

reduce him to the necessity of hunting up each moiety from every individual through an extent of country some twenty or thirty miles: but let there be chosen from among yourselves a number of fit persons that will take the responsibility upon themselves, to whom the minister may make application when he is needy; and let the subscribers be bound to them. The minister's salary is called wages, hire, &c. in the word of the blessed God. And if he be a true minister of Jesus Christ he earns his wages as hard as any labourer whatever; and it is ordained of God that they that preach the gospel should live by the gospel. Ye profess to be Bible Christians, and we think ye are; but perhaps all things may not be right among you: we fear some things may be wrong at any rate.

Shall the doctor, the lawyer, the merchant, the various mechanics, the day-labourer, &c. all be paid, and the minister of the sanctuary not? or shall they all be paid first, and with the best commodities; and the minister, though in need more than any, or as much as any of them, be put off till the last, while he must be first and incessant in his painful ministerial labours! and sometimes lose what is his just due to the wounding of his pious soul, and material injury of his affectionate family as dear to him as the blood of his veins?

Dear Brethren, our hearts are pained while we thus address you; our eyes overflow with tears; we know we are addressing our Brethren: bone of our bone, and flesh of our flesh. We esteem you the purchase of the blood of the Son of God. We are confident that our communications will excite mingled emotions in your souls: you are of our sentiments generally: you know what we say is right; but the difficulty is great, and you hardly know how to remedy it: we know it is hard to be remedied; but it can be remedied, at least in measure. Let us consider we are stewards for God, and under an awful responsibility how we act in our stewardship.

Very loving Brethren, we would promise a few thoughts that might help you, and greatly help and ease the minds of your dear suffering, and hitherto much afflicted, ministers.