

It seems to be hard for, "honest poverty" to come to such an end, and that by "man's inhumanity," which, in the language of Scotland's bard, "makes countless thousands mourn!"

### The Secularization of the Christian Ministry.

The Church of Christ has ever stood forth as a living vital element in the history of the world; under her banners have been enrolled an army of the greatest and best of men. The Christian Ministry has for its prototype, *him* who is King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and a noble ancestry of prophets and apostles—a divine law for its guide, and the Holy Spirit for its sanctifier. Consequently, nothing secular should mar its beauty and spiritual character; the Church of Christ should stand far above the grovelling and selfish elements of the world.

Go forth, teaching and preaching, baptising, &c., in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, was the commission given by Christ to his followers in the Christian Ministry.

In looking at the so-called Christian Ministry of the present day, it is really a difficult task to draw the line of distinction between it and the various professions and callings of life. Ministers seldom locate themselves where the greatest amount of religious destitution exists;—no but they generally place themselves where the most money can be obtained. And if more money can be made by teaching secular schools and academies, editing works on agriculture, phrenology, or by conducting partizan newspapers, or even by farming or merchandizing, they will give preaching the go-by.

It is no uncommon thing in these times to see a Rev. Mr. or Rev. Doctor descend from the high platform taken at his ordination, to that of a teacher of Algebra, Navigation, &c., or to the editorship of political partizan papers. Newspapers, edited by clergymen are esteemed by a large portion of the religious denomination from which they hail as but little inferior, if any, to the Bible; indeed they are, in many families both the Sabbath and week day companions. If such papers were really devoted to the advancement of Christianity, the objection would not be so great.

When we find clergymen accumulating thousands of pounds, and still crying "give, give," for the support and extension of Christianity, and give nothing themselves out of their great abundance, we ask where is apostolical succession? It is said that 900,000,000 of the human family are living outside of the pale of even nominal christianity; still many of the ministers of the gospel store up wealth, descend from the pulpit to that of a schoolmaster, not for the purpose of bringing people to Christ, but for the purpose of bringing more pocket money. Knowing these things as the public does, is it any wonder that many ask,—'is there any reality in christianity? or is it a mere myth?' or is it a reality, which those ministers who have so