

give an account of our stewardship. The great day of reckoning is coming on apace. When I reflect that I have already passed more than thirty-six years in the ministry—five of which have been devoted to you—I feel that my days of work cannot be many. And, as each year closes upon me, I am the more anxious to devote the remainder with greater fidelity to the work of the Lord among you—taking more earnest heed to the ministry I have received, that I fulfil it,* teaching every one and warning every one† that through the riches of Divine grace I may present each one of you perfect in Christ Jesus, when we meet face to face before Him, in the world of spirits.

O that, in our respective relations, we may co-operate for this glorious consummation, giving all diligence to make our calling and election sure.‡ Our advantages and our privileges are great, and great and just will be our condemnation if we fail to use them aright. I have often reminded you, dear brethren, of the peculiar advantages you enjoy in the Chapel in which we worship, and which, like the Gospel preached in it, is free—"without money and without price."§ Halifax had stood one hundred and six years before such a place was provided, where the rich and the poor might meet together on equal terms before the Lord, the maker of us all,||—a place, where "the man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel," and the poor man or woman in vile (or coarse) raiment, are side by side,—and no official dares to say to the former, "sit thou here in a good place," while the latter is told to "stand there under the other's footstool."¶ You are indebted to our Bishop, as is well known, for the establishment of this chapel, on the true Scriptural plan of being free to all.

* Col. iv. 17. † Col. i. 28. ‡ 2 Peter i. 10. § Isaiah lv. 1. || Prov. xxii. 2.
¶ James ii. 2.