

take a one-sided view of any thing, but look at it in every light, weigh and judge it in view of every consideration.

When nothing else will help us to determine, we may sometimes do so by reflecting on the tendencies and consequences of things. Many things that cannot be directly decided by the word of God, may be indirectly tested by the broad principles laid down there. Let us take care we be not too sweeping in our condemnation of a thing, or too confident in our approval. When we was warm and confident in regard to a matter in which we differ from others, it may cool us down, to calmly turn the matter round and view it from the other side.

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Paris, C. W.

A MODEL CHURCH BUSINESS-MEETING.

My study was entered one day by an esteemed brother minister, whose countenance was lighted up with unwonted brightness. I said, "Brother, you seem to be unusually cheerful to-day." "Yes," he replied, "and I have got something to make me so." With that he pulled a twenty dollar note out of his pocket, and held it up, saying—"Do you see that? Do you see that?" "Is that," I said, "the cause of your joy?" My heart bled when he replied, "You know the heavy sickness I have lately had in my family. For weeks I have not had a copper in my possession, and I was unable to procure my sick ones even the necessaries of life. After a struggle with my feelings I went to-day to our Treasurer, when he told me he had no funds, but has advanced me these twenty dollars out of his own pocket." The Church was then due that brother almost \$200, and the man who *advanced* [?] the \$20 is a wealthy man—a deacon—the superintendent of the Sabbath-school—one of the leading merchants in the town; and to my certain knowledge could, without difficulty, have paid the whole of his minister's salary.

A short time ago I visited a church, to stir them up to do something more for their minister. After making some very plain statements, a member stood up and said, — "If I understand the purport of your remarks they amount to this,—that unless we do more for our pastor's support, we cannot have him for our minister." I replied, "Precisely so, and I put it to your conscience, unless you do more, do you deserve to have a minister?" "Well," he said, like an honest man, "I do not think we do." Another immediately said. "I always give as God has prospered me, and I know others do the same." I replied, "No man can ask you to do more than that—God himself is satisfied with that, but," I said, "You are a farmer—crops are not always the same—markets are not always the same. Now, will you tell me how it happens that your subscription towards your pastor's salary has not varied a single cent for several years?" He was "speechless."

I am not an enemy to a people making presents to their ministers; the more the better: provided they are really presents. I humbly confess, however, that I have an instinctive dread of what are called "donation visits." When I see such announcements *in the papers* I am almost safe in inferring that the brother to whom the visit has been made is about to leave his post. They are at best a lame apology for neglect of duty. One brother, not a thousand miles from where I write, had a "donation visit." It was trumpeted forth in several newspapers, and other churches were called upon to "go and do likewise." The articles were valued at almost \$100. When the