

Medical man must always be tender, it must be the tenderness of a bold fearless man. Nor dare I omit to state, although but in a hint, that his moral courage, as well as his prudence may be sorely tried when he finds it his duty to tell his patient that he has no farther help to give, and that the great Physician of souls must now be looked to for healing.

After what has been said it is scarceful needful to add that a *Minister of the Gospel* without moral courage is a very despicable and dangerous man. He that cannot be bold for the truth, bold for the honour of his Master, and bold in "plucking brands from the burning," is very unfit for the sacred office. He may have learning to command respect and refinement, to please persons of taste: but if he does not possess moral courage, to proclaim fearlessly the danger of sinners, and to announce fully the whole truth of God, be it ever so offensive to men, he will sadly fail in his work. He is, indeed, a workman that should be ashamed "who handles the Word of God deceitfully," and who through, unfaithfulness, leaves souls in "the bonds of iniquity."

Yet, it is not merely in these high places of peculiar responsibility that moral courage is required. No man in the lowest station can be safe without it. The peasant and mechanic, not less than the Statesman or Clergyman, must possess a profound reverence for truth and the claims of duty, or from the temptations to which they are daily exposed, they will fall into sin. I assume, what no one will deny, that much base equivocation, as well as direct lying, may be traced to moral cowardice. Were men bold for the simple truth, and did they give a ready ear to the slightest whisper of conscience, their yea would emphatically be yea, and their nay, nay. What tongue can utter the dreadful consequences of moral cowardice in the *witness box*, or still more in the *jury box*. It is plain, if either witnesses or jurors think more of personal consequences from what they are to say, than of what truth and law require at their hands, the most horrible injustice may be done to individuals or society. For the support of our civil and judicial institutions, much is necessary; but men are apt to forget in thinking of other requisites, that an unbending honesty is the foundation of the whole. Apart from the guilt brought on his own soul, the cowardly equivocator little thinks how fatal his conduct