

We submit an illustration. Historians tell us "the Jews crucified Christ, the Catholic Church burnt Huss, the English Church cast out Wesley, and the Wesleyans in turn expelled Booth. Yes! Stephen's case, it would seem, exemplifies the law of life. His first proclamation led to his immediate promotion to the position of the first martyr of the Christian Church. A new prophet proclaims a new truth, and he is immediately regarded as a heretic by the custodians of a previous revelation. True, O King, the persecution which some fondly imagine expired with the fires of Smithfield is, as yet, one of the most perennial growths of our fallen nature. Then that boycotting to which English converts to Roman Catholicism, and any other "ism," are now being subjected, which prevails even to-day in Anglican circles, is almost incredible. Verily, verily, only let a truth crystallise into orthodoxy, let it obtain general acceptance, and it has by this time become so much of a falsehood as to obscure men's perceptions of new truth. "A paradox!" you say. Exactly so, and an astonishing one, too.

Now, here's another paradox; else why are we still wearing our swathing-bands? When shall we lay down those carnal weapons of warfare, pass out of an age of barbarism and bolstered up savagery, and cease to crush and persecute those of a different faith? Surely things ought not so to be. The great want of the age we live in is that infinite power of forgiveness and sympathy with all, whilst the process of rectification is going on; our faith traced in our lives—the sweeter spirits of faith, hope, and love—our lives the proof of our belief.

Dare to be true. The promised land is still afar off, and who shall be accounted worthy to go up and possess it? From voices which will be no more heard on earth, except in the echo of their fragrant memory, comes the clarion-cry to leave those perennial jargons concerning petty points of precedence, those pettifogging jealousies one of another, and to don the shed mantles of those great pioneers of ours, go forth bravely and prosecute their work. Then don't be lonely; for from the many thousands of the homes of the sick poor in our land plaintive voices may be heard crying to-day, "Come over, and let us see how you do things well." And what a stupendous work of sanitation this is, to be sure! We do want more diligent and courageous shepherds to guide the sinners in every town. "Oh! it is pitiful in every city to feel in how many homes they have none; it grieves us to think of the loneliness of heart and soul. Uncounted men and women live and die in every town, just like sheep without a shepherd. We care not what

the pastor calls himself who will *try* and reclaim the forlorn and desolate, who will try to make man more human, whether he be Jew or Mahomedan, Ritualist, Catholic, Protestant or Dissenter. To the Eternal God above all who do works that result in goodness are alike."

Be straightforward. True, much has been done in the past; but a still greater work lies ahead yonder. "Until you have learned to work without gratitude," said a liberal-minded philanthropist to us in the days of our pupilage, "you have not become a true worker, for a true worker can trust results." Inspiring words in those days. But to rest on our laurels it would surely not be politic to tarry now, although it is well to pause betimes to remember those shifting landmarks, and to direct the attention of our junior soldiers thereunto, whilst unto such veterans as may be toiling on, perchance with heavy hearts and drooping hands, we turn and deliver our message—viz., "Keep the shining light of these noble lives steadily in view." "Opportunity is always golden and beautiful; it is the use that it is put to that makes it imperfect." Then without this charge our sketch were incomplete, because the journey of life is plain and straightforward enough to those who are trained to make principle their watchword and duty their guide. And that justice and love are not impossible, that more than the best that man can dream of shall one day be realised by men, we have seen exemplified in the lives of the great altitude attained by those noble pioneers; and "while the world lasts the sun will gild the mountain-top before it shines upon the plain."

NURSING ECHOES.

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MR. EDITOR informs me he has received a good many kind letters respecting the Resolution which a Miss Heanley proposed to bring forward at the recent Annual Meeting of the Royal British Nurses' Association with reference to this Journal. The matter is not of sufficient importance to be considered at length, as this Journal has many more pressing matters to deal with. Miss Heanley, it seems, does not approve of this Journal. Strange to say, she apparently continues to read it, which, to say the least, is very kind and self-denying



[previous page](#)

[next page](#)