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Be careful then
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them all the good in our power. "As we have therefore opportunity," is the inspired injunction, "let us do good unto all men, especially unto them that are of the household of faith." If any member of the brotherhood, for instance, can assist another in his honest endeavours to earn a livelihood, and to establish himself in a respectable social position, he should do it. And where members of the brotherhood, through age or infirmity, or other unavoidable causes, are in want, those who are rich ought to relieve their necessities. "Whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?" Should a Christian be called to suffer the stroke of divine providence, in his own person or in some near relation, his brethren in the Lord should sympathise with him, and endeavour, by delicate and tender ministrations, and by Christian counsel, to lighten his affliction. Whatever we may at any time have experienced of the supporting and consoling power of the Gospel in our own case has been granted us for this, among other reasons, that we "may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves have been comforted of God." These are mentioned merely as specimens of the kind offices which believers owe to one another,—offices the very meanest of which the Saviour has pledged himself to repay. "Whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only, in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward."

(2.) But in the second place, the existence of brotherly love among Christians should manifest itself by a readiness to bear with the infirmities and to forgive the offences of one another.

Christians have their infirmities. I said, in an early part of the discourse, that in every believer there is