

Church. "The Prophets prophesied falsely ; and the Priests bare rule by their means ; and the people loved to have it so !"

Only change names, dates and places, and the history of that day is the history of this ; and of now here more truly descriptive than of our Church in this land. We can easily conceive how strange a thing the removal of Elijah must have appeared to the Church at a time when the qualifications of the aged man of God seemed so needed for the peace and prosperity of the Church, when his long-tried experience would teach, and his weight of character enforce his teaching.

God's ways were not,—are not as man's, and, therefore, he gave not,—giveth not accounts of his matters then, nor of the matter now, over which we mourn, as they did !

He bids us rest in his love for us, and the cause we have at heart : be satisfied with his dispensations ! "What thou knowest not now, thou shalt know hereafter !"

My purpose is to draw your attention to the chief points of this history, and apply them to our present circumstances.

Three parties are introduced to our notice : The Old Prophet; his successor; the sons of the Prophets, the trained Evangelists, who, thereafter, were to preach, and teach, the words of the Prophets.

The first is seen full of years, wearied and care-worn, and heart-stricken, alone, in the midst of friends, craving the promised rest, taking his last ministerial journey, as he visits the school at the Jordan, at Bethel, at Jericho, giving each his parting charge.

Next, the faithful and attached servant, young and strong, and eager for God's work, undaunted by difficulties, and only waiting God's time, to do God's bidding.

And, last, the young men, whose eyes the Lord has opened to see both worlds in their true light, and whose hearts he has inclined to choose the better part, and higher work of the ministry, now fitting for their work.

A short time since, a counterpart to this picture might have been seen in our midst, but now the aged Prophet has passed off this