

church deliberates for itself, and not for the denomination.

Then I ask what right has that church, to, in a few months, turn that man upon the denomination and under what obligation are we to accept him as a regular minister? Many of our churches appear to think they ordain men for the denomination which is inconsistent with their idea of church independence. The same independence claimed by a church in ordaining a Pastor, granted to the denomination as a body, releases it from relation to that man thus called, and obligation to accept the judgement of that independent church. Also the courtesy which obligates the denomination to recognize the deliberations of a church obligates that church to *counsel* the denomination in such deliberations.

Let, we say, the circumstances and needs of a church with the man of their choice for Pastor be presented before the intelligence of our denomination. Let the Brethren *consult* not the momentary feelings of church or candidate, but upon what will ultimately benefit the cause of God and be for his glory.

And it appears to me that the church refusing to be thus counselled, abuses its independence and fails to exhibit the spirit of Christ. "In the multitude of counsellors there is safety." Such sacred relations should not be entered, when the church is being borne along on the flood-tide of excitement, but with calm deliberation and in the fear of God. Let the church consider not merely the present feeling, but their future condition and necessity. They should know that the man of their choice has gifts adapted to their *particular* needs. Let them also fully know the wants of the man thus qualified and called of God. The Pastor feels his call is for life and let the church feel that upon that basis he becomes their permanent guide and spiritual teacher: that to them he is united by solemn ties.

"And we beseech you Brethren to know them which labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you; and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake." 1. Thes. 5: 12-13. "But watch thou in all things endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry." 2. Tim. 4: 5.