

as in all other things. Self-denial in business does not mean that we are first to grasp a fortune, and then give part of it to some charitable or educational institution. It is at this point that the conflict between Christianity and our present system of commerce arises, and it seems to me that the conflict cannot be settled till some method of co-operation replaces our practice of unlimited competition.

III. As Christians have raised the question Christianity must answer it, and the answer is given in the words of our Lord, "follow Me." We are not only to lay down our lives for the brethren, we are to lay down our wealth, our time, our talents, our ease, our comforts, our luxuries, our pleasure. My duty towards my neighbour *is equal* to my duty towards God. A reduction of ten cents a day means a great deal to men earning from six to nine dollars a week. Instead of cutting wages, let the opportunity of self denial be seized. Let there be a willingness to receive a lower rate on capital, or even no interest at all, if by so doing a blessing may be bestowed upon others. Social Christianity looks at duties, not at rights. It would practise the principle laid down by St. Paul, "If meat maketh my brother to offend, I will eat no meat." Let it be acknowledged as a Christian duty that the employer should strive to give as much as possible to the employee, and the employee should strive to give as much as possible to the employer, and that together they should strive "to do all to the glory of God." The question of business should be: "How much can I *give*," not "How much can I get?" The Christian must employ Christianity in buying and selling. Social difficulties will be solved when the basis of business is "Love," not "selfishness." We have yet to learn that Christian greatness consists in service. The *Church* must emphasize the Christian duties of life, for business is in the hands of professed Christians.

IV. The Christian minister has a duty to perform. He is the instructor and leader of Christians. To him they look for advice. He tells them to love God, and to love man. He tells them how to love God, let him outline how they are to love man. If social reforms are Christian, the Christian minister is bound to join in them. In Baptism we promise to "fight against the world." We read the commandments in the Church's service. Fourth commandment.—Do employees of railroad, steamboat, and street-car companies, get one day's rest in seven? Do the directors of these companies, Chris-