THE DIVINE CALL TO THE MINISTRY.

the admirable theological schools, with the requisite mental culture.

3. To Parents.—Sometimes, as we have said, parents err in devoting a son to the ministry without consulting the will of God in the matter; but sometimes, on the other hand, when the will of God appears, parents are unwilling to make what seems to them a sacrifice, and give a son to the ministry. He may be an only son. The field towards which he is drawn may be a foreign field. But O! look beyond this narrow life, and see present toils and sacrifices in the light of the future world. "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever." "God had but one Son, and made him a minister."

4. A Word to One and All.—Consider the reverent regard with which you should always listen to the message proclaimed by one who is really an ambassador for Christ. He asks no special respect—nothing beyond what you would accord to any other man his equal—except on this ground, he is a messenger of Heaven to you. He is divinely commissioned to bear to you a message of warning concerning the folly, guilt, and danger of sin; a proclamation of mercy and forgiveness through the atoning blood; and an invitation to the eternal glory of Heaven. Remember that you have no right to say to him, "Go thy way for this time," "We will hear thee again of this matter." Your first, present, positive, imperative duty, is to attend to the message, not out of respect for the

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