

10 PUT YOURSELF IN HIS PLACE

and therefore I must die. But before you kill me, there is one request I have to make. All you who are going to stain your hands in my blood just come up here and shake hands with me before you commit the crime, for when I die I shall go to heaven, and therefore I shall never see any of you again.' ”

Say a good word concerning your business competitor. It will do you no harm. Nay, it will help you. Why not rejoice in his success! Success is a beautiful thing. Would you not like to have it yourself? Then deny it not to your neighbors—not even in your thoughts. A great soul is better than a big business. Col. A. K. MacClure, the American editor, says concerning Abraham Lincoln: “Another very marked feature of Mr. Lincoln’s character was his patient and generous forbearance with all who were unfriendly to him. I never heard Mr. Lincoln utter a single sentence of resentment against anyone, and I have never met any person who claimed to have heard him speak vindictively against even his bitterest foes. The beautiful sentence of his inaugural—‘With malice toward none, with charity for all,’ was a perfect reflex of the heart of Abraham Lincoln.”

Get through with your grudges. Time will bury them, destiny will ignore them, your friends will grow weary of them and history will make light of them. Here is a bright paragraph from Talmage:

“How often have writers, with their pens, plunged into the hearts of their rivals—pens sharper than cimeters, striking deeper than bayonets! Voltaire hated Rousseau. Charles Lamb could not endure Coleridge. Waller