

ment, abused and perverted as we know it to be, it makes Christian nations stand out on the world's panorama so conspicuously, and when we think of its wonderful adaptation to the deepest wants of man, and what a stern advocate it finds in the human conscience, and especially how thorough is the renovation of the individual who gives himself up entirely to its influence, we ought to be ashamed of our distrust of its power, and to feel that we have in our hands an instrument which, by God's blessing, can and will create anew and sanctify our lost world. So that wherever we have an opportunity to bring the gospel in contact with the human conscience and reason, we ought to urge its claims with as undoubted an assurance of its efficacy as a woman exercises when she hides only a modicum of leaven in three measures of meal.

*Secondly, the subject is full of encouragement to those who are laboring in weakness with great obstacles and discouragements, in the dissemination of the truths of the gospel.*

Let them remember that the leaven, when mixed with the meal, seems to be lost, and little or no visible effect is produced, until at length it is found that the whole loaf is thoroughly leavened. Let them remember, too, that the pure gospel, when brought in contact with men's consciences, is as sure to commence a catalytic process there, as good leaven is in the meal, although without special grace it will not result in conversion. Nor will the laborer, perhaps, perceive any good effect produced for a long time, and possibly not while he lives. But moral reformations usually move very slowly onward. It needs time for the leaven to work. And in many cases the sower is not permitted to gather the sheaves. But if they are finally reaped, *he that soweth and he that reapeth will rejoice together.* Let him who is faithful in doing his