

not understood than they were formerly. Not less of the real learning of great principles, of life, experience, spiritual philosophy, and of God's great gospel—more manly, healthy, and religious life is the greatest desideratum. The moral beauty as unfolded in the sermon on the Mount—as unfolded in the Beatitudes, is the beauty,—the God spell—that appeals to the religious nature of men—the beauty of holiness—“this, in truth, is the beauty of the Lord, the glory of God is his goodness. Those who have the characteristics of the Christian character can no more hide the attributes of moral beauty than the star its lustre or the rose its fragrance; they will sound in their conversation, breathe in their spirit, and shine in their deeds. The life of love has many blossoms, whose lives and fragrance are ever delightful to the moral heart of humanity. “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven.”

As religious teachers, we ought to try to advance men's temporal as well as their spiritual interests—seek to further worldly prosperity and advancement, as well as distribute the bread of life to the needy—advocate rights, as well as enforce duties—grasp with as much generous affection the brawny hand of the poor as the golden one of the rich, and join heartily in the common battle of the indigent and oppressed against the social demons of monopoly and injustice. Let this sympathy inspire us as Christian ministers, and though our numbers are few, and our church connection small, it will give it a pulse life, a breath of fragrance, a flower of beauty, that will fascinate the world yet, and declare with trumpet tongue, that you are the true expositors of divine truth. The heart-touched populace will shout again, “How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings of good, that saith unto men, Thy God reigneth.”

Our ministry is to be spiritual. The fruit of the spirit and for spirit. We must not, at our peril minister to the sensuous elements of the soul, by material representations of the truth, and touching anecdotes. Let not our sanc-

tuaries be among those where the animal sympathies of human nature are far more extensively cultured than the moral. See, as religious teachers, ye develop the conscience—solve difficulties, purify the moral sympathies, free the will, crush the evil, and foster the good. A minister's usefulness is to be gauged by the amount of holy thought he awakens,—spiritual impulse he generates, and manly, moral mind he develops.

The ample means of such development are provided to your hands. The characteristics of christian character have been here exhibited. No teaching like the Master's. See that you use the means he has provided. Let us be men—standing erect, with a bold front amidst the gravitating forces of evil—men not moulded in their manners by the hand of circumstances but fashioned as the branches of that symmetrical tree, by the vital force within,—men who can bend the cutward to their will—like the fabled statue of Mammon, turning the cheering beams of the sun of righteousness into music; and like the natural sun, condense the deleterious blasts of circumstances into clouds, that burst in refreshing showers upon the soul.

Let our daily life blossom into the flowers of love, peace, long-suffering, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance. They who have themselves put on the Lord Jesus, develop his attributes, and wear the righteousness of the saints their sacerdotal dress.

We, as ministers of this stamp, will bring down from the moral heavens presented to us in Christ's sermon on the Mount, the soul-kindling, and exalting truths of God, to the moral heart of mankind, and from your breasts, at from that of the High Priest of old, there will emanate the moral radiations of the Godhead.—Amen and amen.

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It is said of the wife of Havelock, that once in a time of great national trouble, when asked what her husband was doing, she replied, “I do not know just what he is doing, but I know he is trusting in God, and doing His duty.”