

With such manly words we heartily agree. In spite of his many noble qualities, General Grant is not held up as a perfect example. But what shall we say of the many in all our churches, who, in circumstances perhaps more favorable to decision for Christ, still delay to act? Grey hairs are upon their heads, and they know it not. And what shall we say of those, who although for many years members of Christian churches, can hardly be distinguished from the most ungodly around them? In the character of General Grant, the gold and iron were mingled with the clay. But in the case of many of his detractors there is the clay without the gold and iron. To-night, therefore, in thankfulness for what God made him by nature, and still more by grace, we bury his faults in the grave and make his virtues bloom above it. We magnify that divine spirit that enabled the hero of so many battles even at the last to acknowledge his dependence upon the mercy of God, and cling to covenant promises in a dying hour; while at the same time we warn the careless ones not to rest contented with the hope that they may enjoy the same. "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his," is a very pious sentiment, but unless accompanied by personal faith and practical godliness is of no avail.

In this connection it may not be out of place to refer to the purity of his speech and his utter abhorrence of everything that savored of profanity. In an age like this, when oaths and reckless appeals to the Almighty and inchaste innuendoes, are found upon the lips of men of far greater pretensions to piety than General Grant, such an