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are not self-luminous. The humblest  
disciple that serves Jesus with her needle  
or over her wash-tub has daily need to  
call upon her Master for a daily supply  
of grace for her little lamp. Some of  
these small burners beam very brightly.  
In most pastoral experience I often en-  
counter the most beautiful exhibitions of  
patience under hardships, of submission  
under heavy strokes, of unselfish love  
and unswerving faith in some very ob-  
scure, out-of-the-way disciples. Some-  
times their candle shines in a garret,  
sometimes in the corner of a mission-  
school, sometimes in a tract district filled  
with tenement-houses, and sometimes in  
a sick-chamber. Good William Penne-  
father had eleven hundred godly women  
organized as light-bearers among the  
hoboes of poverty in London.

As soon as a man or woman or child  
has received the new birth and the new  
light of Jesus in the soul he or she is  
bound to let that light shine. "Why do  
you carry that lantern? you can't see,"  
was the question once asked of a blind  
man in the street. His reply was, "So  
that people will not run over me." If  
Christians always kept their consistency  
bright, they would not so often become  
stumbling-blocks to the world. That  
church-member who is found so often in  
the theatre or in scenes of conviviality  
is a sad stumbling-block in the path of  
those who look to him for guidance. His  
example may cause more than one weak  
brother to offend. He is quoted on the  
wrong side. Such giddy, self-indulgent  
professors become really false lights to  
allure others upon the lee-shore of tem-  
ptation. On all these debated questions  
about public amusement, etc., the  
Christian conscience should keep to the  
safe side, which is always and only the  
side of Christ. Where we cannot carry  
our Saviour with us we have no business  
to go.

For a lighthouse-keeper to let his great  
burner go out, especially on a dark,  
stormy night, would be a crime. He

would be responsible for the shipwrecks  
that might follow. So a minister of the  
gospel who either preaches vital error or  
conceals vital truth is accountable for his  
share of the mischief which comes upon  
his hearers. He may hold out loose  
views in regard to sin, or in regard to  
sin, or in regard to tampering with such  
temptations as the wine-bottle and the  
stage, or in regard to future retribution  
and some souls may run upon the rocks  
as a consequence. Paul's conscience  
was so tender and so true to duty that he  
would not "drink wine or anything  
whereby a brother may stumble or be  
weakened."

I know of certain households in which  
the burner seems to have gone out. The  
children would not be seen so often in  
bad company and evil resorts if father  
and mother kept the lamp of a pure, lov-  
ing, restraining in that home. But it sel-  
dom shines. The oil is exhausted. Per-  
haps love of the world, neglect of prayer,  
the slavery of fashion, or other deadly in-  
fluences, have drowned out the feeble  
light and left that house in spiritual dark-  
ness.

It is a blessed thing to be a bright  
cheerful light-bearer for Christ. If a  
man can not be a calcium-light like John  
Bunyan, he may carry the modest lan-  
tern of a Harlan Page, or a Ralph  
Wells, or a John Vassar, or even a Jerr  
MacAuley. If every one who wear  
the name of Jesus would simply live out  
the commandments of Christ this dark  
world would feel the widening and the  
warming illumination. Christ demands  
just this. The salvation of the perish-  
ing and benighted requires this. Our  
duty to God, to ourselves, and to others  
requires it.

"Our absent Lord has left us word,  
Let every lamp be burning."

The Presbytery of Colorado, (U. S.)  
is engaged in Mission work among the  
Mexicans.

FLER, D. D.

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