

"As some plants yield their choicest odors only under the influence of pressure, it would seem as if the gospel reserved its richest supplies of patience, strength and consolation for times of trouble and alarm. Piety never more decisively asserts its celestial birth than when it stands unblenched under the frown of the prosecutor, or calmly awaits the shock of death."

—KILLEN.

"The unity of the Apostolic church was not like the unity of a jail where all the prisoners wear the same dress, and receive the same rations, and dwell in cells of the same construction, and submit to the orders of the same keeper; but like the unity of a cluster of stalks of corn, all springing from one prolific grain, and all rich with a golden produce. Or it may be likened to the unity of the ocean, where all the parts are not of the same depth, or the same color, or the same temperature; but where all, pervaded by the same saline preservative, ebb and flow according to the same heavenly laws, and concur in bearing to the ends of the earth the blessings of civilization and of happiness."

KILLEN.

THINGS A PREACHER SHOULD BE SURE OF IN THE PULPIT.

—That he heartily believes and personally experiences the blessed truths he commends to others.

—That he speaks as "a dying man to dying men," and that each sermon and prayer may be the last they will hear from his lips.

—That he stands there to preach "Christ and Him crucified" as the only and all sufficient Saviour of lost men, and not for any personal end or selfish interest.

3
2
1 —That he comes before his people each time on the most solemn and urgent errand that God ever entrusted to a creature, and in the fulness of the blessing of the Gospel of peace.

—That if a single sinner go forth from God's sanctuary impenitent, rejecting Christ, his blood will be upon his own head, the preacher having fully warned him, and delivered his own soul.

—That he is there fresh from communion with God in His Word and in prayer, fully equipped for his work, and conscious in his inmost soul that, without the Holy Spirit to aid him, his message will be in vain.

—That he makes himself heard by every one in the auditory, if a distinct enunciation, life and animation in the delivery can accomplish it. Failure in this first requisite is common and usually is inexcusable.

—That the particular message he is then and there to deliver is a message out of God's living Word, and has been thoroughly studied by him, that he both comprehends its purport, and his whole being is permeated by, and is in full sympathy with it.