

fallibility been for hundreds of years associated with the terrible Pope of Rome? And as for oracle—why, many will scarcely know what it means, and so must needs be frightened at it. Now, I have just consulted Webster (strange proceeding for one who is divinely guided) and I find that Dr. Dewar's implied definition is the correct one, viz.: An oracle is one "whose judgment cannot be questioned." Does Mr. Burns teach that there is any oracle in this dispensation? I believe he does, and that very plainly. He firmly holds that the Holy Spirit is the oracle whose judgment cannot be questioned, and whose decision is final. He distinctly teaches, moreover, that the Holy Spirit is the *only* oracle in this dispensation. Here is what he says concerning infallibility and oracular deliverances. "Divine Guidance," page 234: "Now, the doctrine of the guidance of the Spirit for every individual strikes at the root of this (oracular deliverances for others), for it takes away the possibility of one dictating to another or demanding the acceptance of his views of truth on the pain of his anathema. For if the truth is fully recognized that every one must be taught directly of God, then no one will demand the acceptance of his views of truth as necessarily true for another. The utmost he can do is to commend his brother to their common Master to learn what may be ultimate truth for him."

Now, if this teaching makes people oracles, it must be because every one who obeys the oracle (Holy Spirit) himself becomes an oracle by so doing. So when the Holy Spirit tells a man to preach the Gospel, He by so doing makes the preacher an oracle. Is that it, Doctor? If not, I fear this last charge cannot be substantiated. But I have done my best.

As to infallibility, it cannot be denied that Mr. Burns holds that every man can know he pleases God in thought, word and deed. And if pleasing God is not being infallible, what is? However, it looks like a harmless kind of infallibility.

A. TRUAX.

BRING on a necessity for God's help.—*Pomerooy.*

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER.

The following extract from a letter recently received, we think will be helpful to some, and so we take the liberty to make it the foundation of an article.

"I have had a time of gloom, uncertainty and trouble, but it is light now. I think I never quite reached the place where I knew I was doing just what God wanted me to do, and I felt I could not, dare not, live longer without the Holy Spirit with me 'all the time.' But I could not see how to get there, or why I had not obtained or retained Him.

"A few weeks since, a friend wrote me a letter containing this sentence, 'My life must be right while I have the Holy Ghost, and I have Him, while I believe it and let Him have His way.'

"This seemed to place the blessing in a simpler way than I had ever heard it, or grasped it. But how to have the Holy Ghost was still the trouble.

"A week ago, at prayer-meeting, they sang 'Perfect submission, all is at rest,' and I saw and just accepted *my* message. 'Give up, obey as He shows you, leave past regrets with Him, and every trouble as it comes trust to Him.' He said, 'Come unto me, I will give you rest.' I came, because He told me to, and I have rest and light, for He said He would give them.

"This seems very, very simple for so great a life. But if I can't do a great thing, I will be a little child and believe just what Jesus said and take my life simply, then if He wants me to do some great thing He will show me and help me to obey."

The simplicity of faith is generally its real difficulty. This sister has, like the rest of us, found it a difficult matter after all to walk by faith, hence we who look back over many a drawn battle here, or even defeat, can rejoice the more with her in her present victory.

We call attention to the fact here illustrated, viz., that however clearly one may think to have grasped the way of faith intellectually, and however sincerely and determinedly he may attempt to carry it out in life, that he only reaches real success when he is taught directly of God concerning this thing.