

ment, absence from the House of God is by no means so rare as it might be and ought to be. I counsel you, brethren and friends, to "remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," and to love the habitation of God's House, and the place where His honour dwelleth. Be persuaded, also, to meet frequently with your brethren at the hour of prayer on Wednesdays, joining your supplications with theirs, that our Heavenly Father would send down upon us that power of the Holy Ghost without which there can be no true congregational life,—neither the conversion of sinners from the error of their way, nor the quickening of such among us as are found cleaving unto the dust. No Church ever prospered, the members of which grew careless about the means of grace, making them subordinate to personal ease, or to even the acknowledged claims of social life.

I very much regret that the visitation of the congregation, which I commenced in the autumn, should have been suddenly interrupted by my late serious illness. I regret this the more because my recovery has been so gradual and indeed partial. My physician warns me that, in my present state of health, strict care must be observed, especially in the matter of exposure to the cold. I cannot hope therefore, to be able, during the winter months, to pay any visits excepting in cases of severe illness. After the close of the College session, our excellent friend and missionary, Mr. Herridge, will be in a position to do in this matter, what it would be a pleasure for him now to do, were it in his power. At present, however, his studies, and his pulpit preparations more than sufficiently tax his strength. I cannot doubt that my friends in the Congregation will regard with kind consideration this interruption to congregational visiting which the illness of their pastor will necessarily occasion during the remaining months of winter.

The young people of the Congregation, I entreat to be loyal to their Church and its ordinances; above all to the service and work, in the Congregation, of their Lord and Master. To each young person would I say, in all earnestness, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth!" Yield thy heart to thy Redeemer who claims, and rightly claims, thy love and labour. What is the world, what is wealth, what is either pleasure or fashion, compared with a life of Christian purity and usefulness? I urge upon every one of you this ancient counsel and command of an inspired old age, "Know thou the God of thy father, and serve Him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: if thou seek Him He will be found of thee, but if thou forsake Him, He will cast thee off for ever."

Brethren, "the time is short!" be watchful, be diligent, be fruitful in labours for Christ, be earnest in prayer, be firm in your attachment to the ordinances of the Christian Sabbath, be faithful to the cultivation of religion in the family, whether by worship or by Bible instruction, omit no known duty, practise no known sin. "Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power both now and ever. Amen."

Believe me to be,

Your faithful friend and pastor,

JOHN JENKINS.