

S E R M O N .

He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because He said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? and he said unto Him, Lord, Thou knowest all things; Thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.—John xxi. 17.

Flavel says: "Two things a master commits to his servant's care: his child, and his child's clothes. When the master returns, it is a poor account for the servant to give him: Sir, here are thy child's clothes, but thy child through negligence I have lost."

Now I desire all parents here present distinctly to understand that God has imposed on them two most solemn duties as regards their children:

First: They are bound to see that their children are educated in the principles of the Word of God. And,

Second: To do all in their power for the development of their physical and intellectual energies.

As a general rule, the *second* of these duties is honorably and minutely discharged; while the *first* is too frequently partially, if not wholly, neglected. The natural results follow: ships, freighted with the costliest of cargoes, and guided by youths utterly unacquainted with the art of navigation, are allowed to drift out on the bosom of a treacherous sea, where the same giant tempests that have already wrecked the navies of the world, meet them unprepared. And when, as is inevit-