

deliverance lies in that direction."

After speaking of Sabbath Schools and Prayer-meetings, the duties of the preacher and the importance of the office, the speaker concluded as follows: "We wish you all prosperity. Many you establish yourself in the hearts of your people. May your lie be useful and your labours blessed. We live in trying times. Formerly when a minister was inducted a reasonable hope was indulged in that his connection with the congregation might be permanent. We live in altered times. The spirit of change which characterizes all human institutions has penetrated the church, and shaken the old stability of the ministry. While then you hope for the best be prepared for the worst. Live with careful economy in order that you may be independent. Finally "be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might." "Be thou faithful unto death, and he shall give thee a crown of life."

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**ON TELLING LIES.**—That the temptation to tell lies is natural to man all will admit. Savage tribes always lie when it is more convenient to do so than otherwise. And many among civilized races follow the same rule. It is a note worthy fact too, that some families are more given to lying than others. It runs, as men say, in the blood. Now and again too, there is an epidemic of lying, and no one can tell what to believe. It is said that in nearly every court of justice held in the country perjury is committed by one side or the other. So common indeed is this vice of lying that wise men refuse to accept on hearsay any statement whatsoever. We may remark that during "hard times" a good deal of lying is caused by stress of circumstances. As when for instance, a man comes asking you to lend him money for a few months. He promises faithfully to repay you at such date, and fails to do so. This is a

form of falsehood which may be called lying under difficulties. It is illustrated on a grand scale by the lying of bank directors, so common at this time, in issuing false and fraudulent statements to conceal their difficulties.

Another form of lying arises from the love of speaking evil of our neighbour. This variety is often cultivated so assiduously from the cradle to the grave, as to reach the level of a fine art. And persons who have no skill in any earthly pursuit of any use to their fellow men, arrive at an ease and grace in this art which none but the persevering veteran can ever attain to. We have seen it argued that women are greater adepts in this respect than men, but that belief may arise from the circumstance that they talk more than men do. We have noticed a peculiar tendency in the public to tell lies about men in offices of all kinds. This is peculiarly noticeable at the time of an election. Falsehood then runs riot. Public officials are then fairly buttered with whole battalions of falsehood. And moreover so tempting it is to our fallen nature to believe evil of others, that often the most unlikely falsehood is accepted as truth.

Sometimes you hear men say, why don't ministers preach upon this evil habit? No doubt the complaint is well founded, especially when we see persons sitting at the communion table "whose word no man relies on." The attention of school teachers and parents should be directed to the rooting out of this vice. This can only be done by inculcating truthfulness. Parents can compel their children to tell the truth. This training cannot begin at too early an age. By being truthful themselves they will be the cause that truth shall be in their offspring. If the pagan Roman could utter the proud boast "I never yet in all this world did meet a man but he was true to me," how much more should this be true of those who profess to be followers of Him who