

applying every variety of talent successively to every field of labour, so that every resource will be developed. The success of those denominations who have adopted compulsory itinerancy, has clearly established their wisdom. Take for instance the M. E. Church in the United States, and where is her superior, or even her equal, in the rapidity of her increase. When the American Wesleyans broke off from that church, one of their main objections to her polity was, that her appointments were made without reference to the like or dislike of the preachers, and when made, the preacher's acquiescence was compulsory. Accordingly they modified their itinerancy, so as to allow the people to interfere with the appointments, and finally declared that they did not consider their appointments compulsory. And what has been the result? This may be easily seen by a comparison of their prosperity with that of the parent stock. Although the secession carried off many prominent ministers and a large membership, and had the still farther advantage of having no complicity with *slavery*, and of being strong advocates of lay delegation, practically embodying it, they have made but small progress according to the time they have been incorporated, and the advantages they have enjoyed. We believe this failure of the American Wesleyans is a conclusive evidence of the superiority of a compulsory itinerancy over that of an itinerancy of convenience. Neither do we believe it advisable to allow of any correspondence between preachers and circuits for the purpose of arranging the appointments of such preachers to such circuits. This is a direct interference with the plan of a general itinerancy, and tends to congregationalism; for unless the appointments are made, as a general thing, without any reference to the peculiar wishes of either people or preachers, our system becomes itinerant in name, but not in fact. For if the several circuits, either by their delegates or otherwise, are allowed to make arrangements for the appointment of its own preachers, a certain class of circuits will always have just such a class of preachers, while