

impudence and indifferent treatment to my repeated solicitations. Again and again have I asked you to accept this cup of tea, but you apparently would not even as much as notice me."

"Mrs.—, I beg your pardon for my assumed behaviour—please sit down." At the same time taking the cup from her, he told her that he did it on purpose.

"On purpose? Why, what do you mean, Mr.—?"

"Have I not often spoken to you about the Saviour offering each one of us the cup of salvation, and you on every occasion made light of it. Now you cannot deny it. How will you account for your behaviour to that loving Father when you stand at the judgment day?"

The shot told. She hung her head down for some time. Then she lifted a face beaming with joy. "I understand it now. O Mr.—, I thank God for permitting you to teach me in this way!"

Ever since the lady has been a faithful servant of the Lord.—*Sel.*

### OUR LIGHT AFFLICTIONS. •

BY REV. A. J. JARREL.

I never saw but one star by day. I have seen them as the sand on the sea-shore by night. I never saw a nugget of gold that would not shine brighter for scouring. "Spices are never so fragrant as when bruised." "Juniper never smells so sweet as when in the fire." "Chamomile, the more you tread it the more you spread it." The Church has never spread so rapidly as when it was "scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen." Two painters, upon a lofty scaffold, were doing exquisite frescoing on a cathedral. One had just finished a masterpiece. All absorbed, he was stepping backward, gazing at his painting. His comrade saw him within one step of the edge. Dashing his own brush on the beautiful frescoing, he daubed it all over. But he broke the spell and saved his friend. Tribulation comes from *tribulatio*—that, from *tribulam*, which means a "threshing instrument." So tribulation expresses the whole process of separating the wheat from the chaff and straw. "Our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." There are elevations in a good man's affliction that almost turn his sorrows into joys, and in the end do convert his crosses into crowns.—*Sel.*

### EXCESS.

There may be too much of even a good thing, under certain circumstances. The matter is illustrated in the following, taken from "Practical Hints on Pulpit Oratory," by A. T. Pierson, who is a preacher, doing evangelistic missionary work: "There is a winning manner, and there is a repelling manner. To be winning is to be wise, but it must not be overdone. We have a friend an evangelist, who got into the habit of calling his audience 'dear souls.' Inadvertently he would say, as he passed from place to place, (he was preaching in Ireland), 'dear Belfast souls,' 'dear Dublin souls'—and, before he knew it, he was saying 'dear Cork souls?' and convulsed his Irish audience. Such an evangelist may well be held up as a frightful example of an error to be avoided."

But he has many imitators, notwithstanding. We know of more than several holiness preachers that, while preaching, are continually saying "beloved," "beloved." Such an expression judiciously and appropriately used may not be objectionable; but to be interjecting it into every half-dozen sentences of a discourse savors of affectation, and constitutes a serious blemish in connection with the sermon. We have heard the appellation "beloved" used when it was evidently uttered as a mere habit of speech, in which case cavilling persons might attribute to the utterance not only affectation, but hypocrisy. It is right for a preacher to carry along with his discourse a proper sentiment of affection for his hearers, but it is possible for such a proper manner to degenerate into fulsome, without due care. Propriety of manner in the pulpit, as well as propriety of matter, is a thing to be considered.—*The Good Way.*

"ENTHUSIASM does, fanaticism overdoes," says the *Christian Advocate*. The distinction is good, and well worth noting. Enthusiasm works, fanaticism fights. Enthusiasm reasons and persuades, fanaticism rants and raves. Enthusiasm seeks only the advancement of what it holds as truth. Like Paul, it rejoices to see the cause of truth promoted, even by auxiliaries who reject its methods, or by contentious adversaries. Fanaticism decries all views and methods but its own, and denounces all who are unable to pronounce its shibboleth.—*Canadian Baptist.*