

that great mediator was praying with uplifted hands for Israel's victory in the conflict then raging below, supported him by holding up his hands when they began to droop with fatigue, and so kept up the cheering spectacle in view of the contending army. And so every member of the congregation should seek for opportunities of strengthening the hands of the parish-priest,—remembering his many cares, anxieties, difficulties,—more and heavier than any of you, my lay brethren, can know or realize. One way of thus encouraging your Clergyman, and perhaps the best of all, and within the power of everyone, is by carrying out our first rule, and using his ministrations, faithfully, diligently; showing that they are of use to you, that you set a value upon them.

Fourthly.—Do something more than this, —HELP him,—look out for opportunities of giving him real, active, direct help. Make up your minds that, beyond the faithful performance of the ordinary duties of life, you are bound to do some work with a special view to the advancement of God's glory, and the good of His Church,—some work wherein you may take your part in carrying out our Lord's farewell charge to His whole Church "Preach the Gospel to (evangelize) every creature"—"Make disciples of all nations." For, remember,—all Christ's people, and not the Clergy only, are called upon to be, in some sense, "fishers of men." At all events, count every week a lost week in which some special work of this kind has not been done,—a helping hand given to your pastor in some branch of Church work.

Lastly.—PRAY for him. This is a kind of help of which even a St. Paul feels himself to be in need, and for which he thinks it necessary to ask. "Praying*** for me, that utterance may be given to me," and so forth. No one can tell how much of a Clergyman's success, how much of his usefulness, depends upon the help his people give him by their prayers, I say then, brethren, have your regular time allotted—once a week—twice a week—every day,—according as your opportunities seem to permit (only let it be *regular*) for offering up a sincere, heart-felt prayer for your pastor and his work.

Once again, brethren, let me beg you,—remember your responsibilities for your Clergyman's success and prosperity! If he

seems to fail in any respect, consider whether a portion of the fault does not lie at your door, and is not a result of some negligence or some failure on your part. There is no class of men which is visited with such general and such severe criticism as that of the Clergy; no class of men of whom so much is expected, and for whose short-comings so little allowance is made. To a certain extent that is perhaps justifiable. People have a right to demand that the hands which bear the vessels of the sanctuary shall be clean. To a certain extent it is gratifying. High expectations testify to some general measure of high attainment. But, does not the question occur to any such would-be critic—"Have I done my share towards bringing about the result for the failure of which I am making complaint? For—until I have done this share (if even then), have I the right to judge another man's servant? Rather seek in this, as in other things, to carry out the golden precept—"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the LAW OF CHRIST."

And you, my young brethren, who are now about to be invested with the Holy Order on behalf of which these good offices are solicited, after having served your time in the lower and preparatory function—may God speed you in the great work which lies before you! And may His Spirit who is to day to be shed upon you in power from on high—abide with you for ever,—and enable you for that great work; that like your Master you may know your sheep, and be known of them, known as shepherds, feeding the Flock, not as hirelings, feeding yourselves; so that in the end you may with joy give a good account of your charge to the great Shepherd and Bishop of Souls!

Essential Features of the History of our Church.

CHAPTER VI. MISREPRESENTATIONS CONCERNING THE CHURCH.

It is simply not true to say,
That Henry VIII. created a new Church.
That Queen Elizabeth created a new Church.

That the Church of England is a new Church about three hundred years old.