

them, and ask their forgiveness. James v. 16—"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another that ye may be healed."

10. Watch against shyness of each other, and put the best construction on any action which has the appearance of opposition or resentment; recollecting that it is a grand artifice of Satan to promote disturbance and animosity among members of churches. 2 Cor. ii. 11—"Let Satan should get an advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices."

11. Remember your own liability to mistake, and hence, so far as truth and conscience will allow, always acquiesce in the decisions of the church, since peace cannot long be maintained, in any society, where matters are decided by numbers, unless the minority peaceably submit to the majority. 1 Peter v. 5—"Likewise ye younger, submit yourselves to the elder, yea, all of you, be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility."

12. Diligently consult the precepts of scripture, and look at the example of the Saviour. In all difficult cases, ask yourselves "How would the Lord Jesus act under such circumstances?" 1 Peter ii. 21—"Christ suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed (himself) to him that judgeth righteously," &c.

13. If a fellow member has offended you, consider how glorious, how godlike it is, to forgive, and how unlike a Christian to revenge. Col. iii. 13—"Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another; if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye." Eph. iv. 31-32—"Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: and be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ's sake, hath forgiven you."

14. Consider how many ways christian usefulness is promoted when love prevails among believers, and what sad effects follow when they act alone, and in a contrary spirit. Eccl. iv. 12—"And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not easily broken."

15. Recollect how deeply your elders are concerned in your peace and prosperity, and how cutting it is to the hearts of faithful ministers to hear of strifes and divisions among the followers of the Savior. When there were divisions in the Church at Corinth, hear the Apostle Paul: 2 Cor. ii. 3—"I wrote this same unto you, lest when I came, I should have sorrow from them of whom I ought to rejoice; having confidence in you all, that my joy is the joy of you all: for out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you with many tears; not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you." Heb. xiii. 17—"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief."