

**A PASTOR'S RIGHT-HAND MAN.**—Borne down by the weight of accumulated work, Dr. Reed was urged repeatedly to accept the services of an assistant; but this help he as steadily declined. He was confident in his own power, and looked for help to spring from his church. This help came in the form he most desired it, in the accession to the church of an eminently godly man, Mr. Samuel Plumbe. This gentleman came from Tiverton to reside in London, and he at once took a prominent position in Dr. Reed's church. He possessed a cultivated mind, an amiable character, and ready gifts for Christian usefulness. He was a favourite alike with young and old, rich and poor. He had singular quickness and activity, both of body and mind. He was in truth a most ready man. He could deliver a good religious address, prepare a scientific lecture, write a capital letter, compose an anniversary hymn, utter a good impromptu speech, visit acceptably the sick and dying, converse well with religious inquirers, bring harmony in the place of strife by his tact and love, and fill with cheerfulness the dullest and most timid. Such qualities, crowned with sterling and devout piety, were a rare treasure to both pastor and church. With all these gifts to win the people, he was no rival to the minister, was never spoilt, but always to be trusted. This new association brought Dr. Reed unspeakable relief and invaluable help.—*Memoirs of Andrew Reed, D.D.*

**THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.**—When so much attention is paid by each denomination of Christians to religious journalism, it is well at times to consider what a religious newspaper should be. If we looked in existing journals for an ideal of newspaper excellence in this direction, we should fail to give a suitable definition. They each have such partisan ends to serve, that they come far short of what is demanded of them by all classes of readers. Admitting, as in the present divisions of Christendom we must, that newspapers must be denominational, the first quality in a religious journal should be that it sets forth the standard of the body which it professes to serve. This must be its theology. Its next point should be fresh and full news of religious work in its own body. Then, in our opinion, it should give considerable space to the work being done in other religious bodies, so that its readers, on the supposition that they each take but this one journal, may be able to make an honest and fair estimate of what others are doing. This would go far to dissipate the wretched conceit of each sect that its own banner is alone the true rallying point of Christians. But such a newspaper goes into the family. It is intended as a religious educational organ. It must, therefore, avoid controversy and contain considerable general and devotional reading. It must be in part a children's paper; and this is a strong point, because if children are taught in the family to read carefully the weekly paper, they are being educated to understand religious subjects. In its general character it ought to be one of the best critics of the general and religious literature of the day. It should be so honest in saying what a book is, that any person can tell from reading the notice whether he wants the book or not. It should be mercilessly severe on what is the mere froth and foam of sensational literature. With such provisions the newspaper would be an indispensable help in family education. In all its departments it should be fearless, outspoken, faultlessly honest, and if possible in the vanguard of the communion which it serves. We have no faith in the combining of religious with political teachings, or religious with secular news, in the same journal. The union results like all attempts of religious bodies to work in concert, in giving to the most absorbing—which is usually the secular—element the chief share of attention. And, finally, it is imperative that men of the best minds and others of the best business capacity, supported by contributors who can use the pen cleverly, should be at the head of each journal.—*Round Table, N. Y.*

A little boy at one of our Sunday school concerts, recently, after much drilling at home, recited his verse as follows: "Children, obey your parents, and you'll come out all right!" It must be confessed that the little fellow gave the sentiment of the verse, if not the exact language.—*Northampton Gazette.*