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matters of religion : but they were far above my reach. Their talk was about a new birth, the work of God in their hearts, as also how they were convinced of their miserable state by nature. They talked how God had visited their souls with his love in the Lord Jesus, and with what words and promises they had been refreshed, comforted, and supported against the temptations of the devil. . . . And methought they spake with such pleasantness of Scripture language, and with such an appearance of grace in all they said, that they were to me as if they had found a new world--as if they were a people that dwelt alone, and were not to be reckoned among their neighbours.' The memory haunted him, and he could never rest until he had discovered the blessed secret and made the experience his own.

There is profound truth in Neander's maxim that 'it is the heart that makes the theologian,'

Experience an essential materia critica. *pectus est quod theologum facit.* A theologian should always be a preacher too. Experience is an essential *materia critica* ; and this is, to my mind, the fatal defect of much that is written in these days, that it is