spiritually dead, and since the awful sentence of death has been past upon you, you have been dead to all the pleasures of this life: or all the pleasures, lawful or unlawful, have been dead to you: And death which is the wages of fin, is ftanding even on this fide of your grave ready to put a final periodto your mortal life; and just beyond the grave, eternal death awaits your poor foul, and the devils are ready to drag your miserable soul down to their bottomless den, where everlasting woe and horror reigns; the place is filled with doleful shrieks, howls and groans of the damned. Oh! to what a miferable, forlorn, and wretched condition, have your extravagant folly and wickedness brought you, i. c. if you die in your fins. And O! what manner of repentance ought you to manifest! How ought your heart to bleed for what you have done! How ought you to prostrate your soul before a bleeding God! And under felf-condemnation, cry out, Ah Lord, ah Lord, what have I done!—Whatever partiality, injustice and error there may be among the judges of the earth, remember that you have deferved a thousand deaths, and a thousand hells, by reason of your fins, at the hands of a holy God. Should God come out against you in strict justice, alas! what could you say for yourfelf? for you have been brought up under the bright fun-shine, and plain, and loud found of the gospel; and you have had a good education; you can read and write well; and God has given you a good natural understanding: and therefore your fins are so much more aggravated. You have not sinned in fuch an ignorant manner as others have done; but you have finned with both your eyes open as it were, under the light, even the glorious light of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. -You have sinned against the light of your own conscience, against your knowledge and understanding; you have sinned against the pure and holy laws of God, and the just laws of men; you have finned against heaven and earth; you have finned against all the mercies and goodness of God; you have

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finned against the whole bible, against the old and new-testament; you have sinned against the blood of Christ, which is the blood of the everlasting covenant. O poor Moses, see what you have done! and now repent, repent, I say again repent; see how the blood you shed cries against you, and the avenger of blood is at your heels. Ofly, sly to the Blood of the Lamb

of God, for the pardon of all your aggravated fins.

But let us now turn to a more pleasant theme. Though you have been a great finner, a heaven daring finner; yet hark! O hear the joyful found from heaven, even from the King of kings, and Lord of lords; that the gift of God is eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. It is a free gift, and bestowed on the greatest sinners, and upon their true repentance towards God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, they shall be welcome to the life, which we have spoken of; it is granted upon free terms. He that bath no money may come; he that bath no righteoufness, no goodness, may come; the call is to poor undone finners; the call is not to the righteous, but finners, inviting them to repentance. Hear the voice of the Son of the most high God, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." This is a call, a gracious call to you, poor Mofes, under your present burdens and And Christ has a right to call sinners to himself. distresses. It would be prefumption for a mighty angel to call a poor finner to himself; and were it possible for you to apply to all God's creatures, they would with one voice tell you, that it was not in them to help you. Go to all the means of grace, they would prove miserable helps, without Christ himself. Yea, apply to all the ministers of the gospel in the world, they would all fay, that it was not in them, but would only prove as indexes, to point out to you, the Lord Jesus Christ, the only Saviour of finners of mankind. Yea, go to all the angels in heaven, they would do the fame. Yea, go to God the Father himself, without Christ, he could not help you to speak after the manner of men, he would also point to the Lord Jesus Christ, and say, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased, hear ye him." Thus you see, poor Moses, that there is none in heaven, or on the earth. that can help you, but Christ; he alone has power to fave and to give life -God the eternal Father appointed him, chose him, authorized, and fully commissioned him to save sinners. He came down from heaven, into this lower world, and became as one of us, and stood in our room. He was the fecond Adam. And as God demanded perfect obedience of the first Adam; the second fulfilled it; and as the first finned, and incurred the wrath and anger of God, the second endured it; he suffered in our room. As he became fin for us, he was a man of forrows, and acquainted with grief; all our stripes were laid upon him; yea.

he was finally condemned, because we were under condemnation; and at last was executed and put to death for our fins; was lifted up between the heaven and the earth, and was crucified on the accurfed tree; his bleffed hands and feet were fastened there; - there he died a shameful and ignominious death: there he finished the great work of our redemption: there his heart's blood was shed for our cleansing: there he fully fatisfied the divine justice of God, for penitent, believing finners, though they have been the chief of finners .- O Mofes! this is good news to you, in this last day of your life; Behold! a crucified Saviour; his bleffed hands are out-stretched, all This is the only Saviour, an almighty in a gore of blood. Saviour, just fuch as you stand in infinite and perishing need of. O, poor Moses! hear the dying prayer of a gracious Saviour on the accurfed tree .- "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do." This was a prayer for his enemies and murderers; and it is for all who repent and believe in him. O why will you die eternally, poor Moses, fince Christ has died for finners? Why will you go to hell from beneath the bleeding Saviour as it were? This is the day of your execution, yet it is the accepted time, it is the day of falvation if you now believe in the Lord Jefus Chrift. Must Christ follow you into the prison by his fervants, and there intreat you to accept of eternal life, and will you refuse it? and must he follow you even to the gallows, and there befeech you to accept of him, and will you refuse him? Shall he be crucified hard by your gallows, as it were, and will you regard him not? () poor Moses, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ with all your heart, and thou shalt be faved eternally. Come just as you are, with all your fins and abominations, with all your bloodguiltiness, with all your condemnation, and lay hold of the hope fet before you this day. This is the last day of falvation with your foul; you will be beyond the bounds of mercy in a few minutes more. O, what a joyful day will it be if you now openly believe in, and receive the Lord Jesus Christ; it would be the beginning of heavenly days with your poor foul; instead of a melancholy day, it would be a wedding day to your foul; it would cause the very angels in heaven to rejoice, and the faints on earth to be glad; it would cause the angels to come down from the realms above, and wait hovering about your gallows, ready to convey your foul to the heavenly manfions, there to take the possession of eternal glory and happiness, and join the heavenly choirs in finging the fong of Moses and the Lamb; there to fit down forever with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of God's glory; and your shame and guilt shall be forever banished from the place, and all forrow and fear forever fly away, and tears be wiped from your face; and there shall you forever admire the astonishing and amazing

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and infinite mercy of God in Christ Jesus, in pardoning such a monstrous sinner as you have been; there you will claim the highest note of praise, for the riches of free grace in Christ Jesus. But if you will not accept of a Saviour proposed to your acceptance in this last day of your life, you must this very day, bid farewell to God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, to heaven and all the faints and angels that are there; and you must bid all the faints in this lower world an eternal farewell, and even the whole world. And so I must leave you in the hands

of God; and must turn to the whole auditory.

SIRS, We may plainly fee, from what we have heard, and from the miferable object before us, into what a doleful condition fin has brought mankind, even into a state of death and mifery. We are by nature as certainly under sentence of death from God, as this miserable man is, by the the just determination of man; and we are all dying creatures, this is the dreadful fruit of sin. O! let us then sly from all appearance of sin; let us fight against it with all our might; let us repent and turn to God, and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, that we may live forever; let us all prepare for death, for we know not how soon, nor how suddenly we may be called out of the world.

Permit me reverend gentlemen and fathers in Ifrael, to speak a few words to you, though I am well sensible that I need to be taught the first principles of the oracles of God, by the least of you. But since the providence of God has so ordered it, that I must speak here on this occasion, I beg that you would

not be offended nor be angry with me.

God has raifed you up, from among your brethren, and has qualified, and authorised you to do his great work; and you are the fervants of the Most High God, and ministers of the Lord Jesus, the Son of the living God: you are Christ's ambassadors; you are called shepherds, watchmen, overseers, or bishops, and you are rulers of the temples of God, or of the affemblies of God's people; you are God's angels, and as fuch you have nothing to do but to wait upon God, and to do the work the Lord Jesus Christ your blessed Lord and Master has set you about, not fearing the face of any man, nor feeking to please men, but your Master. You are to declare the whole counsel of God, and to give a portion to every foul in due feafon; as a physician gives a potion to his patients, according to their difeases, for you are to give a portion to every foul in due feafon, according to their spiritual maladies; whether it be agreeable or difagreeable to them, you must give it them; whether they will love you or hate you for it, you must do your work. work is to encounter fin and fatan; this was the very end of the coming of Christ into the world, and the end of his death and fufferings; it was to make an end of fin and to destroy the works

works of the devil. And this is your work still, you are to fight the battles of the Lord. Therefore combine together, and be terrible as an army with banners; attack this monster fin in all its shapes and windings, and lift up your voices as trumpets and not spare, call aloud, call your people to arms against this common enemy of mankind, that fin may not be their ruin. Call upon all orders, ranks and degrees of people, to rife up against fin and satan. Arm yourselves with servent prayer continually, this is a terrible weapon against the kingdom of fatan. And preach the death and fufferings, and the refurrection of Jesus Christ; for nothing is so destructive to the kingdom of the devil, as this is. But what need I speak any more? Let us all attend, and hear the great Apostle of the Gentiles speaking unto us in Eph. vi from the 10th verse and onward. "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might; put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against slesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand in the evil day, and having done all to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with fruth; and having on the breast-plate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace: above all, taking the thield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked; and take the helmet of falvation, and the fword of the spirit, which is the word of God: praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance, and supplication for all faints.'

I shall now address myself to the Indians, my brethren and

kindred according to the flesh.

My POOR KINDRED,

You fee the woful confequences of fin, by feeing this our poor miferable country-man now before us, who is to die this day for his fins and great wickednefs. And it was the fin of drunkennefs that has brought this destruction and untimely death upon him. There is a dreadful woe denounced from the Almighty against drunkards; and it is this fin, this abominable, this beastly and accursed sin of drunkenness, that has stript us of every desirable comfort in this life; by this we are poor, miserable and wretched; by this sin we have no name nor credit in the world among polite nations; for this sin we are despised in the world, and it is all right and just, for we despise ourselves more; and if we do not regard ourselves, who will regard us? And it is for our sins; and especially for that accursed, that most hateful sin of drunkenness that we suffer every day. For the love of strong drink we spend all that we

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have, and every thing we can get. By this fin we cannot have comfortable houses, nor any thing comfortable in our houses; neither food nor raiment, nor decent utenfils. We are obliged to put up any fort of shelter just to screen us from the severity of the weather; and we go about with very mean, ragged and dirty clothes, almost naked. And we are half starved, for most of the time obliged to pick up any thing to eat .-- And our poor children are suffering every day for want of the necesfaries of life; they are very often crying for want of food, and we have nothing to give them; and in the cold weather they are shivering and crying, being pinched with the cold----AH this is for the love of strong drink. And this is not all the mifery and evil we bring on ourfelves in this world; but when we are intoxicated with strong drink, we drown our rational powers, by which we are diftinguished from the brutal creation; we unman ourselves, and bring ourselves not only level with the beafts of the field, but feven degrees beneath them; yea we bring ourselves level with the devils; I do not know but we make ourselves worse than the devils, for I never heard of drunken devils.

My poor kindred, do confider what a dreadful abomibable fin drunkenness is. God made us men, and we chuse to be beasts and devils; God made us rational creatures, and we chuse to be fools. Do confider further, and behold a drunkard, and fee how he looks, when he has drowned his reason; how deformed and shameful does he appear? He disfigures every part of him, both foul and body, which was made after the image of God. He appears with awful deformity, and his whole vifage is disfigured; if he attempts to speak he cannot bring out his words distinct, so as to be understood; if he walks he reels and staggers to and fro, and tumbles down. And see how he behaves, he is now laughing, and then he is crying; he is finging, and the next minute he is mourning; and is all love to every one, and anon he is raging, and for fighting, and killing all before him, even the nearest and the dearest relations and friends: Yea nothing is too bad for a drunken man to do. He will do that which he would not do for the world, in his right mind.

Further, when a person is drunk, he is just good for nothing in the world; he is of no service to himself, to his family, to his neighbours, or his country; and how much more unfit is he to serve God: yet he is just as fit for the service of the devil.

Again, a man in drukenness is in all manner of dangers, he may be killed by his fellow-men, by wild beasts, and tame beasts; he may fall into the fire, into the water, or into a ditch; or he may fall down as he walks along, and break his bones or his peck; he may cut himself with edge tools.---Further, if he has any

any money or any thing valuable, he may lose it all, or may be robbed, or he may make a foolish bargain, and be cheated out of all he has.

I believe you know the truth of what I have just now faid, many of you, by fad experience; yet you will go on still in your drunkenness. Though you have been cheated over and over again, and you have loft your substance by drunkenness, yet you will venture to go on in this most destructive sin. O fools when will ye be wife?--- We all know the truth of what I have been faying, by what we have feen and heard of drunken deaths. How many have been drowned in our rivers, and how many have been frozen to death in the winter seasons! yet drunkards go on without fear and confideration: alas, alas! What will become of all such drunkards? Without doubt they must all go to hell, except they truly repent and turn to God. Drunkenness is so common amongst us, that even our young men and young women are not ashamed to get drunk. Our young men will get drunk as foon as they will eat when they are hungry .---It is generally esteemed amongst men, more abominable for a woman to be drunk, than a man; and yet there is nothing more common amongst us than female drunkards. Women ought to be more modest than men; the holy scriptures recommend modesty to women in particular:---but drunken women have no modesty at a l. It is more intolerable for a woman to get drunk, if, we consider further, that she is in great danger of falling into the hands of the fons of Belial, or wicked men, and being shamefully treated by them

And here I cannot but observe, we find in facred writ, a woe denounced against men, who put their bottles to their neighbours mouth to make them drunk, that they may see their nakedness: and no doubt there are such devilish men now in

our day, as there were in the days of old.

And to conclude, confider my poor kindred, you that are drunkards, into what a miferable condition you have brought yourfelves. There is a dreadful woe thundering against you every day, and the Lord says, that drunkards shall not inherit

the kingdom of God \*.

And now let me exhort you all to break off from your drunkenness, by a gospel repentance, and believe on the Lord Jesus and you shall be saved. Take warning by this doleful sight before us, and by all the dreadful judgments that have befallen poor drunkards. O let us all reform our lives, and live as becomes dying creatures, in time to come. Let us be perfuaded that we are accountable creatures to God, and we must be called to an account in a few days. You that have been careless all your days, now awake to righteousness, and be

<sup>\*</sup> Mr. Occom discovers great abhorrence of the fin of drunkenness.

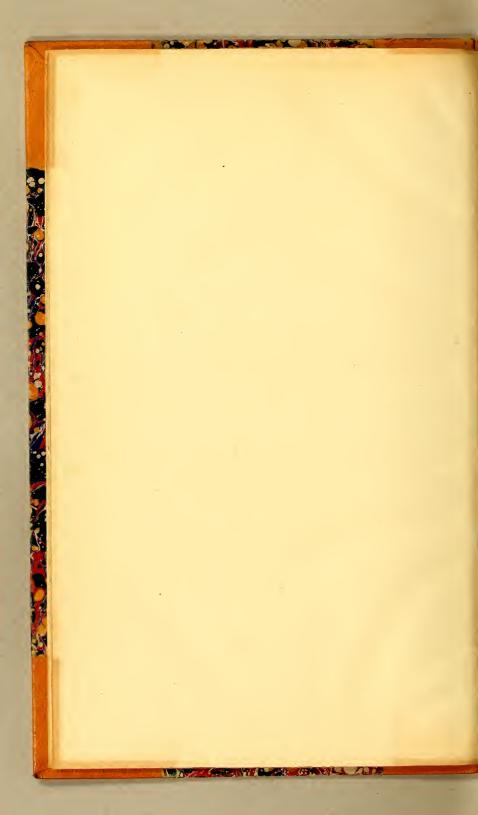
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concerned for your poor and never dying fouls. Fight against all fins, and especially the fin that easily befets you, and behave in time to come as becomes rational creatures; and above all things, receive and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you shall have eternal life; and when you come to die, your souls will be received into heaven, there to be with the Lord Jesus in eternal happiness, and with all the saints in glory; which. God of his infinite mercy grant, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### APPENDIX.

Mr. Kirkland has fent to the fociety in Scotland, for propagating christian knowledge, a copy of his journal from May 1786 to May 1787. A concern about religion began among the Onoida Indians August and September 1786, and in November greatly increased, and continued to do fo through the winter and fpring. About feventy in three villages of that tribe appear favingly converted. In one of these villages the convictions have been remarkably rational and pungent, and a fense of the evil of their fin, has exceeded the fear of punishment. In another, just views of their state have been more mixed with enthusiasm. Outward reformation is fuch, that in one village there hath not been an instance of an Indian drunk these six months. On Lord's Days Mr. Kirkland is often employed without any confiderable intermission from morning to evening, and can hardly command leifure for necesfary refreshment; and often on other days spends ten hours in preaching, catechifing and private religious conversation with the many who come to unfold to him the diffresses of their souls, and to ask instruction in christianity. Their hunger for the bread of life, permits not his fending them empty away. Frequently they have enjoyed much of God's presence in public worship: It was remarkably so on January 1, 1787, when they were difturbed with Pagan Indians discovering their joy for the New Year, by firing of guns, and inviting the Christians to an idolatrous dance, for which there was not a sufficient number through their refusal. Irritated at Mr Kirkland, to whom they ascribed the disappointment, four Indian youth's conspired to murder him that night, which was discovered, and by the great care of some of his converts, disappointed. Even the Heathen Sachems disapproved this, and at an Indian Council that week, three of the youths expreffed their penitence, and the fourth fent his apology. These appearances have firuck fome of the Tufcarara and Onondaga tribes. Mr. K. writes that his work though to uncommonly laborious, was never to delightful. Indeed fince the days of Mr David Brainerd, there has been nothing so promising among the Indians. Mr Kirkland is translating the gospel of Mark, and some select Pfalms, into the Onoida language, which he hopes to get printed. His labours are much helped by a Schoolmaster, and by good Peter the catechist, one of the most eloquent men among the Six Nations. I. R has communicated this to the Theological Miscellany.





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