

aging the efforts of women and children and virtually excluding them from the Church. No, by all means let them bring the products of their skill and industry and sell them at right prices and in right places for the advancement of Christ's kingdom. Nay more. Let the work of women be properly organized, and let those of them who are qualified for the office regain their ancient and rightful position as Deaconesses that their invaluable services may become available in many directions. And so of children and young men. I hold that the Church of God is bound to make room for them all, and not to oblige, or allow, if possible, any of them to go outside of her organization and discipline in seeking scope for the exercise of their religious energies. When this principle is not acted upon, the grossest and most scandalous abuses sometimes occur, such as having persons who have been justly excommunicated from the Church and never restored to her fellowship put themselves forward as leaders of public devotion to the unspeakable detriment of religion and the disgust of all honest men.

But with respect to the methods of securing income just named, there can be no doubt that they are often simply the means of bringing reproach, and penury, and disgrace upon the cause of God and His servants. I have spoken of the dignity of the ministerial office and have no hesitation in adding that the support of those who hold the sacred office by means of fairs and raffles is a degradation to which merchants, lawyers, and bankers would never submit. Let a raffle or bazaar be started in aid of some respectable merchants and see if they do not resent it as an insult. And why should the ambassadors of Jesus Christ be subjected to such humiliation? Sooner a thousand times let them resort to the apostolic method of working with their own hands to secure their daily bread.