

Then there are the *Oughts*, whose religion consists in a great measure in acknowledging their obligations. Their cry continually is, we *ought* to do this and we *ought* to do that. They always confess their Christian duties to their fellow Christian; then leave them undone. These seldom do what they ought, but quiet their conscience by admitting the obligation.

Then there are the *hen professors*, or *Cacklers*. These do a good many good and useful things, and take good care that all the brotherhood shall know it. Like the hen, they proclaim their good works to all around. Some think that they take as much comfort in telling what they have done as in doing it. We must not be too hard on them; it is a fine thing to get a working Christian. The hen is valuable; her cackling is her weakness.

Then we dare not overlook the *Sneaks*, who are ashamed to speak for Jesus, or of him, before his enemies. These shape themselves to the company they are in, and, like the chameleon and the tree toad, they take the colour of things about them; are time-servers, but not "true blue." These ought to be ashamed of themselves, and every godly man should be ashamed of them.

Another variety is the *Periodical workers*. These have religious paroxysms. There are times when they are earnest, active, abounding in the work of the Lord; but a cold fit follows, and lethargy or indolence supervenes; then they cannot be induced to work at all. Their goodness, like Ephraim's, "is as a morning cloud and as the early dew, it goeth away." Are there any anti-periodics adapted to spiritual intermittent? If they could be made ministers, or editors, the incessant demand on their energies might improve them. Some should be sent to the hospital for incurables.

Again, there are *Sphinxes*—a sort of monsters of inconsistency. They are in some things thoroughly good, and in others so entirely bad, that they grieve the minister and brotherhood continually. Akin to them are the *Streaked Christians*, who have good and bad streaks throughout their characters. The two sides are unlike, as Ephraim's was—"a cake not turned." "Consistency is a jewel." It is a great misfortune to be without it. Such seriously damage the cause of Christ, and their own good is evil spoken of.

There are *Blossoming professors*, who never bear any fruit. They blossom all the year round; they have always a promising appearance; they keep the brethren hoping, but always disappoint them, never turning out what they seem to promise. Let such study the parable of the fruitless fig-tree, Luke xiii. Our Lord meant it for them.

Then there are *Blistering church members*, who stimulate others, but who do nothing themselves. When these pay special regard to the minister, his most certain relief would be a trip to Europe.

The *Objectors* are a small class found in most churches. These originate nothing, and do nothing. They are fertile in objections to everything. They are the hardest to please, constant fault-finders, and, as nothing is perfect under the sun, they have a wide scope for their humble efforts. They object to every scheme of amelioration. These do not like *collections*, nor collectors, nor subscriptions, nor tea meetings, nor bazaars, nor any of the hackneyed ways of getting money; they disapprove of *begging*, as they term asking money for the Lord's objects. Of course they would not tolerate *stealing*, and they hate innovations. They do not like revival meetings, nor special meetings for prayer, and seldom countenance them. They *object*,—that, in fact, is their forte. But the ability to object to whatever is proposed denotes neither education, talent, nor penetration. It is a power possessed by every caviller, and a little child may do it. It is sometimes necessary that it should be done, but whoever objects should be prepared to originate something better than the thing opposed.

We must not overlook the *Mendicants*, who are always making large drafts on the charity of others. It is, indeed, only in the judgment of charity that you can regard them as having any part with believers. They are constantly doing something to make the brotherhood doubt. Some of these gradually sink into the