

require not a little self-discipline on the part of a preacher to avoid the discussion of deep and erudite questions in the pulpit, and to put aside glittering generalities and glowing periods, and simply talk to us as friend to friend, thus perhaps foregoing a reputation for great learning and eloquence. But the concrete is really more interesting than the abstract, the practical is always more effective than the abstruse, and the particular more helpful than the general. And we are better pleased with it. You may hear people saying, as they pass out of church after a pointed discourse from the pastor, "That's the kind of sermon I like!" We enjoy seeing something hit, if we have to dodge ourselves or be hurt. Too often we dodge. — "Deacon Pugh," in *Advance*.

IS HE LOVELY TO YOU? — The story is told of President Lincoln, that during the war an aged mother came to him in behalf of her boy who was under sentence. Her mission was successful. As she was passing out with the friend who had introduced her, she broke out suddenly, and with great emphasis, saying:

"I knew it was a lie!" "To what do you refer, madam?" asked her friend. "Why," said she, "I was told that Mr. Lincoln was an ugly-looking man. It's not so — he's the handsomest man I ever saw in my life!"

What was it which made that plain, careworn face so beautiful to her? It was the great sympathizing heart shining out through it. That keen vision of her great sorrow, to which he responded so humanely, enabled her to look beyond the surface into the realm of the soul.

To one, the Christ has "no comeliness," while to another, He is "altogether lovely." To one, the Gospel is "foolishness," while to others, it is the "wisdom and power of God."

THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE — One of the finest things offered to our Public School Teachers for a long time, is the "Short Summer Course in Agriculture," at the Ontario Agricultural College in Guelph, from 3rd July, to 31st. Open to teachers, (to the number of 50,) free as regards tuition. \$12 will be charged for room and board at the college. Those who take this course (open to both male and female teachers,) will be able, with comfort and success, to show "that valuable instruction in agriculture may be given

by simple lectures to children—conversations on soils, plants, and animals—so simple that even the lower classes in a Public School may understand, so attractive as to interest the youngest scholars, and of such a character as to benefit all kinds of pupils, whatever their occupation in after life."

DANCING. — "Did not David dance? And was not he a Christian?" Yes: and you may dance, too, if you will dance like David. David danced before the Lord. It will not hurt you to dance anything you may feel like dancing—before the Lord. And David danced with a song of praise on his lips. If you can make use of one of his Psalms in the german it won't hurt you to dance the german. And then, remember, David played his own harp while he danced. It takes both hands to manage a harp and therefore we know he danced alone. The fact is he knew well enough how to dance without being compelled to lean upon anybody, and he would have felt rather awkward with a partner leaning upon him inasmuch as he was dancing before the Lord. By all means if you can dance like David, dance. — *Er.*

WANT A NAME. — The *N. Y. Independent* and some other journals have been reviving the question of a *name* for the United States. They called their provinces by the generic name of "States," their local parliaments by the generic name of "Legislatures," and perhaps copying the use from over the sea, (where they found the "United Kingdom of Great Britain," now the "United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland,") they called their country the "United States" of — nothing at all! Washington Irving felt the need of a name, and proposed "Alleghania." If it had not been so suggestive of *alligator*, perhaps it would have been adopted. The fathers of the constitution ought to have given the country a name, and saved their children all this bother. The latest proposition is to let "United States" remain as it is, but form the adjective "Ustatian" from it. "Columbia" and "Columbian" were unappropriated a century ago, and might wisely have been adopted.

STATISTICAL REPORTS. — One of our exchanges has been discussing the "values" of church property, as set forth in the denominational