

audience to go with him to the Home of Dr. Hoiland, whose life indeed was worth living, and spend an evening with his children Kathrina and Arthur Bonnicastle. Bunyan within the walls of a dungeon, had written a work which now was read not only by the English speaking race, but by Moeds, and Parthians, and Egyptians. One half a million of Dr. Holland's works were already published. No one would soon forget the sympathetic words of Queen Victoria to Mrs. Garfield. Here her exalted position gave significance to the utterance. So too with a Beaconsfield or like celebrities; their rank and fame will make their works popular. Not so with the Bedford tinker, not so with the young writer without birth or position. They must touch the hearts and minds of the people. This was the secret of the power of such men as Brooks, Longfellow, Spurgeon, Arnold, and Dr. Holland. The latter was the true interpreter of the people's thoughts, the painter of their doings from the cradle to the grave.

The man who had the ability to read the thoughts of the people, was as a navigator to guide them through the difficulties of life. In olden times the words of the seers and the songs of the minstrels were the keys which unlocked the people's hearts; but in modern times we were dependent upon editors to interpret our thoughts and reproduce our views.

In his works Dr. Holland bids us enter into his views and experiences of life. In "Daniel Gray" he shows us his own home and portrays his father.

Here the lecturer, with happy anecdote and trenchant criticism, described the Elders of the old school. Mistaking ill-nature for piety, they were the hard task-masters of the church, heresy seekers, contracted as toads and bitter as gall. Dr. Holland mentions such an Elder—a man who parted his hair in the middle, looked out for the main chance, and thought a joke, a crime. These were base caricatures of christianity, and sufficient to make any body hate Sunday and religion. If religion made a pleasant man unpleasant, it was something to be dreaded. True religion should fructify, enrich and beautify. God loved what was beautiful and lovely in human character. It was the man who carried his heart in his hand and bore a sunny face—not the man with bitter blood and demure face—who made christian character admired. But all Elders were not of this class. He knew many notable exceptions. He would refer to a man with whom he associated as school-mate in

the old Grammar School of St. John, more than forty years ago. Through his steady industry and warm heart, he had risen to be among the most successful of New England Journalists. With a strong love for his country he had watched its progress with an eye always to its welfare. When the tide of emmigration set in towards the west, he recognized the need of a Gospel ministry for the new region, and to that end was now educating three clergymen at his own expense.

Dr. Holland presented a like instance of a true heroic life. Entering a newspaper office on a salary of \$400, he rose step by step, until at his death his income was \$50,000 a year.

In his works he takes the preacher's place and becomes a friend and counsellor. There we found not only his own ideas wrought out, but the record all that we ever did or said.

Dr. Holland had been a school teacher. It was remarkable how many eminent men had begun their career in this way. Garfield, Arthur, Benson, Tait and others were examples. The lecturer's relation of school incidents was highly entertaining, and brought down the house.

He condemned the training received in many homes and schools. The body was sacrificed to the machine spirit, and to the exacting, inflexible demands of teachers.

This statement was verified from Statistics and Doctor's evidence. Girls in schools fall down. In pronouncing their valedictories, they had to be fortified with brandy and potash. Our great-grandmothers went to school in winter and worked in summer; but they had sturdy sons and buxom daughters.

It was bad to be without knowledge, but it was worse to be unfitted for work. Better to know how to work than be turned into ethical humbugs. It was supreme folly to give ourselves to those who are grasping after the unattainable, as was that ineffable jackass Oscar Wilde. Gymnastics and military drill were necessary for both boys and girls.

While a young man, Dr. Holland wrote the history of Western Massachusetts—to this day a standard work.

As teacher, author, lecturer, and editor, he was a distinguished success. Shortly before his death he passed a eulogy on Garfield. His last *Leader* was "Poverty as a means of developing character." "We often hear," he says, "of the advantages of wealth, of college discipline, of books, etc.; but it is