

purity of principles, sound judgment, and prudence, or correct discernment and decision in action, are far superior to native, brilliant genius, as generally understood; and the display of eloquent and captivating language. The former qualities are, in the end, far more productive of generally useful influence, and beneficial effects.

In viewing and reviewing, these most serious errors and mistakes of the eloquent, but not scripturally well informed, or judicious, but speculative Canon Farrar, on the momentous subjects in question, there has come to my mind an occurrence, of a political nature, in a previous generation. The celebrated Scottish forensic orator, Henry Erskine, on taking his seat in the British Parliament, on the Whig or Liberal side, was, doubtless thought, chiefly by reason of his powers of eloquence, to be a great acquisition to the party; and it is said, that on making his first speech, on an important subject, Mr. Pitt, the Tory Premier, took in hand paper and pen and began taking notes of the speech; but after a short time he *thrust* the pen through the paper, and cast it down,—a marked expression of opinion, that, as to real grounds and force of argument, the speech deserved little attention, being weak and irrelevant.

In respect to these erroneous writings of Canon Farrar, true christians, well informed in scripture truth, will not be injured by them, but when they come under their notice, will reject them with the condemnation they deserve; but light minded persons, of sensational temperaments, and ignorant of scripture, as so many are, though professing christianity, will be led astray by the Canon's vehement and positive language, and adopt his erroneous views and opinions, which may finally result in their eternal misery.

The Canon has sharply censured those Ministers who, in their public discourses, make what he calls, *accretions* to the threatening words of scripture, against sin and sinners. It would, indeed, be as well, or probably better, to refrain from making such additions. The divine words are indeed sufficiently awful and alarming for the intended purpose of deterring from sin and inducing to forsake it. But according to the modern style of preaching, it is but rarely that any of those threatening words are declared to the people. It would be well if they were more frequently given. It would only