

all know how true it is that all things now work together for good to them who love God (Rom. viii. 28, had been the evening's text). We shall say then, 'I had my trials, weary days and nights, sickness, and losses and conflicts; I fought many a hard fight with the great foe; but now I see indeed that

"Trials made the promise sweet,  
Trials gave new life to prayer,  
Trials brought me to his feet,  
Laid me low, and kept me there."

Many burdened souls were present, whom Mr. Smith could hardly leave; again and again he addressed a word specially to them. Thus almost at the last he said, "I saw this morning an eminent citizen of this great city, and who has been, too, an eminent author, but is now passing speedily to the grave. I told him that he had only now to learn that he was an eminent sinner, and that he had an eminent Saviour. Yes, dear souls, it must be so with us all. Until we are brought to the end of ourselves, there is no rest for the sole of our foot."

That God has graciously crowned these meetings with his rich blessing we feel assured.—*Revival.*

### DRAWN—NOT DRIVEN.

Those who live beside the "Narrows" sometimes see a huge man-of-war moving majestically down towards the open sea.—That motion is a mystery; for not a yard of canvas is unfurled, not a sail is visible. His spars are as bare as the forest limbs in November; yet he swims straight onward in the teeth of a fresh inland breeze. But on the other side of the war-ship is a brave little steamer lashed fast to him, and leading him captive to the ocean. "*Draw me,*" the great ship seems to say to the little tug, "*and I will go along with thee.*" Yet the insignificant steam-tug would make but a sorry figure if pitched into battle with the black-browed seventy-four.

So have we seen a gentle, holy-hearted wife constraining by the cords of love a strong-willed husband. By driving she could not move him one inch. She could not *force* him to church, to the prayer-meeting, to his neglected Bible, or to his Saviour. But when she fastened the silken

hawseers of affection to his soul, and applied the power of strong persuasion, it was delightful to see the great resolute will "go after her." Nor did anything so draw him towards the religion of the Cross as her consistent, holy, sweet-tempered life of piety. Her motive power lay wholly in attraction.

Here is a principle that touches all of us in our attempts to do others good.—Compulsion moves no one. Storms of invective only make prejudice draw its garment more closely about its shoulders.—But let overpowering love pour its noon-tide flood upon him, and the garment is flung off in an instant. God has given his people no commission to dragoon sinners to the cross of Christ. He that *winneth* souls is wise. We have seen parents who seized their children by the ear-tip, and lugged them along by main force towards the path of virtue. But we have seen wiser ones, who themselves walked so winsomely that they drew their little ones by magic magnetism after them. We have heard preachers, too, who dealt about them Ezekiel's thunders, and cursed from the pulpit the enemies of God. But they made no man a friend of God. Wiser men than they have we heard—men who took their pitch from the angel's song of Bethlehem; and while "glory to God in the highest" was their aim, "good-will to men" was the method of their success.

Remember who it was that might have scourged us with the scorpion-lash of his just vengeance, but condescended to woo us towards heaven by the pierced hand of his compassion. And every soul that has ever come to Christ in sincere faith has been drawn there. Terror can only drive. Love attracts and saves. The response of every converted man to the claims of Jesus has been: "*Draw me, and I will run after thee. Lead me in paths of righteousness; I will try to follow. Lord! what wilt thou have me to do?*" Hell will be full of souls who were driven there by the condemning voice of justice. Heaven will be full of rejoicing souls who were drawn by the attractions of the Cross.—*T. L. Cuyler.*