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SOME CONDITIONS OF MINISTERIAL SUCCESS.

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Continued from last number.

THERE ARE ALSO SOME THINGS TO AVOID.

In these days of critical investigation a young preacher is sometimes tempted to air his learning in the pulpit, and sometimes even his doubts. He may think that it adds to his importance to tell his congregation that there are considerable doubts amongst scholars as to whether the text he preaches from is genuine, or whether the book was written by the prophet whose name it bears. He will, perhaps, cite the authority of the learned Oopsetter, who, in the twenty-ninth folio volume of his abridged writings, page one hundred and eighty-two, has some critical remarks on the subject; which, however, it is only fair to say, are called in question by Professor Standfaster, who is of opinion that the passage is genuine. The learned Bookvurm, however, coming after both, is unable to come to any authoritative conclusion on the matter, and observes, &c., you know the style, and what an interminable medley of conflicting theories have been broached on subjects which could often be settled by the use of a single ounce of common sense. Depend upon it, if ever you indulge in such learned rubbish, your congregation will begin to yawn, and the more sensible of them will say: If the passage is not genuine, why do you preach from it?