

receive her blessings; and honor unceasing is rendered to her Divine Lord. In this good name of the church there is a power which contains blessings for the world far greater than men ever knew.

Now it may be said emphatically to every one of her members, This good name of the church is a sacred trust committed to your keeping. Be sensitive to it; be watchful that no stain shall rest upon it; be zealous to defend it whenever unjustly assailed. To this end do not tell the world of the sins of the church of which you may have knowledge; do no magnify the failings of her members; do not disparage your own church in comparison with others; do not take up an evil report against her; do not censure your church, her officers or her members, but rather defend her when right, and use every possible effort to have what you think is wrong amended.

We should not unnecessarily tell the outside world the troubles of our church. They are our family troubles; why expose them? The world will not understand all their extenuating circumstances; it will only gloat over the defects of those who profess to be Christians. On the contrary, be it ours to live down in quietness the reproaches for which we may know there is too much foundation, and which, rather than recklessly repeat, we should personally mourn over in shame before God. Be it ours to do our part toward making the Church worthy of the good name against which the shafts of enemies will be hurled in vain. Be it the study of every one of her members to do his part toward making the Church so truly excellent that with just pride in her he can take up the glowing language of the Divine song: "Walk about Zion, and go round about her; tell the towers thereof, mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces, that ye may tell it to the generation following."

## DUTY VII.

TO STAND BY THE PASTOR OF THE CHURCH.

This duty might well have a manual devoted to itself alone. Only the more prominent points of it can here be