



Nehemiah vi. 3.

And I sent messengers unto them saying, I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down; why should the work cease, whilst I leave it and come down to you? Yet they sent unto me four times after this sort, and I answered them after the same manner.

NEHEMIAH was making great efforts to build the wall of the city, so that the people might be protected from their enemies. He was hindered in his work by certain of his own countrymen, and by the open enemies of the Jewish people.

He met with the experience which all men who work for the public good must be prepared for. He had to submit, like the Canadian politician, to have his motives misrepresented and his character traduced. His patriotism was set down to selfishness. His beneficent work for his countrymen was ascribed to the basest motives.