

For we cannot but speak the things, we have seen and heard.—Acts. iv. 20.

An Objector Answered.

"**I** DON'T like so much talk about religion," said a rude stranger in a city boarding-house to a lady opposite, who had been answering some questions with regard to a sermon to which she had been listening. "I don't like it. It's something that nobody likes. It's opposed to everything pleasant in the world. It ties a man up hand and foot. It takes away his liberty; and it isn't natural."

"Oh, no," answered the lady, "it isn't natural. We have the best authority for saying so. 'The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God, neither can he know them, for they are *spiritually discerned*.' True religion is rowing up stream; it is sailing against wind and tide."

A pause for a few moments followed; then the stranger began again—

"People who speak and think so much about religion are queer, anyhow. I wish they could only know how people speak and think about them; nobody likes them, for they are like nobody; they are so very peculiar."

"Allow me to interrupt you again, sir," said the lady; "but I am so im-

pressed with the manner in which your language accords with the Bible language that I shall have to introduce another quotation from the blessed book. 'Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a *peculiar* people.'

"Does the Bible say they are peculiar, then? That's odd. That book somehow, has got a dose for everybody. Yet, ma'am, you must allow that the commands that book lays upon us poor sinners are hard. It's thou shalt not, and thou shalt not, all the time. Why, its precepts and views of things are not only systematic tyranny, but they are narrow, very narrow."

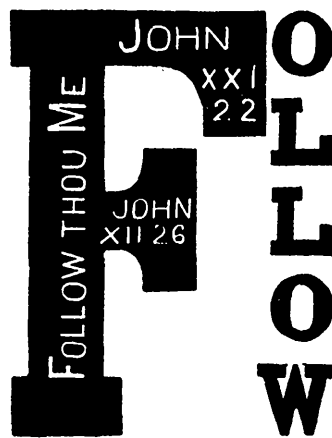
"Yes," replied the lady, "they are narrow, for

the Bible says they are. 'Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way that leads to life.' We have to be careful to keep in this narrow way, if we once get in it. It is too narrow for pride, worldliness, and sloth. It is too narrow for the service of two masters. It is too *narrow* for covetousness, envy, and all other evil passions. Hatred can find no place for so much as the sole of its foot in the narrow way. Good deeds, kind words, faith, hope, and charity, occupy all the ground, and will continue to hold it to the end."

The stranger listened surprised and annoyed, and at last arose and left the room, apparently a more thoughtful, if not a better man.—*American Messenger*.

THE GOSPEL ALPHABET. No. 6.

Thou shalt not **F**ollow a multitude to do evil.—Ex. xxiii. 2.
Christ an example * we should **F**ollow His steps.—1 Pet. ii. 22.
Follow peace with all men.—Heb. xii. 14.



He leadeth me! Oh, blessed thought!
Oh words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

He leadeth me! He leadeth me!
By His own hand He leadeth me;
His faithful follower I would be,
For by His hand He leadeth me.

Lord, I would place my hand in Thine,
Nor ever murmur or repine;
Content, whatever lot I see,
Since 't is my God that leadeth me.

O man of God, **F**ollow after righteousness.—1 Tim. vi. 16.
Then we shall know, if we **F**ollow on.—Hos. vi. 3.
These are they that **F**ollow the Lamb.—Rev. xiv. 4.

Fourteen Great Mistakes.

IT is a great mistake—

1. To set up our own standard of right and wrong, and judge people accordingly.
2. To measure the enjoyment of others by our own.
3. To expect uniformity of opinion in the world.
4. To look for judgment in youth.
5. To mould all dispositions alike.
6. Not to yield to immaterial trifles.
7. To look for perfection in our own actions.
8. To worry ourselves and others with what can not be remedied.

9. Not to alleviate all that needs alleviation, so far as lies in our power.

10. Not to make allowances for the infirmities of others.

11. To consider everything impossible which we can not perform.

12. To believe only what our finite minds can grasp.

13. To expect to be able to understand everything.

The greatest of all mistakes is—

14. To live only for time, when any moment may launch us into eternity.

—Selected.