

and St. Paul (1 Tim., vi. 9,) all agree in stating, with serious emphasis, that money-making is not an ennobling occupation, and that he who values money most, values himself least. Stand strictly on your moral and intellectual excellence, and you will find in the long run, when the true value of things comes out that, there is not a duke or a millionaire in the land who can boast himself your superior.

The sublime prayer of Agur to be found in the Book of Proverbs, cannot be surpassed: "Give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me; lest I be full, and deny thee, and say who is the Lord? or lest I be poor and steal, and take the name of my God in vain."

Seek "purity of mind," and let it be accompanied with absolute purity of body. Let there be no infringement of this rule; no dalliance with temptation. Follow the advice of Timothy, "Flee also youthful lusts." Let your conversation be pure; seek pure companions and modes of enjoyment; avoid the companions or society which bring with them temptations, and avoid idleness as one of the most frequent means used by the devil for your ill.

Forget not that, in the days of Samson, it was the little foxes that spoiled the vines. Sin is the most contagious disease we know of. The contagion is carried far and near, and at all stages of its course. The thin edge of the wedge once allowed an entrance all that the devil wants is soon gained. How plausibly the axe begged of the forest to grant it, but a small piece of wood; so trifling a matter could not, it said,