

XX.

A. TAYLOR.

God has given to men the power of forethought the power to anticipate, the power of reason, that is, to deduce just inferences from given promises. The Patriarch Job possessed these endowments in large measure; he was the greatest man in all the east; A perfect and upright man; one who feared God and eschewed evil. To him in connection with a sound judgment, and large experience was given the light of revelation. Through what channel he received it we do not know, it came from God. He possessed Heavenly wisdom. His knowledge about the redemption of sinners was correct. He anticipated things as high as Heaven, as vast as eternity, as deep as Hell, as precious as the blood of Christ, as glorious as the resurrection of the dead. *This* man had fears, but not about his own personal salvation, that was secure, his religion was right and he knew it. He knew

come forth as gold." 3rd. I reviewed his past religious life, affirmed his conscious integrity these words—"My foot hath not his steps, His way have I kept and not declined." In these days Christians sometimes get unbelieving in time of trial, and like Jacob say—"All these things I have done against me," when really they are "blessings in disguise." They ought to remember that—"all things work together for good to them that love God." His friends charged him with being a hypocrite, which he constantly and truthfully denied. They supposed his afflictions were judgments sent by God to punish him: Job levelled a better. Afflictive Providence sends a mystery to him—and they tell us. Neither he, nor his relatives, friends knew that at times the Lord was proving satiation by Job's affliction, and exposing his malice and wickedness, &c. He expressed his belief in his Redeemer, and in his own immortal soul, drew consolation from this unseen; 5th He was presently patient—grace which man lack; God takes time to work some of his providences. Job abided, trusted, and was fully erred.

Sancti description of his potatoes would ally nicely to a great many persons' things.

Here a parishioner who comes to church very irregularly. He attends Sabbath, and remains away 'o. Then he astonishes everybody by coming two Sabbaths in succession, but immediately afterward remains away three. He is apparently a respectful hearer when in church. Nobody can say anything against his demeanour. He sees quite devout, and appears to enjoy the service. His only fault is that he never attends regularly. He has the same defect as the Highland man's potatoes—*She be veryoot, but very seldom.*

He is well-to-do man who pays

Before ending this discussion let us take a look at this man who refuses to pay anything to the building fund of the new church. Forty years ago he helped to build the old one. Money was scarce at that time; he was a struggling new settler, and, all things considered, his subscription was very liberal. He was a better man then than he is now, and that was the principal

This was a case of outrageous presumption similar to that which the devil endeavored to induce our Lord to perform when he asked Him to cast Himself down from the pinnacle of the temple, and received as a reply, "Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God." Praying for the sick in the expectation that God, if He sees it best, will interfere for their recovery is an inestimable privilege; but all such performances as these are from beneath, and not from above.—*Chris. Advocate.*