

the soul as an angel's wing, and buoying it up with hope. May it have a similar effect on others. Let it be treasured in the memory. Let us not try to find relief from trouble by seeking the gratification of our passions, or plunging into the cares and amusements of life, but by going to Jesus.

Democracy of the Bible.

Christianity, avoiding anarchy on the one hand and despotism on the other, sets the race on a path of unlimited advancement. It pronounces all men equal. In express terms, the Christian revelation declares all nations of the earth to be of one blood; it pronounces all men equally the subjects of one King; it makes the value of a soul infinite, and shows no difference between the worth of that of a beggar and that of a prince. Look into the stable of Bethlehem, on that night when crowned sage and humble shepherd knelt by the cradle of that babe who was their common King: do you not see, in that spectacle, the bond of an essential equality uniting all ranks, and making the regal purple and the peasant's russet faint and temporary distinctions? Well might Coleridge say, that the fairest flower he ever saw climbing round a poor man's window, was not so so beautiful in his eye as the Bible which he saw lying within. If all classes forsook the Gospel, one might expect the poor, the hard-toiling, the despised, to cling to it.—Whatever Christianity may have become in our churches and in our times, the great class of the workers can find in its aspects no excuse for abandoning itself, unless they can show that the churches have rewritten the Bible; unless they can allege that it no longer exhibits the Divine Founder of Christianity preaching to the poor, accompanying with publicans and sinners; unless they show that it was the sanctioned usage of apostolic times to honor the rich in the Christian assemblage; unless, in one word, they can deny that the Gospel holds forth to every man the prospect of being a king and priest to God.—*From Bayne's work, "The Christian Life, Social and Individual."*

The Dignity Of the Ministry.

When the celebrated George Herbert informed a court friend of his resolution to enter into holy orders, he endeavored to dissuade him from it, as too mean an employment, and too much below his birth, and the excellent abilities and endowment of his mind. To whom Herbert replied: 'It hath been formerly judged that the domestic servants of the King of Heaven should be the noblest families on earth.—And though the iniquities of the late time have made clergymen meanly valued, and the sacred name of Priest contemptible, yet I will labour to make it honourable, by consecrating all my learning and all my poor abilities to advance the glory of that God that gave them, knowing that I can never do too much for Him that done so much for me as to make me a Christian. And I will labour to do like my Saviour, by making humility lovely in the eyes of all men, and by following the merciful and meek example of my beloved Jesus.'

THE LITTLE THIEF.

Willie was a fine little boy; but one day he was careless and just see what it cost him.—He forgot to get his geography lesson in time, and so, when his teacher asked him a question, because he did not know the answer, he "peeped into his book and stole it," passing it off as his own. Poor little boy! His teacher saw him do it, but did not scold him; she was too sorry. She only said, "Willie is making God angry," and Willie's face got very red, and he began to cry, for now he saw how wicked he had been. He had done wrong in the first place to forget, and then he had tried to cheat his teacher, and to cheat God too.—Poor fellow! all the little boys in the class were sorry for him; and one who sat beside Willie, whispered, "Don't cry, the teacher won't whip you." But Willie kept on crying; there was some one besides the teacher to be afraid of, and nobody could tell him that God would not punish him. He knew that it was not a little thing to try and cheat the great God and steal too; and he had stolen the answer out of the book. His good mother had taught him that it was stealing to take what did not belong to him. Yes, Willie knew that the answer was not 'his,' for he had not studied the lesson at all, and so he went home, feeling that God was angry with him.