

of God." These are the weapons we are determined to wield. To do this effectually we have need to be baptized with the spirit of our fathers in this country—to catch their falling mantles, that we may emulate their zeal and consummate their work, until "all Israel shall be saved." Never was Methodism more needed than it is to-day. We have fallen upon perilous times. Insidious error entwines itself about the truth seeking to sap its vitality. Imperious pretensions are vaunted in our faces; so that if we are to maintain our ground and fulfil our mission as a Church, we must "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

But, as a rule, the truth is best defended, not by controversial disputation, but rather by a living illustration of its power.—Permit us, then, dear brethren, to remind you of your "holy calling." "For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness," "that we might be partakers of the Divine nature." Keep the incense of your piety ever burning. Let your love maintain an even flame and a growing fervency, undefiled by the baser fumes of earthly passions. Seek to excel in every virtue and grace, that your character may be a transcript of the Divine mind—a photograph of his image. Your standard is fixed for you: "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." The basal beatitude is poverty of spirit; let this be your foundation! carrying up the superstructure, until you reach the crowning beatitude, purity of heart. That you may attain this excellence, you will need a oneness of purpose, together with a united effort. "The rays must converge to a point, in order to glow intensely;" hence the wisdom of the Apostle's exclusive resolve: "This one thing I do." And in prosecuting this oneness of purpose, you will often have occasion to assert your individuality. "Every one of us shall give an account of himself to God." Carry this thought with you in discharging the duties that arise from your relationships, as well as in the experience of your solitude; for while our individuality should not be suffered to fuse into an affected irresponsibility, neither should we permit it to contract into a narrow exclusiveness. Reflect the light you have received.—Emit the influence with which you are surcharged. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Make your religion winsome by your smiles. "Praise is comely for the upright." Mercies, like dew drops, sprinkle our heritage, sparkling like gems, in the sun of the Divine goodness. Have faith in God. And when, under discipline, it is in danger of being darkened by the vapours of carnal reasoning, let its clear vision catch a glimpse of the crescent promise that spans the cloud. "Life is a dial, in which the shadow as well as the light