

THE LIFTED VEIL

Fifth Avenue and within its walls they rubbed elbows with people of whom otherwise they knew nothing but the names and the scandals. On the surface of all was the mere human dust, the sight-seers, the passers of a month or a day, who, finding themselves with a Sunday or two to spend in New York, took in this show as they took in other shows, coming to hear the music and watch the great people at prayer—and seeing chiefly one another. And in and out among them all, a few from one class and a few from another, were scattered those kindly, honest, and consecrated souls who stood for what is best in human life and made all the effort and expense worth while.

To his vestry, when he returned, he spoke of the young man as no abler and no more energetic than many another young man. His recommendation was that he had spiritual insight; he had that endowment without which, in the ministry, no other endowment has value, of communicable goodness. When it was added that the young fellow was of clean, sympathetic appearance, of a good Boston family, and had private means, it seemed to the worthy professional and business men who governed St. Mary Magdalen's that they had discovered the teacher of whom they were in need, however little they bound themselves to follow his example.

All that having been four years earlier, Bainbridge found that little by little the indications given him were fulfilled, and had been able to "shake down." Difficult as the latter process had been, he had lived through it with success. He was happy, therefore, in his work, while the appeal which people of all kinds and characters made to him for counsel established that conviction—illusory, perhaps—of being essential to his task, which