

prejudices of the people. He is not their servant, but what Christ intended all His ministering servants to be, the ruler and guide. This system also tends to secure quietness and peace in the congregation. If the people are dissatisfied or have a real grievance, they require only to execute a little patience, and relief is in sight. By the same system the minister is also relieved from worry and anxiety when trouble arises around him. If uncomfortable and the victim of persecution, it can only last for a limited time, when the door will open and he can come out of the lion's den, or the fiery furnace, which ever it may be, uninjured in his standing and character, without a rent on his robe or smell of the fire on his garments. It is very different in the Presbyterian Church. When the congregation have, or imagine they have, a grievance there is no relief provided for them. They must act for themselves, and the only way to do is to pelt at the minister, with still heavier missiles, until he is compelled to give way, and to tender his resignation, for which he must give his reasons, and these will be answered to his face, or more effectively behind his back. The congregation which compelled their minister to take this painful step, will not be slow to say as much as their own interest will permit in safety. The result is, and without exception, so far as known to me, that the pastor who resigns his charge without a previous call to another, is injured in his standing in the Church, and finds it difficult to get another congregation. I have a case in view, not many years back, when one of our ministers, a man of superior attainments, of unblemished character, and in the prime of his strength thus resigned, and although desirous to secure a settled charge did not succeed. Congregations knew his ability and his unspotted reputation, but in preference would call an utter stranger. The present state of unrest and change on the part of pastor and people has come rather suddenly upon us, and has already in a great measure destroyed the old loving and tender