

"I will kick you down stairs!"  
 "Stop," he said; "don't, don't—don't kick me down stairs now, because I have a call to make up above; and if you kick me down I shall be obliged to come all the way up again, don't you see? Now if it is any gratification to you to kick the minister down stairs, who has come to call on you out of pure good will, let me go and make my visit up stairs, and then I will place myself at your disposal."

"Well, you are a rum 'un," said the man, and shuffled back to his seat.

The minister made his call up stairs, came down, opened the door and said:

"Well, my man, here I am. I told you I would call again. Now if it is any gratification to you to kick the minister down stairs, I am at your disposal."

"Did you come to see me?" asked the man.

"Yes I did."

"Well, then' sit down;" and he began to talk to him, not as if he was a brute, but as if he was a brother, as if he was man. And by and by the poor creature cried out. "O, sir, I am the most God-forsaken wretch on earth!" and then he spoke of a wife and six children of sorrow and sin, and poured in the oil of sympathy into his broken heart.

Well, the minister prayed with that man and left him; came back again, and the result was, that man, with his wife and five children, sat in God's house on the Sabbath, and paid six shillings a year pew-rent for each, making seven times six shillings. He sat in God's house clothed in his right mind, under the influence of the truth. Ah this spirit of kindness! We ask you, then, to set that example of patient loving sympathy with the erring. It will pay in the long run.

O, there is nothing so good; there is nothing, it seems to me, so pleasant as to be instrumental in lifting up a poor, debased, fallen brother, or to prevent a brother from walking in the path that leads to sin and to ruin. Do it, then, I say for the sake of your

brother; and if not do it for His sake who came to seek and save the lost.

### Selections.

#### The Bible.

"Pure is the book of God, with sweetness filled;  
 More pure than massive, unadulterate gold;  
 More sweet than honey from the rock distilled.

—*Bishop Mant.*

"There is but one Book."—*Sir Walter Scott on his death-bed.*

"It has God for its author, Eternity for its object, Salvation for its end, and truth, without any admixture of error, for its subject matter."—*John Locke.*

"Heaven extracted lies in thee."—*Henry Vaughan.*

"The Bible makes nobler men, blesses every relation of life, improves the family, the neighbourhood, the state, the nation."—*Dr. J. H. Vincent.*

"The cloud went off from the pilgrim's brow as a small and meagre book, Unchased with gold or gem of cost, from his folding robe he took:  
 'Here lady fair is the pearl of price; may it prove as such to thee!  
 Nay, keep thy gold; I ask it not, for the word of God is free!'"

—*Whittier.*

"Most truly do I believe the Scriptures to be inspired; the proofs of their inspiration grow with the study of them. The Scriptural narratives are not only about divine things, but are themselves divinely framed and superintended."—*Dr. Arnold.*

"The Bible is the only book in the world that will bear full and permanent translation into life."—*Joseph Cooke.*

"The very fact of the winnowedness of the Bible is proof of a divine superintendence over it."—*Joseph Cooke.*

"I know the Bible is inspired because it finds me at greater depths of my being than any other book."—*Coleridge.*

"The Bible has proved itself to be a living power when accepted and tested by child-like faith."—*Dr. Vincent.*

—The art of self-possession don't mean artful concealment, but that power of comprehending at one glance, and in every point of view, the situation in which we are placed, and of determining instantly what mode of action we ought to pursue, and the most eligible means by which to arrive at it.

—He who waits for what he desires takes the course not to be exceedingly grieved if he fails of it. He, on the contrary, who labours after a thing too impatiently, thinks the success, when it comes, is not a recompense equal to the pains he has been to at it.

—The state of our existence upon earth is perpetually marked by the mixture of good and evil. Prosperity and adversity are so associated in our life that they may be said to be placed the one over against the other. Generally speaking, the life of every man is a mixed state of good and evil, of days of enjoyment and of trouble.

—We must consult the gentlest manner, and softest reason of address; our advice must not fall like a violent storm, bearing down and making those to droop whom it is meant to cherish and refresh. It must descend as the dew upon the tender herb, or like melting flakes of snow—the softer it falls, the longer it dwells upon, and the deeper it sinks in the mind.

—Purposes, however wise without plans, cannot be relied on for good results. Random or spasmodic efforts, like aimless shots, are usually no better than wasted time and strength. The purposes of shrewd men in the business of this life are always followed with carefully formed plans; whether the object is learning, honor or wealth, the ways and means are all laid out according to the best rules and methods.

—Mr. Spicer, of the Grand Trunk Railway, has issued a circular letter to the employees of the railway, in which he says:—"The Grand Trunk Railway