

importance, of those who expect in their turn to be the moulders of thought and practice, making careful and prayerful search in the Book, for the mind of God on all questions on which various views are held—of making that search early too, so that when they come into the arena of fight, there may be no need of examining weapons or defenses, but need only of directing the artillery of truth against the strongholds of error.

PURITAS.

AN ENCOURAGING THOUGHT.—

How weak is human nature! How selfish is man! Even in the study we imagine ourselves our own masters and accordingly work with an eye single to our own glory. In the study we can work for God as well as in the mission-field. We must remember that we are not our own, for we have given our hearts to Christ, and have voluntarily and entirely consecrated our lives to the Great Master; therefore in the study we must ever have this thought prominently before us—that we are striving to do all to the glory of God. We must ever bear in mind that every man's work must be tried—tried not by man but by the Great Searcher of hearts from whom there is nothing hid. When we work with this view before us, surely we cannot fail to expect God's blessing and reward. Our work will seem lighter and the prize nearer.

Often am I reminded of a very eminent bishop of England, who, it is said, never read a book without first asking God's blessing on it. I think

even the ordinary student may profit by this example. Then let us take fresh courage for our work, and always ask His blessing not only on the book we read, but on every class we enter. Then we will each know that "He leadeth me," and, with God as our Captain, surely the victory will be ours,—and the glory His. Bear in mind, brethren, that the Master we serve is the Giver of all good and perfect gifts, the Source and Fountain of all wisdom, and the Rewarder of all those who diligently serve Him.

THEO.

God's right hand is everywhere. This is one of the favorite aphorisms of Joseph Cook. And surely in the child of God it stimulates fresh thought and excites a deeper sense of the security in which he lives. God's "right hand" is an expression frequently employed in Scripture to convey the idea of *power*; and since that power of His is, and of necessity must be, unlimited, His right hand (to follow out the figure) must be everywhere. To any soul at war with Him this consideration is simply awful. But to the soul "in Christ" it is fraught only with joy and peace. For, when Christ, who hides us in the secret of His presence, had spoken His last words on earth, He ascended to the right hand of God. Not to the seat of honor merely, but to the seat of *power*—to the same right hand which delivered Israel out of Egypt. Now, the right hand of God is everywhere. Therefore, Christ is everywhere. And so, in and by that very