

may be sure of success. It will be worth something to see the two pitted against each other," he added; "and you must have the pleadings in the meeting house, so that we can all come and hear them."

When Dr. Beecher was invited to defend the church against the appeal of its aggrieved and excluded members, he strongly objected to the proposal. No inducement seemed likely to win his consent until he was told that the other party had secured the services of Dr. Taylor. "Ah," said he, in his quick, abrupt way "is it Brother Taylor you want me to fight? Well, I should certainly have a foeman worthy of my steel. I'll come—I'll come." On the appointed day the Consociation met. The two champions who had come to the village from the opposite points of the compass—the place being nearly midway between Litchfield and New Haven—were each to be entertained by a leader in their respective parties, and after dinner to meet the church and council at the meeting house. The two families where the Doctors were to dine lived about half a mile apart. While the hospitalities were in preparation, each of the reverend gentlemen was fully posted by his party upon the merits of the case, so as to be ready for the contest.

But when the dinner was fairly on the table, neither of the distinguished guests could be found. Members from each household were dispatched in search, and meeting each other in the street, stared strangely at their mutual perplexity. At length a little girl whom an errand had led to an orchard in the rear of Dr. Taylor's stopping place, found the two missing ones together. They were seated upon a low fence beneath a spreading apple-tree; and to the child's surprise, who supposed they must necessarily share the hostility of their respective parties, Dr. Beecher's arm was thrown around Dr. Taylor's neck. Both the dinners were cold ere the two gentlemen could be persuaded to eat, and at last they dined together.

This most significant fact foreshadowed the issue. More intent upon healing the wounded cause of Christ and the divisions among brethren than of winning a suit in the ecclesiastical court, Dr. Beecher had sought Dr. Taylor's help in devising plans of reconciliation. Their united efforts were successful. The two contending parties were made to see their errors—mutual confession and forgiveness followed—the excluding act was rescinded—and a resolution of thanks was heartily and unanimously voted by the reunited church to the two champions.—*Independent*.

NO SMALL CHANGE.

Collectors for missionary and other Christian objects are often painfully impressed with the fact, that, while the silver and the gold are the Lord's, some, to whom these gifts are entrusted, are wonderfully unconscious, seemingly, of the responsibility attaching to their possession. Were such, who, when they are invited to aid the cause of Christ, set about searching in the corners of their pockets for *small coin*, to have an eye to observe the ways of Providence, they probably would not unseldom have their consciences aroused to understand that the Lord observes it all, and would teach how easily he can deprive them of that which they grudge giving to promote his purposes. A Colporteur, labouring in the port of Danzig, writes:

"A sailor's wife was very glad to have an opportunity of buying a Bible. Her conscience felt alarmed and uneasy. A short while ago she was at Berlin, where she had been met by a Colporteur, who solemnly addressed her, admonishing her to buy the Book of Truth. She declined, on the ground that she had no change, and did not feel inclined to part with the only silver thaler she had left. When she got home, she found that her thaler had been stolen out of her pocket. This struck her as very remarkable. She thought she could recognise the hand of God in this, and dreaded His further judgment for having contemptuously treated His revelation. When, then, I brought her the same book, she eagerly grasped it, and gladly paid its price."