

ministry, among Methodists, are required to express their sincere and full belief of the doctrines of Methodism, as contained in these Sermons. Our other quotations were from the form of baptism drawn up by Wesley and still in use; and from a pamphlet by him, wherein he expressed his approval of the portion of the Article of the Church of England on original sin, which states that "this corruption in every one born into this world deserves God's wrath and damnation." He held that doctrine to the last, as we find from a letter written in extreme age, and ascribes it to Methodists in general (Wesley's Works, vol. vii, page 232.) We are compelled to stop; and we leave it to our readers to judge whether Wesley and Methodists are not far more justly liable to the charge of holding infant damnation than Calvinists are.

MINISTERIAL SUPPORT—PRACTICAL MEASURES FOR RAISING IT.

The stipends of ministers are confessedly inadequate for their proper support. In country districts especially, the sum promised is by far too scanty, even if promptly paid. But the annual returns make it evident that, while the standard of support is utterly inadequate, the stipends are rendered still more insufficient in consequence of the way in which they are too often paid. There are no doubt noble exceptions, congregations in some instances paying the stipend punctually and promptly in advance. But in many cases, things are otherwise, and arrears are allowed to accumulate to the serious inconvenience and loss of the minister, and to the prejudice of the cause of God.

It is of the utmost importance, not merely with a view to the comfort of the minister, but with a view to the interests of religion, that some remedy should be applied to an evil of such magnitude. If this is not done, it must issue, as it often does, in unpleasant feelings, or even in the dissolution of the pastoral tie. How shall a remedy be applied? We believe much may be done by the judicious oversight of Presbyteries, and by the true state of things being brought to light, before a crisis comes. Hence we rejoice to observe that in some presbyteries attention is being directed to the matter and regular financial statements required from each congregation. It is often the case that the source of the difficulty is not actual inability on the part of the congregation, nor actual unwillingness, but simply want of system, and want of a proper training of the people on the part of the office-bearers. To remedy this, practical measures must be adopted. It may be well to try to stir up the feelings of the people, and to enlighten their minds in regard to their duty. It may be well to circulate such addresses as that lately delivered by Dr. Guthrie before the General Assembly of the Free Church. But after all this is done, there must be careful and judicious dealing on the part of the Presbyteries, and some practical measures for raising the standard of liberality and improving the financial condition of congregations. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland has a committee on the subject of ministerial support. One of the practical measures recommended by the Committee is the appointment of deputations by Presbyteries to visit the congregations and preach on the subject of Ministerial support. For the guidance of deputations, the Committee have issued certain suggestions, which we subjoin, believing that they might be useful if carried out in many quarters of our own Church.