

“The clergyman is as always a clergyman as a gentleman ought always to be a gentleman; that is a very external way of putting it, but it is the very translation into prose of the high poetry of the true life of God’s servant. As they are men, with the desires and appetites and needs of men, who have to think of the meat that perisheth and of the wants of today and tomorrow, like any other, their work need not be stated in extravagant terms, as if their ordinary life were to be a counsel of perfection. But in all their needs, and in all their pleasures, and in all possible diversities of their labours, the work of their life is the same and one; not to be set aside for any other, not to be forgotten, not to be contented with, not to be wearied of, not to be forsaken, not to be despaired of: “He that loveth father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me.” The cross that is once taken up can never be laid down.”

(The Rt. Rev. William Stubbs, D.D. Late Bishop of Oxford. Ordination Addresses. Page 219.)