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THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN GENERAL.

See Note 1.

An inhabitant of this or any other country where there are persons "professing and calling themselves Christians" will find that such persons are in the habit of "assembling and meeting together."

This is a distinguishing, fundamental and universal practice of all who "call Jesus Lord," in all places, and has been so, in all times.

If the city, town or neighbourhood is small, all may meet in one place, at certain set times, and observe certain forms and modes in the conduct of the assembly.

If enquiry is pursued, it will be found that this assembly of persons is invariably connected with, affiliated to, and forms part of, some general organization.

But if the community is larger, there may be two or more of such assemblies, connected with two or more organizations.

In all these Christian assemblies, with a few exceptions, wherever held, and by whatever name called, four general characteristics will be observed, viz :

Prayer, Praise, Instruction ; and also the observance of certain Rites, Ceremonies, or Ordinances, commonly, but not universally, called Sacraments.