

down. No two persons are absolutely alike. Each individual of the species stands forth an unique specimen of the Divine workmanship. He has, of course, capabilities in common with his fellows, as face answers to face in harmony of shape, but no other man is an exact likeness to himself. From this individuality arises personal influence, and the fact that each man, coming in contact with the truth of God, receives into his mind and character portions of truth which appeal more powerfully to him than other men. These aspects of truth are his charge, and to exhibit and illustrate them the business of his life. The Apostle of the Gentiles speaks of his gospel—"According to *my* gospel;" and all readers of the Epistles of James, John, and Peter, will recall how different was the aspect of truth with which each was entrusted. Something like this is true of every believer, and hence the infinite adaptedness and freshness of gospel truth. Again, each man is brought by relationship and social affinities into contact with those over whom his influence has greater power than that of any other man. A solemn consideration for Christian thought! There are those around us, immortal men and women, whom we, by some peculiarity in our character and theirs, may influence as no other persons could. A grave responsibility, and one for which we shall be called to give account! Dr. Bushnell has a famous sermon on "Every man's life a plan of God," based on the words, "I girded thee, though thou hast not known Me." The plan of the highest possible life for each man is before the eye of God, and to live in harmony with God's plan is to succeed in life. If we could but see it! So many years usually pass in blundering and failure before we learn how to live! It is interesting to think that there are instances in which the mission of good may be something altogether different from what they themselves imagine, and that they fulfil all unconsciously a ministry which God ordained as theirs. We think of the learned and controversial works of Rutherford—heavy tomes in Latin and English! Where is their influence now? He was born to write those glorious "Letters!" And thus, doubtless, many of God's saints have lived, doing many mighty works in His name, while *the* work of their life has been something of which they thought little. But usually men may ascertain what is the work for which they are called and fitted, and intelligently devote their powers to its accomplishment. And in the great vineyard, various is the work to be done for the Master! Some are called to the ministry of teaching; and thoughts which are the fruit of their minds become seed-thoughts in the minds of other men, and multiply into harvests a hundred-fold. To others is given the labourer's post, in toilsomeness and pain to break up the fallow ground, hew down the forest, remove the mountains. There are men and women to whom is committed the ministry of example—to be uplifted in God's hand, lamp-like, and shine—men who live so that their fellows read the Divine epistle in their lives in large type, and when they are gone, say to their children, "What a saint of God was that?" Others have appointed to them the difficult mission of the sufferer, endured with power to glorify God in the fire—to walk in the furnace when it is heated seven-fold, and yet be unhurt; till unbelief and indifference,