

too; but if they wrap a piece of soft cotton around them they are safe.

You will at once see the philosophy of this and I think every reader of *CHURCH WORK* can draw a lesson from it. The sand whittles away and destroys any hard substance but does not affect substances that are soft and yielding, like wax, cotton or fine lace or even the human hand. Need I draw out the spiritual teaching of all this? Need I show how sorrow and affliction are employed by God, as workmen use the sand blast, to break down hard and stony hearts?

BY GOD'S HELP.

In no other way can you succeed. If you trust in promises made to man or to any Society of men, or to yourself and your own better nature you will be likely to fail. Pride goeth before destruction. If you are of a haughty spirit, then beware of the fall that must come in the end except you change.

You are now thinking that you can do better this year. I hope some such thought has come into your heart. If so, do not make too much of your own or other people's acts; but in all humility and faith look up to God for help.

This is a needful warning. For some people are quite proud of themselves as soon as they have made even a feeble resolution or half hearted promise of amendment. Any move, however small, if it be in the right direction, is an occasion of joy. But in the case of one who makes it, let him "rejoice with trembling." Be confident, but not in yourself. Be assured that God is ready to help you. But be just as sure that you have an evil heart

which is prone to depart from God and from His help.

Many persons join the preacher instead of the church. If the preacher pleases them, they will support the church and be regular in their attendance on the means of grace, but if they do not like the preacher, their places in the house of God are vacant, their contributions are withheld, and what influence they have is practically thrown against the church. Such persons are as unstable as water, no reliance can be placed upon them, you never know when to trust them, and the more numerous they are the worse it is for the cause. The church is greater than the preacher. If the preacher is not what we could desire, for the sake of the church we should be more faithful and endeavor, as far as we can, to make up for his lack. Preachers may come and go, but the church remains, and for her our tears should fall and our humble prayers continually ascend. Whether you like the preacher or not stand by the church.—*Ex.*

Devote at least one hour of the day to self, the remainder to other people.

NOTICE,—to Localizers and others
—All correspondence for *CHURCH WORK* must from this date be addressed to REV. JOHN AMBROSE, Digby, Nova Scotia, as this magazine is now printed in that town.

PRICE.—Single Copies of *CHURCH WORK*, 30 cents a year. Twenty-five or more Copies to one address, 25 cents a year each, strictly in advance. Editor and Proprietor, REV. DR. AMBROSE, Digby, N. S., to whom all subscriptions are to be advanced.