

thing in outward conduct opposed to their maxims, pet notions and standards.

Say what you will, as long as the world is the world, piety will not be in the fashion. It will always be the chosen target, if not for the open sneer, at least for the jeer, the criticism, the ill-natured remark, the envious mind translated in look and manner and conduct. How many a man, generous, straightforward and brave in all other matters, quails before the spirit of the world, and stands a convicted coward before his own conscience when there is question of religious profession. It is the old story of Peter's triple denial before the servant-maid whilst the cock was crowing.

There is no use in minimizing the power of the slavery. All, from the nun in her cloister to the Pontiff on his throne, have to struggle against its influence. The holier the action, the greater the influence and the struggle. In truth there is only one power on earth that can overcome it. "This is the victory which overcometh the world, your faith."

Before the advent of the Redeemer, the world, which is the Empire of Satan, had all its own way. The strong-armed man was in tranquil possession of the house. But a stronger came to oust him from it. "Now, shall the Prince of this world be cast forth." By faith in Him and His truth, we rise above the world, its maxims, its ideas, its false standards, and enslaving influences, to breathe the free air of the liberty of God's children.

In this struggle we can and ought to enlist the power of Association that by united effort we may put the enemy to flight. After all, the world, like its ruler, is the veriest of cowards, a servant-maid before the strong man. However impudent, it will cower and tremble at the first sign of resistance. It will surrender to one man who acts fearlessly according to his convictions, and will end by falling prostrate and paying him homage.