

opportunities, and so forth. No such arguments moved them one jot. And without attempting to decide whether they were right or not, I cannot but admire their simple loyalty to Jemmy, their loving forbearance with his undoubted limitations, their own humbleness, which felt that its proper sphere was the little lowly Mission where the Lord had found them ; and where, untrammelled by the too often hampering concomitants of belonging to a great society, they had been the glad instruments of so much real good. Maylie especially, although he was rising steadily to the head of affairs in the great firm where he earned his bread, and was now in a position that would have made him a decided acquisition to the roll of officers of any great Church, treated any suggestion that he should go up higher in the world of Christian work, as a joke. He would quietly say to any of his friends outside, when they in all seriousness remonstrated with him for still remaining in such company, 'It's of not the slightest use talking to me. I could not be happy anywhere else. I believe that the work God has given me to do here is exactly what I'm fit for. I feel as if nobody could do it better than I can, and I feel too, that it is a good thing in Christian work to keep low down. The work of God has never been better done than it was by the Apostles, and goodness knows, as far as externals went, they were so low down that they couldn't get any lower, right down on the ground. No, put me up a bit, make me an officeholder in some big Church, and I am afraid I should get full of sinful pride. Anyhow, I'm not going to run into temptation of that sort if I can possibly avoid it. I'll stick to the old Mission until God Himself shifts me out of it.'