

thought and feeling are touched, with such boundless capacities for good alike from the force of its character and the extent of its influence—to answer its questions, resolve its doubts, mould its thoughts, and win its allegiance for Christ—is a task of no light responsibility. To succeed in it, to contribute anything to subdue this England—so free, so strong, so glorious, to the power of the Gospel, is the highest honour a Christian heart could covet. It will be given to none of feeble faith or divided heart; to none who tremble before the face of men, or are bowed by the hostility of public opinion; to none who desire to float dreamily along on the tide of popular feeling, and only when they are fanned by the breath of its applause; to none who work only for personal or party end, or who work for Christ only with vacillating purpose and halting effort. The crown awaits men only of singleness of heart, intensity of faith, and fervour of love; and these are derived only from immediate communion with the Spirit of God. That Spirit, coming, not at rare intervals, or in seasons of special excitement, but ever dwelling with those who trust in Him, gives the inspiration which rouses to deeds of courage and sacrifice, the assurance that supports in hours of anxiety, the hope that floods the soul with the glory of a perpetual sunshine—above all, that love to Christ which endures when all lower feelings would fade and die. May we all, quickened and strengthened by Him, be found equal to the service to which Christ calls us! Where the battle is hottest, where the work is hardest, where the reproach is bitterest, there may we ever be found!

THE MINISTRY.

BROTHER WOOD,—you have published “a voice from the pew,” please publish another from Coral, and so confer a favour on a well-known, but not troublesome acquaintance.

In the last number of the *INDEPENDENT*, the question of an educated ministry is freely discussed, a question that, perhaps, never will be settled, in the present state of the Church on earth. You express a hope to hear from me occasionally, then give me your attention for a little.

1. What is it to preach? What do we mean by the just application of the word—preach? Is it not to declare Jesus Christ, as set forth in the Scriptures as “the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but for the sins of the whole world?” That “God is in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing unto men their trespasses?” Is it not to persuade—nay to “beseech” men “to be reconciled unto God?” By what motives? By the riches of His grace. By the tenderness of His Love. By the Blood of Jesus. By the necessities of our nature. By the joys of a Christian hope. By the terrors of God’s Holiness. By the issues of Life and Death. By the contrast of time and eternity. Does not Scripture teach us so?

2. Who ought to preach? Every believer. Every man, woman and child. I speak seriously and without hesitation, and repeat it, every man, woman and child that believes in our Blessed Redeemer, and feels, “the power of His Working,” is under obligation to declare His Love to all around them. You furnish us with two fine examples. A *little child* preaches Jesus to an Infidel, and he is converted. Varley, the “consecrated butcher” brings many to God, by “repentance and Faith,”—then look at Moody and Sankey, and a thousand other uneducated simple-hearted believers, that have been employed as instruments in saving millions of our sinful race. They have preached effectually. They do still preach, and they ought to preach, and who dares to interfere, and forbid them? Who dares revoke a commission, received as directly from God, as that of Isaiah or of Paul?

3. Is not Education necessary to fit a man for the ministry? Well, what is education? and what is the force of the term—necessary? If by education—