

dead and vacant stare ; courage to confront the sneer of ridicule ; courage to support you against the cold, hard pressure of a heavy and unbelieving world.— *Knox-Little*.

A NEEDFUL PRAYER.

In the "Memorials of a Quiet Life," (that charming book) it is said that Maria Hare often wished there might have been a petition in the Litany asking deliverance from our *prejudices*. It was a wise, devout, sensible desire. Who is there of us all but needs to be delivered from our prejudices? Every wise man, (yes, and woman even) might well have some such supplication in his daily devotions. It would help to rid Christians of not a little of the narrowness and partizanship, which an "infection of nature doth remain yea in them that are regenerate." The sin of partizanship would be the more apparent if Christians would oftener think of the immense amount of evil that it has wrought. It brought the Saviour to the cruel cross. He came unto His own and His own received Him not, because partizanship so blinded their eyes that when they saw no beauty in Him that they should desire Him. To them He seemed simply a poor young Jew, a mechanic, humble, unknown to the great, uninfluential with the powerful, unlearned, unlettered, according to their standard, with only a little following of men, equally humble, all of them out of of rude Galilee, of the nations. Nor was that the worst of it by any means. He calmly set at nought all their hopes and expectations. He spake for no school. He represented no party ; sided with no one class ; fell in with no passions ;

gratified no hatreds. In short He represented no one in all *the wide* world save God His Father. And so from the first His rejection was certain. His own received Him not. They had their ideal of the Messiah. It was not God's. It was not Christ's. As they thought, the Messiah was to be a warrior greater than David, a king more magnificent than Solomon, a conqueror and spoiler of the nations far and near, ruling and reigning in Jerusalem, in a magnificence such as the oriental mind alone could picture. And Jesus was a Jew, surrounded, from His youth up, with these hopes, these prejudices, passions and burning anticipations. Knowing exactly what they were He set them all aside ; tried to correct them ; calmly told of a Divine Kingdom, a Kingdom of God, not of this world, but spiritual, Catholic, open to all men who would receive Him as the Way, the Truth and Life. It was a bitter disappointment to everyone, save God and His Christ. He went on in His appointed course, serenely to the bitter end. He believed in God and in His promises. He believed in Himself. He alone of all men believed in the omnipotence of the Truth. Therefore He saw of the travail of His soul, and was satisfied. The passions and prejudices of men nailed Him to the outstretched Cross set upon Calvary. Alas, that in so large a degree it should be so still ; that the passions and prejudices of men should blind them to what He would do for them if only they would let Him. Would that at least the members of His Mystical Body would pray to be delivered from their prejudices, prejudices which so often blind their