

teach that whilst to *know* the truth is good, to *live* the truth is emphatically better, and hence indulge less in doctrinal hair-splitting. Finally, he would perceive, with horror and amazement, the melancholy fact that Christianity has been marred and lamed, travestied and disfigured, by the failure of her exponents to grasp and to deliver "the *whole* truth, and nothing but the truth," in harmony, symmetry, *proportion*.

Another clerical weakness is *lust of power*. The history of the Church is a record of priestly arrogance, intolerance, jealousies, tyrannies over mind and conscience. That dark cloud which broods over the Middle Ages arose from the marshes of priestcraft. In all countries, all religions, priestcraft was ever the most pitiless of despotisms. And it is far from dead among us to-day. In spirit, at least, it is with us still. Still would it fain hold mind and conscience in its grasp. Its sweet delight is in *chains*. One church has *all* her children's minds chained up. Priestcraft abhors nothing as it does *free thought*. Nor is this spirit confined to any one church or sect. Perhaps the English Church is freest from it. I see it in synod and session, as in individual priest or preacher. For hundreds of years has priestcraft been the bane of the Church. In a word, for most of the woes which have afflicted and still afflict her, she has her own officers to thank. Outside foes are com-