

fy by it, that it is your deliberate resolution and promise, not merely to throw no obstacles and discouragements in their paths as ministers of Christ, but to afford them every facility and countenance within your reach, in the performance of the duties of their office? Punctual attendance on their public institutions, while it is your duty, and for your advantage, cannot fail to exercise a sustaining influence on their minds. It will increase their assiduity in study, that their pulpit exhibitions may be instructive, and prove themselves worthy of your reception and approbation. Even although public ministrations should be of a feeble cast, still, provided the Pastor be diligent, and his doctrines according to the scriptures, they are entitled to your profound respect. God "puts the treasure into earthen vessels"—often employs and renders successful the feeblest of instruments, that the "excellency of the power" may be demonstrated to emanate from himself. No trivial excuse, therefore, ought to detain any from the house of God. When considerations operate as causes of absence, which, in cases of secular business, amusement, or pleasure, would be instantly dismissed, religion is either very feeble in its power, or has no existence. While exemplary in this great duty yourselves, teach the same to your children. Bring them to the sanctuary of God; let them be accustomed in early life to venerate its services, and to feel powerfully the obligations of the Sabbath. Give your influence, according to your opportunities, to meetings for prayer. When judiciously conducted, they will be found to subserve, in no small degree, the interests of vital godliness. View not any such associations with coldness, or, it may be, with more blameable feelings, from an idea that they are indifferently managed. If conducted inefficiently, the more do they require your assistance. Take an interest in all that belongs to the secular and spiritual prosperity of the congregation with which you are connected. While this will form an index of your be-