FALSEHOOD AND TRUTH

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Falsehood and Truth by Charlotte Elizabeth

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81

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23



TO THE

REV. HUGH M'NEILE, A.M.

MINISTER OF ST. JUDES, LIVERPOOL.

MY DEAR AND HONOURED PRIEND,

To speak "the Gospel of God with much contention," was Paul's office in the midst of gainsayers, scoffers, and other enemies to the cross of Christ; and such also had been that of Jeremiah when, constrained by the Spirit of Truth, he warned his nation of coming judgments, showing God's people their transgressions, and the house of Jacob their sins. Even so has the Lord seen fit to make you "a

man of contentions," a Watchman who, seeing the sword coming, will not be silenced by any considerations of carnal policy or of personal comfort and advantage-a sore troubler of those who are at ease in Zion now, while the enemy both thunders openly at her gates, and privily digs the secret mine beneath her foundations. Many a slumbering Christian it has been your privilege to rouse, many a naked one to arm in the common cause: through your teaching many a coward has waxed valiant in fight, and not a few deserters, arrested and shamed, have returned to their post. Do I praise you for this? No; if I did you would surely rebuke me, avowing yourself an unprofitable servant, doing but that which you are commanded of God, and sworn at your ordination to do. desire to glorify H1s grace who has made you faithful in the ministry; and I grieve at your manifest pre-eminence over many brethren in this our day, of whom God and the Church require that they should not so lag behind; and I would most gratefully acknowledge that so far as in my own very humble sphere I have been enabled to labour in the same great and righteous cause, your example has quickened no less than your brotherly kindness has cheered me, during the thirteen years in which it has been my privilege to enjoy your friendship.

"The Priest's lips should keep knowledge;" and surely he in whose heart is laid up the Gospel treasure, that he may as a faithful and wise steward dispense, and as a good workman rightly divide, the word of truth among his people, ought to bring forth such portions of it as the Holy Spirit has specially provided in reference to these fearful times—this dawning of the great day of