

is supposed to be able, from looking over his congregation on Sunday, to believe that Mr. A. will be sick on Monday, Mr. B. will be ill on Tuesday, Mr. C. will sprain his ankle on Wednesday, Mr. D.'s child will have the measles on Thursday, and so on through the week. The physician, whose business it is especially to look after sick folks never goes till he is sent for, even if he knows there is sickness; but the minister is expected to come without being sent for, and to be able to tell that there is sickness without any information.

This subject leads us to the general observation, that there seems to us to be something wrong in our modern Church life, or at least that there is some defect that ought to be remedied. So many people join the Church who have to be nursed and dandled all their lives to keep them in the Church, whereas a member of a Church ought not to hang on its skirts as the stragglers of an army, but ought to be incorporated into its companies and regiments, in order to give efficiency to the sacramental host.

Perhaps each Church needs three clergymen—a pastor, an evangelist, and a teacher; one to take care of those who are already enrolled in the Church, to keep them toned up and drilled; another to go out, leading forth as many of the Church as he can, to bring in those who are outside, beating up recruits and training them for the service; and a third to preach to those inside and outside the Church, giving his whole time to that one work. As it is now, these three functions are expected to be discharged by one

man. Whoever this man is, and however large his capabilities of discharging duties in these three departments, it is quite certain that he will excel in none. A man who devotes himself to personal care of hundreds of members of a Church will have little time to go out among men of the world and endeavor to bring them into the Church of God. He who devotes his whole week to this latter employment can have little time to prepare for the pulpit; and he who does, or undertakes to do, all three, cannot hope to do any of them quite as well. Hence the disappointment. It is as if a man undertook to practice medicine and law, and edit a daily paper. That is just what is often expected of pastors in the large Churches of our cities.—*Exchange.*

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### THE TEST.

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THE way in which a man bears temptation is what decides his character; yet how secret is the system of temptation! Who knows what is going on? What the real ordeal has been? •What its issue was? So with respect to the trial of griefs and sorrows, the world is again a system of secrecy. There is something particularly penetrating, and which strikes home, in those disappointments which are special not extraordinary, and make no show.—What comes naturally, and as part of our situation, has a probing force grander strokes have not; there is a solemnity and stateliness in these, but the blow which is nearest to common life gets the stronger hold. Is there any particular event which seems to have,