

intermeddleth not. It is not a *nation*, for it selects individual persons from among each of the nations, and will ultimately include all : yet it is as clearly defined, though more extensive. It is not a *family*, and yet its bonds are equally tender, only they are incomparably more expansive." The Church is the repository of the truth,—its "pillar and ground." The objects in which it is interested, and the labours in which it engages, are identical with those which are the most dear to every christian. Its triumphs and destinies are those in which every christian hopes and expects to participate. For its high origin and exalted character ; for its dearness to God and its relation to Christ ; for the position it occupies, the privileges and benefits it confers, and the community of its interests and destinies with those of every child of God, the church should be loved by its individual members, more intensely than any other local organization or any earthly object.

2nd. To give constant attendance upon the services of the church. On gaining converts to christianity and gathering them into societies, the apostles taught them to meet stately in Christ's name, to celebrate his praise, to receive and impart instruction, and to observe his ordinances, and enjoined upon them "not to *forsake* the assembling of themselves together." And in all ages of the christian church, the spiritual improvement of individual christians, and the promotion of the interests of Christ's Kingdom, have been secured by the use of the means of grace, in general, stated assembly. What is the duty of the whole, in this connection, is the duty of the individual members.

3rd. To engage in earnest, devoted efforts, and sacrifices of self, to promote the objects of the church. These objects, legitimately, are the conversion and sanctification of the world, and should be sought by all scriptural and suitable means. Touched with the transforming rod of saving love, the soul recognizes the authority of its Lord, and rises toward a sympathy with his benevolent affections. He loves the souls of