

before. I was astonished, and somewhat dismayed, by this specimen of barrack-life ; but, getting quietly inside the building, I succeeded in cooking for my uncle and myself some porridge over one of the unoccupied fires, and then stole off, as early as I could, to my lair in a solitary hay-loft,—for there was no room for us in the barrack ; where, by the judicious use of a little sulphur and mercury, I succeeded in freeing my master from the effects of the strange bed-fellowship which our recent misery had made, and of preserving myself from infection. The following Sabbath was a day of quiet rest ; and I commenced the labors of the week, disposed to think that my lot, though rather a rough one, was not altogether unendurable ; and that, even were it worse than it was, it would be at once wise and manly, seeing that winter would certainly come, cheerfully to acquiesce in and bear up under it.

I had, in truth, entered a school altogether new,—at times, as I have just shown, a singularly noisy and uproarious one, for it was a school without master or monitor ; but its occasional lessons were, notwithstanding, eminently worthy of being scanned. All know that there exists such a thing as professional character. On some men, indeed, nature imprints so strongly the stamp of individuality, that the feebler stamp of circumstance and position fails to impress them. Such cases, however, must always be regarded as exceptional. On the average masses of mankind, the special employments which they pursue, or the kinds of business which they transact, have the effect of moulding them into distinct classes, each of which bears an artificially induced character peculiarly its own. Clergymen, as such, differ from merchants and soldiers, and all three from lawyers and physicians. Each of these professions has long borne in our literature, and in common opinion a character so clearly appreciable by the public generally, that when truthfully reproduced in some new work of fiction, or exemplified by some transaction in real life, it is at once recognized as marked by the genuine class-traits and peculiarities. But these professional characteristics descend much lower in the scale than is usually supposed. There is scarce a trade or