

"Why, I'm sure I never thought of him, and anybody might have known I didn't. Mr. Brown has too much sense to imagine such a thing." But Mr. Brown *did* think that a reference was made to his brother, and nothing could convince him to the contrary.

So it is always—the wrong subject started, the wrong person addressed, and only want of tact to blame for it.

Yet is not Christian kindness and courtesy better even than tact, making it impossible for us to offend our neighbor if we love that neighbor as ourselves? Let us then cultivate the law of love.

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THE Duchess of Gordon and a companion were visiting a cottage in Scotland, when a pedlar came in, threw down his pack, and asked for a drink of water. The woman of the house handed the water to him, and said, "Do you know anything of the water of life?" "By the grace of God I do." He drank the water, and then said, "Let us pray." And this was his prayer: "Oh, Lord, give us grace to feel our need of grace. Oh, Lord, give us grace to receive grace. Oh, Lord give us grace to ask for grace. Oh, Lord give us grace to use grace when grace is given." He then took up his pack and went away, having preached a powerful sermon in a few words.

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AMONG the multiplied arguments for the existence of God, the thoughtful observer must give to human life itself a prominent place. We do not mean human nature or existence, but the earthly course of that existence. Indisputably, the candid mind must find in it a distinct declaration of God as Christianity conceives and the Bible reveals Him. He who having become tolerably conversant with the progress of human life, in general and in particular, and who still persists in finding in it no evidence of the personal, perfect, good God, is left no alternative but that chance, the intricacy, the accuracy, the persistence and the sublimity of which constitute a miracle in itself demanding such a God.

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