103

except by Action." On which ground, too, let him who gropes painfully in darkness or uncertainty, and prays vehemently that the dawn may ripen into day, lay this other precept well to heart, which to me was of invaluable service: "Do the Duty which lies nearest thee," which thou knowest to be a Duty! The second Duty will already have become clearer.'

n

ne

of

is

er

7,

y

S-

re

ıs

n

e

g

S-

IS

 \mathbf{d}

11

a

le

e

a

d

In all these domains the principle is recognised; and when our Lord says: 'If any man willeth to do His will, he shall come to know of the reaching, whether it be of God, or whether I speak from Myself,' He simply earries it into the domain of Religion with its peculiar perplexities, and insists that it be applied to these also. It is no 'fool's experiment' that He requires, no irrational acceptance of something unintelligible after the manner of St. Augustine's crede ut intelligas. His 'willing to do the will of God 'corresponds in the domain of Religion to Rembraudt's 'trying to put well in practice what you already know' in the domain of Art, and Carlyle's 'doing the Duty which lies nearest thee, which thou knowest to be a Duty,' in the domain of Morals. He bids us assume the right attitude toward life with