

accomplished by them. The veneration we owe to the Deity imposes it upon us as of prime obligation that we should believe all his measures to be dictated by the highest wisdom, how ver inexplicable they may be to us. In the present case, there is scarcely room to invoke this principle? for the existing arrangement is shrouded in no such mystery. To a few minds peculiarly constituted or trained in a certain way, positive religious ordinances may seem to be a superfluity, having no proper adaptation to promote the spiritual growth and comfort of the soul. It is equally certain that the great mass of the race, in so far as they have been brought under the sway of Christianity, have found these ordinances eminently suited to their moral necessities, and *invaluable* as "means of grace." The allegation, then, that they are "not needful," is open to two grave objections: 1. It assumes that God is less competent than man to pronounce on what may be the best method of training a sinful race for heaven; and 2. It conflicts with the common experience of mankind.

PASTORAL SUPPORT.

Give your pastor a *liberal* support. For this you have made provision in your call should any circumstances arise in the future that may render it desirable that this salary should be increased, and you should become convinced that it ought to be done, let it be done, and that without the asking of your pastor.

We heard a few days ago an interesting incident in relation to a pastor recently settled in one of our cities. A gentleman called at his study who proved to be a prominent man in his congregation, and President of the Board of Trustees. He asked for the call. On looking over it he remarked that with the pastor's consent he would make an alteration. He then took his pen and erased *twenty-five hundred and wrote three thousand*, remarking that the Trustees had concluded, on consultation, to make this alteration, as they had undervalued his services.

This was a grateful change to a pastor with an interesting family around him. It was good news, and all the better because it came without any suggestion of his own. He felt that he need be less anxious about the increasing wants of his family, and that he had a congregation that would always see that his wants were supplied.

On principles of mere political economy, a congregation are the gainers by being liberal to their pastor. To feel well and think well, to read well and write well, (even to eat well and sleep well,) and above all, to preach well, the pastor ought to have his mind at rest on the subject of salary. He ought not to be obliged to inquire with solicitude, what shall I eat and what shall I drink, and whence shall I and my family be clothed. On all these points his mind should be entirely at rest, that he might give himself wholly to the work of the ministry—a work, the great end of which is the glory of God and the salvation of the souls of men.

In our favoured land there is no class of men in professional life who, in proportion to the amount expended in their previous training for the work, the extent of their attainments, and their general character, receive less pecuniary return than the American pastors. This is especially true of those of our own Church. They are a well furnished, well trained body of men. On this point we speak freely. It is a noble sight to behold so large and influential a body of men as the thousands of American pastors constitute, withdrawing themselves from the busy arena of secular life, where the hand of the diligent emphatically maketh rich, and casting themselves for support, nay, for the very bread which they eat, on the providence of God and the voluntary offerings of a free people.

A noble sight indeed! A free land liberally sustaining a free ministry, who, from an open Bible, preach in its purity and simplicity a free gospel—a gospel which, like a trumpet, proclaims liberty to the captive, and the opening of the prison doors to them that are bound. "If the same shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

Noble army! Boldly battling in the Master's service, and entrenched upon the ramparts of eternal truth. Majestic column! Marching over the field of conflict, following the great Captain of Salvation, bearing aloft in one hand the banner of the cross, and with the other firmly resting on the providence of God, as that providence embodies itself in the free offerings of a disenthralled people.

Rejoice with us, my brethren, in so happy a development of a principle for which the Free Church of Scotland contended when, in the might of her strength, with Chalmers at her head, she walked forth to an enlarged liberty, and burst the chains which for generations had trammelled her energies, and bound her to the Establishment.—*Presbyterian, U. S.*