

to speak well too, with little or no preparation. This discovery, or in other words, the foolish and false idea of the abilities possessed, can have but the one result, and that result will ever be a style of preaching which will neither edify nor profit. The oil ordained for the sanctuary was "beaten oil—well beaten," and as certain it must be that the thoughts and the truths to be spoken in the House of God should be carefully weighed; and not only is it necessary that you exercise diligence in preparing, you must be careful how and what you prepare. You must take care not to meet your people with what may amuse the fancy, or merely afford the hearer an intellectual treat. Your commission is to preach the everlasting Gospel. You meet your hearers as a messenger from the Son of God to perishing men and women, and your work is to deliver His message, and to do it fully and faithfully. To bring sinners to Christ must be your aim. You must faithfully tell them their danger, should it be at the risk of giving offence, and exciting their hatred; and you cannot hope to succeed in this, by any amount of strong language, in denouncing that accursed thing, which is known under the name of sin, and in describing to your hearers what consequences sin will secure. It is too often the case that in the pulpit, while sin is denounced as subjecting the sinner to the wrath and curse of God, the hearer is left undisturbed, and allowed to regard it as some horrible thing at a distance from himself. You must show what sin is; you must particularize and bring its guilt home to the conscience of the individual. It is thus you can hope to hear men and women earnestly asking, "What shall I do to be saved?" To every sinner thus convinced of sin you are to give the assurance, that at the cross of Christ the burden will be removed. Salvation, through the atoning blood, must be your message Sabbath after Sabbath; and the freeness and certainty of that salvation you must not cease to declare.

I shall only add one word more, and that is to remind you that the manner of your teaching is of importance. Be sure that this is always marked by sincere affection. The law of kindness was on our Master's lips. A manner cold and indifferent, when declaring the wonders of redeeming love, is most unsuitable to the message, and most repulsive. In order to appear earnest, and to convince your people that you speak in love, you must really be and feel so.—Of all things, affected earnestness is the most repulsive, and it is foolish, as it is sinful, to attempt to improve in this way. Many defects in the matter and manner of sermons may escape the notice of the hearers, but affected earnestness will always be detected, and nothing is more fitted to make people slight the truths uttered, and regard with contempt the man whose utters them. The only right way is to speak as we feel; and to make sure of it that we feel as we should, and that with hearts impressed with the importance of our message, we may forget ourselves altogether, and be indifferent whether men praise or blame.

Dear brother, may God help you, and richly crown your labours among this people. May He long spare you to break to them the Bread of Life; and when you and they shall be called to your account, may you have many souls as your crown of rejoicing.

REV. MR. McWILLIAM'S ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE,
ON THE OCCASION OF THE INDUCTION OF REV. MR. M'COLL.

MY DEAR CHRISTIAN FRIENDS,—The duty devolves on me of addressing you in connection with the solemn services of this day. The tie that now binds you and your pastor together, is one of the most important that can be formed.

The interests involved are not those of time which soon passes away, not those of the body which soon sinks into the grave; but the interests are those of an endless eternity, and of souls that shall never die. And we doubt not, my christian brethren, but that every one of you feels that the transaction of this day is