

objects. Each may thus find a suitable department of useful labor for himself, and thus greatly assist in or relieve the pastor's work. Let the office-bearers of the congregation especially be fellow-workers with their minister, in the care of the flock, to strengthen his authority and influence, to share his burdens and lighten his duties, or alleviate his anxieties, and to extend the benefits of his ministrations. Let all be ready to take their part in the work, for all are members, and no member can be even inactive without injury to the body. Not to be for Christ is to be against Him. Pride, indifference, and slothfulness are often concealed behind the mask of a professed humility.

Sixthly,—I do not feel that I have any need to address you specially in regard to a provision for the temporal wants of your minister. I would only say, let it be liberal, such as to place him above anxiety about money matters, and enable him suitably to occupy the position in society which, as your minister, he ought to hold, to meet the various calls for hospitality and charity which will be made upon him, and especially to enable him to keep his library up to the standard of the intelligence of his people, and the requirements of the age.

In conclusion, my friends, cherish a free, confiding intercourse with your pastor in regard to the interests of your immortal souls and of the cause of religion among you. Lay open your hearts to him, that, as a faithful physician, he may know the plague of your hearts, and suggest the remedy. To know the soul's troubles is half the cure, for there is a balm in Gilead for every wound; and shrink not from the pain he may inflict, in seeking to reach the roots, that he may eradicate the disease, and not slightly heal over a rankling sore. Do not, however, mix up your pastor in your secular affairs. He is not generally the best adviser in such matters, and his taking part in them often leads to trouble, and hinders his usefulness. He has more than enough to do in his own special work.