

so complimented may be thereafter called "Doctor;" but if he fails to gain a certain *status* in public estimation, his title is more likely to bring ridicule than credit to him. In any event, unlike the M.D., it smacks of ostentation.

The D.D. is still more questionable in its propriety and usefulness. It is an assumption of worldly honor and distinction by certain members of a class who, as a class, make a point of disparaging worldly honor and distinction. It is equally their profession and their duty to teach mankind the hollowness of vain-glorious titles; and yet, if the real opinions of clergymen about titles are to be estimated by their acquisition of titles, one of the most prominent objects of their lives must be the gaining, by any means, and seemingly from any institution, the dearly-coveted "Doctor of Divinity."

It would be interesting to know the origin of this thing. It would be interesting to know the propriety of it. It would be interesting to know what D.D. *accomplishes* in the world's history, or the Church's history, or the Gospel's history. How much does it add to a clergyman's usefulness? Wherein, according to the judgment of the clergy, does its value consist? There certainly must be some great importance attached to a thing so universally sought and so generally found. Can any one tell what it is?

If the title means anything; if it proves anything; if in any way it benefits the party conferring it, the party receiving it, or the very large *party* who becomes aware of it, then by all means let it go on as it has done, and cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.

But if it is a merely vain-glorious distinction, conferred without reference to any standard of qualification, and literally "signifying nothing;" would it not be well for meek, simple-hearted, philanthropic ministers of the Gospel to have done with it?

THE SOUL WANTS THE BRIGHTER LIGHT.

Suppose the case of a cripple who had spent his life in a room where the sun was never seen. He has heard of its existence, he believes in it, and, indeed, has seen enough of its light to give him high ideas of its glory. Wishing to see the sun, he is taken out at night into the streets of an illuminated city. At first he is delighted, dazzled: but, after he has had time to reflect, he finds darkness spread amid the light,