

It is thus the will of God that we should all serve our generation. Our first duty is to serve the Lord, and unless we do this we cannot effectually serve our generation ; but if we serve the Lord in spirit and in truth, we shall assuredly feel that our next duty is to serve our generation ; for the same authority which commands us to love the Lord our God with all our heart, and soul, and strength, and mind, enjoins us also to love our neighbour as ourselves ; and true piety is the surest foundation on which the service of our generation can be built. The will of God is the best rule to guide us in the discharge of the duties which we owe to our fellow men. The written record of that will should therefore be our constant study. David made the Word of God his guide : " O how love I thy law ! It is my meditation all the day. Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. (Ps. CXIX. 97, 105.)

But further, the serving of our generation by the will of God implies the diligent performance of the duties which our situation in life, or our position in society, devolves upon us. That servant serves his generation who is faithful in executing the trust reposed in him, as well as the master who is just, and kind and considerate towards those whom Providence has placed under his charge. And as it is Providence that assigns to each individual his station in life, so it is the will of God that each individual should perform the duties of his own situation. God requires not the sub-