

While Christianity, as a regenerating element, claims admission into the Government of every State, and will battle its way, not "in garments rolled in blood," but with its silent purifying influences, until "the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of Christ;" at the same time we cannot sufficiently admire the wisdom displayed by the framers of our civil constitution, that along with the appointment of the Sabbath as a day of rest, they made due provision for having the truths of the gospel borne home to the hearts and consciences of every man. We cannot be too thankful for the blessed privilege of having the gospel faithfully and statedly preached to us. There is something in this appointment truly national—something divinely beneficent. Let us overlook for the present, the meaner considerations of a "Church and State" paction for mutual civil benefit. Let us look at it in the holier aspect of a grand scheme for the spiritual enlightenment and moral improvement of the nation. What scheme presents itself as more efficient for that purpose, than that a body of men, vigorously tested, by a high standard of religious, moral, and intellectual qualifications, should be set apart to preach the gospel to the high and the low; to the rich and the poor; without money and without price. That while they derived their commission from a higher source than the highest earthly authority, and united as one body by their common faith; their common sympathies and common objects of pursuit; yet, to give full effect to their labours of love, by the law of the land, each should have assigned to him a distinct field for his ministrations, and it should be his duty to go into each and all within the assigned limits, and say unto them, "I am sent with a free gospel unto you; I ask not your silver nor your gold, I only ask you freely to receive it. If you desire to partake of its ordinances according to the simple, scriptural forms prescribed by the Church, and are morally fit to receive them, I am commissioned to dispense them to you. I invite you, with all your brethren in the parish, who hold the same faith, to come, Sabbath after Sabbath, as one family in Christ, to the House of God, there to 'worship Him in the beauty of holiness; there to hear what great things Christ has done for you; there to offer up your prayers, and through the renewing influences of the Holy Spirit to be built up a spiritual temple unto God.' Moreover, I am sent to watch over your spiritual interests; to rebuke you for your sins; to counsel and encourage you