

pected event, but the following extract from the Pastor's letter will explain his position :—" You will readily understand that *all* the reasons for this conclusion cannot be given ; and that to state *part* of them would produce an erroneous impression. I must ask you therefore simply to accept my assurance, especially in view of all which this step involves to me, that my action is deliberate and disinterested, and that to my own mind the path seems clear."

After a careful consideration of this letter, the Deacons reported it to the Church with the recommendation ; that, " As the Pastor's resignation has come as a surprise to us ; and as it constitutes a grave crisis for the Church, requiring the exercise of the most prayerful and deliberate circumspection and judgment ; it be referred to a Committee of the Church, consisting of the Deacons, the Board of Trustees, and the elected members of the Church Board, for their most careful consideration, and report and recommendation thereupon." The committee so appointed sought an interview with the Pastor, in order to ascertain whether or no his resignation was final ; and on his courteous assurance that it was, they felt that they had no other alternative before them than to recommend that it be accepted, with all proper expression on the part of the Church, of the very high appreciation in which his character and faithful services were held by every one among us. This recommendation was received and adopted ; and the following resolution was unanimously passed :—

" That in accepting the resignation of our esteemed Pastor, the Rev. F. H. Marling, we desire to place on record our deep regret that any causes should exist among us which have led him to this important step ; and to express our high appreciation of his faithful and self-denying services during the period of his pastorate. In every department of his work, he has recognized the responsibilities that have devolved upon him, and has manifested a cheerful self-sacrifice in discharging them. Especially has this been seen in his pastoral oversight of the flock committed to his charge, and in his desire to strengthen and extend the influence of the Sunday School by his interest therein, and