

ministers. But this, it is said, is not practicable in all cases; and shall the church lose the labors of these men, which appear to be signally blessed, merely because they are not officially invested? We answer, most certainly. It is better to lose the labors of these men in the instance supposed, and labors of thousands besides, if their number should happen to be so great, than to go in opposition to the express declarations of heaven. *No man taketh this honor unto himself but he that is called of God as was Aaron*;—and as long as this passage remains an unsuspected portion of Divine Inspiration, we should conceive ourselves bound to maintain that lay-preaching is unlawful, even should an angel from heaven come down to us and declare the reverse.

“Of laymen, who think they may preach, we ask for information—*who hath required this at your hand?* It is our unwavering conviction—and we are conscientious in the expression of it—that no real blessing can eventually result from unauthorized and unscriptural practices. Present appearances of good are often extremely deceptive, and measures, which at one time may seem to be powerful in advancing the cause of truth, in the end may be productive of consequences the most disastrous.

PRAYER

Is that singular duty in which every grace is exercised, every sin opposed, every blessing obtained, the whole soul revived, strengthened, and invigorated for the Christian race. Just in proportion to your prayers, so is your holiness, so is your usefulness. The praying Christian is the strong, the thriving Christian, *strong in the Lord and in the power of his might*. As the naturally weak ivy, which, if it had no support, would only grovel on the earth, by adhering to some neighbouring tree, or building, and entwining itself about it, thus grows and flourishes, and rises higher and higher; and the more the winds blow and the tempests beat against it, the closer it adheres, and the nearer it clings, and the faster its fibres embrace that which supports it, and it remains uninjured: just so the Christian, naturally weak, by prayer connects himself with the Almighty; and the more dangers and difficulties beset him, the more closely they unite him to his God; he reaches towards, and leans upon, and clings to him, and is strengthened with divine strength. High is the privilege of prayer, which turns our very wants to our advantage, leading us by them into a constant intercourse with God, and keeping us in a spiritual and heavenly state of mind.—*Church Register*.

SUMMARY OF ECCLESIASTICAL AND RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE

We have received the first Report of the Niagara District Committee in Correspondence with the Quebec Diocesan Committee of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

We regret that we have room only for the following extract:—

“The Books that have been sent, were charged at the *full cost* prices, in consequence of a new regulation of the Parent Society. It had been a regulation for the formation of District Committees that *one third* of all contributions should be remitted to the Parent Society, to defray the expense of binding, &c. which was consequently deducted from the prices of the books: but as the Society have remitted this *third*, and allowed the District Committees to appro-