

unable to obtain admission. The world, the flesh and the devil were laughing at that powerful church that was too spiritually minded to cope with the evil. Might not the church imitate with advantage the Cromwellians of old who "prostrated themselves before their Maker but set their foot on the neck of kings," whom they believed to be enemies of their country and their religion. Happily there are signs that the church is awakening to a knowledge of its power and will ere long not only denounce but sweep out of existence the manifest social evils that confront and overcome the individual.

FRIENDLY VISITING.

The ideal friendly visitor is the one who goes into a home in the pure spirit of friendship without alms and without condescending airs. The mistake is often made by good people that the poor always want money whereas nothing could be further from the truth. Their very poverty usually makes the respectable poor keenly sensitive and they resent with bitterness of soul the thoughtless caller who with the best intentions in the world thrusts money or provisions on them. The world judges and honors a man according to the amount of money which he possesses. This should never be the standard of the church or the social worker. The poor are slighted, ignored and assigned the lowliest places, and yet the noblest manhood, the highest Christian life, the finest feeling, the most chivalrous instincts, are found more highly developed among this class than any other. It is for this reason that almsgiving is so delicate and dangerous a mission. To give money graciously and acceptably calls for the best judgment and tact of which a human being is capable. But the cordiality of greeting, the pressure of the hand, the sympathetic advice, the suggestion how to repair broken fortunes—these things are priceless and will be treasured up as the sacred confidences and grateful mementoes of life.

Friendly visiting in a general way can be done as a branch of any charity organization but it can be best done as an adjunct of church work, for Christianity, whether acknowledged or not, is the inspiration of neighborly service. No guide to action can be better than the Golden Rule and the constant recollection of the fact already stated that the poor are not necessarily one whit less respectable or worthy of respect than the prosperous.

THE PAUPERISTIC SPIRIT.

The average poor family should not be confounded with that wretched class of people who seek to live by charity and who have long since lost all pride, self-respect or decency of conduct. We should pity rather than despise this class, for experience goes to show that they have been in nearly every instance reduced to helpless beggary by misfortune, oppression and unwise giving. The aim should be to restore them to self-respect by steadfastly withholding charitable aid and adopting drastic measures to force them to self-exertion and support. They should be provided with employment even at a loss until they acquire the habit of