

The Good Fight.

*"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course,
I have kept the faith."—2 TIM. iv. 7.*

THESE words are the language of a veteran saint, They express the view which he takes of his life, looking back upon it from the border of eternity, and to him it appeared to have been through all its course a fight. He is conscious that it now draws near to an end. He has struggled through it with a measure of success. He remembers the effort which it has cost him, and it is in no spirit of boastfulness that he gives expression to his confidence in these memorable words, "I have fought a good fight." Not merely the common battle of life, in which all men are called to bear their part, but the "good fight," the fight for the things that are good, for the faith of Jesus Christ, for the salvation of men, for the defence of the truth. And to contend for these objects embraces the use of every form of effort and every kind of weapon which the gospel allows.

The subject, then, brought before us in these words is this: That the Christian life is a life of conflict—conflict which ends in victory.