

man, more so than many who do a large amount of business, and ply useful trades.

It will be apparent, then, that it is not such a hard lot that of the trader, or manufacturer, or labourer, since even the gentleman, however aristocratic, has also his toils. And if you had not your useful business to be employed about, you would be doomed to follow some such life as he leads. All that you require is, that you have a taste and adaptation for your adopted business, or profession, or trade, and that you be not required to toil too hard at it, and that you have health and strength suited to it, and your life is quite as comfortable as that of him you envy—the gentleman, who is supposed not to work, but who yet does it in some regular or insane way. As to the first of the stipulations for comfortable labour, it is very important that you should like your business. It is required that you be adapted for your work. Mistakes in our choice of life are sources of much misery. It is sad to see dull heads trying to think, and feeble hands wrestling with burdens. Many bad teachers would make excellent ploughmen; and there have been ploughmen who were good poets, and might have been excellent preachers. Many, however, of a gnarled disposition, are unhappy at their own proper work, because they would be miserable in any sphere. Vanity—one of those demons which tempt men—suggests to many of us, that this is not our place. "You should have been higher, my friends," it is ever whispering; and we go whimpering about, because we have failed to secure our true vocation, or because we are not appreciated, and led into the higher place, amid the applauses of the world.

This, then, is one of the conditions of comfortable labour, that is, comfortable life, that we have found out our proper work. Nor are we to rate this as a mean discovery. It is better for us than any other knowledge, popular or scientific. It will save us much repining and bad tempers, that is sin. It will preserve us from charging Providence with ill treatment of us, and from the oftentimes foolish task of trying to find out the reason of those mysterious dispensa-