

clerk behind the counter, and the student in the office, with a fatherly care and a motherly love, setting the solitary in families and introducing them to pleasant and wholesome society, that their lonely feet may not be led into temptation.

We want a religion that bears heavily, not only on the executive of life, but exceeding rascality of lying and stealing; a religion that banishes short measure from the counter, small baskets from the stalls, pebbles from the cotton rags, clay from paper, sand from sugar, beet juice from vinegar, alum from bread, water from milk cans, and buttons from the contribution box.

The religion that is to save the world will not put all the big strawberries at the top and all the bad ones at the bottom. It will sell raisins on stems, instead of stems without raisins. It will not make one half of a pair of shoes of good leather and the other of poor, so that the first shall redound to the maker's credit and the second to his cash; nor, if the shoes be promised on Thursday morning, will it let Thursday morning spin out till Saturday night.

It does not send the little boy who has come for the daily quart of milk into the barnyard to see the calf, and seize the opportunity to skim off the cream; nor does it surround stale butter with fresh, and sell the whole for good; nor sell off the slack baked bread upon the stable boy, nor dust the pepper, nor "deacon" the apples.

The religion that is to sanctify the world must pay its debts. It does not borrow money with little or no purpose of repayment, but concealing or glossing over the fact. It looks upon a man who has failed in trade and continues to live in luxury as a thief. It looks upon a man who promises to pay fifty dollars on demand with interest, and who neglects to pay it on demand, with or without interest, as a liar.—*Selected.*

TRANQUILITY OF SOUL.

One of the most beautiful figures in the whole Bible is used in the Apocalypse to picture the tranquility of soul, which arises from the consciousness of God's presence, which it is the function of faith to realize. Before the throne there appeared to the Apostle's vision "a glassy sea like crystal," a sea whose surface is ruffled by not even a passing breeze, whose crystal depths are luminous with sunshine. It has been justly remarked that "the beauty of the emblem is, that it combines the idea of the most restless unstable thing in nature with the idea of perfect repose and peace." The sea in its restlessness is a true likeness of the human heart. Every breath of wind disturbs the one; every breath of adversity troubles the other. But this sublime image reminds us that the secret of tranquility is to dwell in the presence of God. And this is no mere future possibility; but faith can make it an every day experience. . . . Are we not far too prone to forget this truth of which the Bible is continually reminding us? The heaven, for example, revealed in the passage from the Apocalypse just cited, is a heaven upon earth. The scene of it is laid, not in any far off sphere beyond the stars, but here on earth. The sea, which is before the throne, is smooth and clear as crystal, not because it is remote from earthly storms, but because the spirit of God moves upon the face of its waters.

For God is never so far off
As even to be near,
He is within; our spirit is
The home He holds most dear.

To think of Him as by our side,
Is almost as untrue
As to remove His throne beyond
Those skies of starry blue.

So all the while I thought myself
Homeless, forlorn and weary,
Missing my joy, I walked the earth
Myself God's sanctuary.