

which though well enough fifty years ago, are now far behind the age. We have been grieved to see such an old and worthy servant of Christ with a considerable family receiving from a congregation among whom he had spent the prime of his strength, less than a number of mere striplings trained under him, were receiving from weaker congregations, even while they had no person dependent on them. Nor was it creditable that while the latter were receiving their salary in cash, and at regular times, he had to submit to a system of irregular produce payment, condemned by the synod, and exploded in almost every congregation of the body. We do not say that this was altogether attributable to them. It was partly owing to his own disinterested disregard of worldly things. He had "learned in whatever state he was therewith to be content," and he troubled them not with any appeals regarding his own salary. Certainly however their conduct arose from no want of attachment to him, but from an imperfect knowledge of their duty.

We must also remark, that during the whole course of his ministry, the efforts of Sectarians to introduce division into his congregation and build up their own party principles upon the ruins of its peace, were entirely unsuccessful. Most of our Presbyterian congregations have been assailed in this manner. There are always parties professing that their object is to preach the gospel of Christ, but who instead of doing this where he is not known, confine their labors to those already blessed with the ministrations of faithful servants of Christ; and instead of directing their efforts to the conversion of sinners to the Saviour, devote their energies to bringing men from the Presbyterian fold into their own, sometimes on the grounds that Presbyterians when gained over, make the very best members they have, which amounts to a confession, that our system is the means of making more efficient Christians than theirs. These men are not always very scrupulous as to the means they employ. The dissatisfaction of an individual, whose conduct may have brought him under the discipline of the Church, or of some self-conceited person, who imagines that he has not received the attention he deserves, will form a point, on which they alight like carrion fowls on corruption, and by flattery, or making themselves "all things to all men," in another sense than the apostle Paul, they will commonly succeed in gaining some, and strife and division ensue. All this will be done under the pretence of love and peace. All the other Presbyterian congregations in the Island had suffered more or less from these "spiritual kidnappers," as John Angel James called them, but against Dr. Keir, their efforts fell harmless as the arrow from the solid rock. All their plans were ineffectual to excite division among his people. Some of them fell considerably chagrined, that they were thus so entirely baffled; and within the last two or three years, when there were indications of failing strength on the part of Dr. Keir, their hopes of success revived, and they began again "creeping in," with the hope of securing their purpose. We are happy to say, that in spite of such kind attentions to their spiritual interests, the congregation has remained united and harmonious. Long may they continue so. To them we say, "Be of one mind, live in peace, and the God of peace shall be with you." And with this view guard against those Sectarian Proselytizers, who would compass sea and