

43

fixtures in the family band. A bright, sensible woman. To myself ever loving, and affectionate. And that the last days of her life should have been embittered by the great domestic affliction that fell to her lot, after all her love and care for her family, we all deeply regret. - But the ways of Divine Providence are inscrutable; and my Cousin beloved, who knows but the condition of this sister, who had almost been her idol (as I very well know,) who knows but this great sorrow drew her closer to the dear Savior, and how comforting to know in her last moments that she loved Him more than all beside! She could then say with the Poet. I have no doubt -

"Better than life itself thy Love,

Dearer than all beside to me:

For who have I in heaven above

Or who on earth compared with Thee?"

I think the Cousin Elizabeth Jannet, thy brother Samuel, and Cousin Elizabeth Donaldson, were near of age. Sister Betsey said so.

Is the last mentioned still living? -

I have heard nothing of her for some time past. - She was the last of the family.

B

Within a few days I had a letter from Sister E. B. Hopkins. Her present place of residence is Jamesville O. She attended our last Yearly Meeting at Richmond, & writes that she enjoyed it. - Maria Crawford, her brother William's widow, has the care of her - to whom she intends leaving her property, I believe. Not much - but sufficient to support her very comfortably. - And this, thou knowest, is quite satisfactory to a woman with an independent spirit.

We have had some three inches of snow, and patches of it are still lying about on the grass in the yard. The girls have many pot-plants - three Canary birds, besides domestic concerns - Christmas gifts, to prepare - even for the washer woman - and much reading. In such a village as this, Books, Magazines & papers, seem indispensable. In old times we did not have as many - but those were better read, and the contents noted, I imagine, more