

attainments in science; but above all he was a lover of the souls of men; and a devout disciple of Jesus Christ. With him everything was subservient to the grand end of bringing sinners to the Saviour.

In 1832, Dr. Chalmers was Moderator of the General Assembly. Previous to that year the Moderator gave a public breakfast, and the Royal Commissioner a public dinner on the Lord's Day. Dr. Chalmers used his influence to put a stop to both these entertainments, and they have never been revived. This is but an instance of the way in which he used his power and influence in every station,—as a pastor, as a professor, as an author, as a man of science, as a church leader,—for the honour of his Master and the good of souls.

COMFORT WITHIN THE SANCTUARY.

We must assure our readers at once, that we do not in the remarks which follow, refer to comfort in its highest and best sense, as the effect of the Divine Presence imparted to and experienced by the devout worshipper in the Sanctuary. We refer to a subject quite secondary, yet in its own place not unimportant, the physical comfort of the worshipper, while waiting upon God in the public ordinances of his grace, as this is or may be affected, by attention to, or neglect of, judicious internal arrangements.

We have often felt both astonished and grieved at the indifference shown by Christian congregations, or their deputies, whether called managers, trustees or deacons, to the comfort of the people, not to speak of the minister, and we have more than once been requested by a few remarks, to try to remove the apathy which leaves things just as they are, instead of striving to have our Churches as comfortable as our parlours.

One evil complained of recurs in December of every year. On the first hard frost the sexton is always found unprepared. Either the stove was not up, or in order, or the fire was put on so late that the people narrowly escaped being frozen, and none could attend without distraction to the excellent discourse; the delivery of which

was disturbed on that day by various movements, indicative of the people's discomfort and dissatisfaction. And so to make amends, on the next Lords Day, which happens to be mild as May, the fire is kindled early and made hot as Nebuchadnezzar's furnace, so that minister and people are nearly stewed and return homeward in a par-boiled state.

A still stronger complaint arises from persons who have suffered from cold on successive Sabbaths, because inferior fuel was laid in by some great economist, because, forsooth, it could be procured at the lowest rate. On the same day he purchased a quantity of the best for his own family, but any trash was thought to be good enough for the church; and the result was that delicate persons were kept away for weeks and months in succession. The best, not the worst, should have been provided.

Complaint the third refers specially to smoke. We have heard of persons returning from the place of worship with eyes streaming with tears, not, however, with tears of contrition, but the tears which the smoke of burning or half ignited birch polts, or wet beech, brings from the eyes, and which Solomon says is "as a sluggard to them that send him."

And why has one congregation swollen countenances from wood smoke, and another sooted faces, while some are rendered asthmatic by the sulphurous fumes of unconsumed coal? Because the persons in charge do not shew the same foresight and care in providing that the church shall be comfortable, which they evince in securing comfort in their own houses. The stove or furnace was not attended to in summer.—Winter found them unprepared.

Complaint fourth is widely extended, and we can testify that it is, in many cases, well founded; and the evil here to be noted is want of ventilation,—want of pure air,—want of an adequate supply of oxygen. On a really hot day in summer we do not expect to be very cool, but we should at least have a supply of pure air in church as well as at home. But many of our churches are so constructed that the windows cannot be lowered. When a supply of fresh air is required