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for prayers; and it gave force to the apostle's exhortation "not to neglect the assembling of themselves together" on such holy occasions.

If, then, these duties should be disregarded, the house of God would be divested of its great end and purpose. It would be an edifice merely to contemplate, and not to use.—You must endeavor, brethren, to avoid such an inconsistency, and escape the shame and condemnation it would bring upon you.

And as appointed services and ordinances of God's house cannot be supplied and maintained unless there be a ministering servant, specially appointed, to perform them; so it becomes the obligation of the Lord's faithful people to provide for the support of such minister and ambassador of Christ. He relinquishes all worldly causes to devote himself exclusively to this work; a fact which involves the duty of his reasonable and dutiful support from those to whom he ministers.

This fact is, by Christian congregations, generally admitted. The support of their clergyman in a becoming way, is acknowledged to be a duty. But, unhappily, there is too frequently a failure in the discharge of it. Much too commonly the complaint is made that clergymen have to submit to a great inconvenience and to meet privation, through the carelessness and indifference of congregations in providing the support to which they are pledged.

I trust, my brethren, that such a complaint will never reach me in regard to you. I believe rather that the obligation I have referred to, will be honestly and conscientiously fulfilled; and, instead of being pained by such a complaint, I have every hope of re-