

organization of their statistical committees. This statement is singularly verified in the successful development of the Methodist Church. What careful attention they give to statistical information, and what an engine for good, they make it. Of course, there are many agencies at work, which account for the remarkable progress of the Methodist Body, but of them all, it may be questioned, if any one has more to do with their development than the statistical intelligence received, recorded, and acted on, from every congregation. The Synod have very wisely entered on a new phase of effort in demanding from every minister correct statistics in reference to himself, and congregation.

In the printed minutes we notice an important oversight in regard to the minister himself. An item, that ought not to be overlooked, is the number of pastoral visits the minister pays to his people. In some churches, the minimum number of daily and weekly visits is definitely fixed. There is more of this than meets the view at the first blush of the matter. A servant of God, who conscientiously visits his people on settled plan has an immense advantage over another, who does similar work, by fits and starts, and at distant intervals. The good accomplished is incredible by systematic visitation—so many a day, so many a week, is after all the true plan. Let this item be added to the list of printed requirements, and the list is nearly complete. No li the advantage is to accrue to the church from the presentation and discussion of the statistical returns. It not unfrequently happens that sharp corners arise between members of the congregation, and the minister, just from the want of a knowledge of each others doings. Where matters affecting the interests of the congregation are steadily under view, blunders are remedied, careless and indifferent ones are spurred up to better deeds, grumblers are reconciled, when burdens are lightened by mutual help and counsel, and last, not least, the mirror of comparison is held up for mutual admiration and encouragement. To again notice a custom of the Methodist church productive of immense benefit, which is often altogether overlooked and unheeded

by our Presbyterian church and people, is one calling for immediate adoption we refer to that of printing the name of every contributor to their funds. It is a commendable custom, tho' apparently opposed to the Scripture doctrine, that one is not to let his left hand know what the right hand doeth. We are aware of the benefits accruing to the Methodist church from such publication. Every penny should be acknowledged. It is a mistake to omit mention of the smallest contribution. It may really be the largest. The master's commendation must not be overlooked. "She hath given more than they all." Let the church at large know what the individual congregations are doing, what personal efforts and sacrifices are being made, and instinctively the good and likewise arises in every rightly constituted and well informed mind. Imitation has much to do with church effort. In fact, with spiritual development in the life and condition of the individual believer. In the past, the efforts of our Church have been largely congregational. Everybody has done that which was pleasing in their own eyes. Let us endeavour to please one and therunto edification. We augur that the statistics of the individual congregations, when printed, will impart a new life to those members that have the ability of adding to the spiritual and temporal development of their individual congregations, and yet are doing so little to further the Master's cause, crown, and covenant. The very mention of the number added to the communion roll,—the families reclaimed to well doing,—the amount of contributions to church and other objects,—the yearly increase of interest and effort,—the very mention of non-success, and failure—cannot fail but to benefit every congregation within the bounds. There is a wide field for effort here, and we rest satisfied that, if undertaken in the spirit that ought to actuate every adherent and member of our church,—with the purpose and endeavour to advance the Master's cause, and the good of souls, good must necessarily follow from this new ecclesiastical departure of our Synod.