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GIVE ME SOMETHING BETTER.

Many years ago, says Dr. W. Lamson, while I was pastor at Brookline, I took a seat in the cars one morning for Boston by the side of Professor Hackett. I always felt that such a position was a providential privilege to be improved. Soon therefore, I drew my learned friend into conversation by mentioning a sceptical work I had lately read, remarking that some of the infidel objections in the work were new to me and seemed very strong.

"Strong, strong?" said he in his nervous way. "I see stronger difficulties than any which infidelity ever presented; but give me something better than Christianity to stand on and I'll step off. Till that something better is presented I stand, and shall stand, where I am."

The remark, like many another from the good Professor's lips, has abode with me and done me good. When some new sceptic comes forward to try his hand at demolishing Christianity I ask;

"Can you offer any thing firmer and better? If not, spare your pains and leave the believer the one standing-place to which he clings, and on which millions are reposing. Amid the troubled sea of life there floats this one refuge. If you know a stronger and safer one, do, for humanity's sake, point it out, and guide me and struggling souls everywhere to its rest."

A MERE STIMULANT.

They tell us, said John B. Gough, that alcohol gives strength and nourishment. No it does not, it gives stimulus. You sit down on a hornet's nest, and it may be quickening but not nourishing. A man once said to a friend of mine: 'you are fighting whisky. Whisky has done a great deal of good. Whisky has saved a great many lives. You remind me' said my friend, 'of a boy who was told to write an essay about a pin, and in his boyish way he said: 'A pin is a very queer sort of a thing. It has a round head and sharp point, and if you stick them in you they hurt, and women use them for cuffs and collars, and men use them when their button's are off. 'If you swallow them they kill you. For five cents you can get a packet of them, and they save thousands of lives.' The teacher said: 'What on earth do you mean? How have they saved thousands of lives?' By people not swallowing them,' answered the boy.