

## MEETING A SERMON.

Archbishop Leighton, returning home one morning, was asked by his sister, "Have you been hearing a sermon?" "I've met a sermon," was the answer. The sermon he met was a corpse on its way to the grave; the preacher was death. Greatest of street preachers! Nor laws nor penalties can silence him. No tramp of horses, nor rattling of carriages, nor rush and din of crowded streets, can drown his voice. In heathen, Papal, and Protestant countries, in monarchies and free states, in town and country, the solemn pomp of his discourses, is going on.

In some countries, a man is imprisoned for even dropping a tract. But what prison will hold this awful preacher? What chains will bind him? He lifts up his voice in the very presence of tyrants, and laughs at their threats. He walks unobstructed through the midst of their guards, and delivers the messages which trouble their security and embitter their pleasures. If we do not meet his sermons, still we cannot escape them. He comes to our abodes, and taking the dearest objects of our love as his text, what terrible sermons does he deliver to us.

O what weeping audiences sometimes has this silent preacher! Yet there is a secret doctrine, an occult meaning running through his discourses, which is often not apprehended. Few "lay it to heart." His oft-repeated sermons still enforce the same doctrine, still press upon us the same exhortation. "Surely, every man walketh in a vain show. Surely, they are disquieted in vain. Here there is no continuing city. Why are you labouring for that which I will presently take from you and give to another. Take no thought for tomorrow. Prepare to meet thy God."—*Herald of Mercy.*

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