that a man may possess vital piety & make no very sensible outward show of it, this will depend on his physical nature, One man feels deeply & says nothing, but it deeply oppresses, another feels & cries, another shouts & so on but rise on it wherever true piety is it will show itself or be felt with power. This idea as it shows the union of soul & body tends also to prove the Union in the 2d person of the trinity. When a man possesses feeling in his private devotion the spirit of God is surely with him, & he does not or cant decline thus but when there is a lifelessness or coldness he has reason to think the spirit of God is not communing with his spirit. Do you rejoice in worldly affairs, if so how much more should we be able to rejoice in the most important of all things. Is feeling acceptable to God? examine in a concordance I have none at hand but you will find the human voice was inadequate in old times read the last Psalm — "rejoice I say rejoice in the Lord" "joy in the Lord" "Love the Lord with all thy strength mind soul & body" &c &c Now does not love even for each other show itself thus it is not felt powerfully, & when our strength, our soul, body, & mind are added, it indicates man can scarcely produce enough of it. If you say "Glory to God" in christian earnestness will you not feel it & deeply too; so when you say "Praise the Lord oh my soul & all that is within me" if you mean it you must feel it, & if you dont feel it you are not in earnest — I praise the Lord yea I praise him with my whole soul that I am enabled after examination of what I am in, in poverty & looking to what I might be worse that under all I can say "thy will be done" but I cant do it & I mean do in earnest that I am not better. There is a personal practical piety that is love to God, as well as an outward piety to man — this is love to our neighbour

these two embrace the whole commands. You sing spiritual songs alone, Why? not because there are 2 or 3 gathered together, for that is not requisite but that even with a voice you may show forth your love to God, for the whole man & all nature must praise him. Now let us do anything because our fathers did it or early education impressed it on us — thy will oh God be done & teach us what that will is — Now I will make a request of both of you Time is short & the heaviest work of mans life is to get to heaven; that is true labour & slow labour, for you know the higher the prize the greater the labour, it is so in earthly as also in spiritual concerns — devote 15 mins or more on yr knees in private devotion every morning & night in addition to the family worship — throw yr whole heart into it & call on God to pour out his Holy Spirit on you & if you pray thus in earnest — as for yr life, think you he will not hear & answer? Yes with a flood of light & knowledge. About 3 weeks ago after experiencing Gods love to me in trouble I was meditating on it & if ever I felt love it was then, I gave way to it & it seemed as if my very soul left my body & ascended to commune. Since that time all trouble has ceased, I trust I trust I am not deceived neither will I be or the fault will be mine. Cultivate a spirit of prayer, prayer, that has life in it & if you pray audibly to yourself it confines the attention "God is not deaf" but he makes requisitions of us — it is his will & our duty is to comply — Do you love God? compare yr love for yr family with yr love to him & you will know. Love produces both hope & faith & is the greatest of the three — You may not have facility in prayer, but if the heart be there all is right. Seek to grow in Grace & in the knowledge & love of God — time is passing & now this winter little to do, what a time for it in yr quiet office, take advantage of it dont let it slip & the spring