

fessions, we do not sufficiently allow for the enormous differences among human beings—differences both of original disposition and of ripened character. We do not sufficiently take account of the fact that, while disturbance and degradation have so heavily affected the mass, there are a happy few on whom nature's degeneracy has but lightly laid its hand. In the biography of the late Dr. Marsh we have an illustration apt for my purpose. His family was strictly Evangelical. He underwent what he deemed to be conversion. A like-minded friend congratulated his mother on the work of Divine grace in her son. But, in the concrete, she mildly resented the remark, and replied that in truth "Divine grace would find very little to do in her son William."

We are bound to believe, and I for one do believe, that in many cases the reason why the doctrines of grace, so profoundly imbedded in the Gospel, are dispensed with by the negative writers of the day, is in many cases because they have not fully had to feel the need of them; because they have not travelled with Saint Paul through the dark valley of agonizing conflict, or with Dante along the circles downward and the hill upward; because they have to bear smaller share than others of the common curse and burden, they stagger and falter less beneath its weight.

But ought they not to know that they are physicians who have not learned the principal peril of the patient's case, and whose prescription accordingly omits the main requisite for a cure? For surely in this matter there should be no mistake. As the entire Levitical institutions seem to have been constructed to impress upon the Hebrew mind a deep and definite idea of sin, we find in the New Testament that that portion of our Lord's work was, so to speak, ready-made. But He placed it at the foundation of His great design for the future. "When the Comforter is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment."

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR 1890.

WE are not yet able to make a complete announcement of the many attractions which this MAGAZINE will offer during the coming year. We can confidently affirm, however, that in beauty and variety of illustration, and in interest and importance of its articles, it will surpass any previous year. This MAGAZINE is especially devoted, as its motto sets forth, to "Religion, Literature and Social Progress." These ideas shall be kept prominently in view in its management. Its chief object shall be to promote whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report. Its articles of travel and literature shall be written from a Christian standpoint.

SOCIAL PROGRESS.

It will give special prominence to articles on "Social Progress," or, as it has been well called, "Applied Christianity." Recognizing, as we do, the Christian Church as the chief agent of social progress in the world, we shall treat fully the organized efforts of the Church to raise the fallen, to reform the vicious, to save the lost, and in every way to extend the kingdom of truth and righteousness in the earth. Among numerous papers on this subject will be the following: "The Woman's Christian Union and its Work;" "Woman's Missionary Societies;" "Modern Deaconesses;" "The Sisters of the People," an account of the new Methodist Sisterhood in London, by "One of Them;"