

which both would prosper and be better thought of. The world is wide and there are other pebbles on the beach.

In joint stock corporations there are not infrequently two classes of stockholders—those who hold preferred and those who hold common stock in the concern. The first class receive a stipulated dividend, not usually a large one, but it is assured out of the first earnings of the company. The common stock dividends are more precarious, and may be either smaller or larger than those paid to the preferred class. As a rule preferred stock is preferred by investors—preferred because it is preferred and has less liability of loss.

Most current periodicals have two classes of subscribers—preferred and common. The preferred are preferred because they pay approximately in advance, are constituted of the men who have time to read and press their business, and do not allow their business to boss them. They go to association and society meetings, know there are sixty minutes in every hour and one hundred cents in every dollar. They know who and what is going on in the world, and are themselves right in the van. In the language of the Alabama congressman they know where they are at. They know the publication they want, know the price of it, and the advantage of prompt payment, not only to themselves, but to the publisher, and get the lowest spot-cash rate.

The non-preferred, or common subscriber, who is bossed by his business, and hasn't time to read either books or journals, says to himself he will pay, if convenient, when a certain patron pays his bills, or when his ship comes from over the deep, blue sea, and acts accordingly, so that dun follows dun. To meet time engagements and risk of absolute losses, where the patron has not paid nor the ship escaped foundering on unseen shoals, the subscription price is advanced, so that the delinquent has to pay interest for a withheld small sum.

The writer knows very well that there are unforeseen circumstances which make men do as they can and not as they desire, which obliges them to curtail on the necessaries of life as well as on luxuries which they crave, and with whom no fault can be found. They remind the writer of a recent conversation with a successful man in another profession, in which he said he believed men, most men, had a call—providential call—to some pursuit; by which he meant that Nature, more or less according to the loudness of the call, fitted them, and in which they generally achieved some success in life. Often a call was heard and accepted, whereas it was intended for another. There are men who enter the ministry erroneously, but perhaps honestly, believing they are providentially called, when they heard only an echo that should have gone to another. He believed there were calls to enter the medical and other professions. In this opinion he was right. Every physician knows perfectly well that there are those in his profession who are not only unfitted by nature for their occupation, but are