

and being sure ; instead of letting go, and then vainly repenting it ?

A man who thus moves without cause, is pretty sure to keep on moving, like the Wandering Jew. Whereas, a determination to persevere, to wait till the clouds go by, to "do some work in this place in the Lord's name," to hear much and say little, will generally end in the "sky getting clearer," and the pastor remaining—to do better work than ever !

Churches get into parties. That is when they are outwardly prosperous, and have nothing to do ! For it stands to reason, that if a man is expected to do all the work of so complex a thing as a *church*, he will miserably fail ; and then the people who have "hired" and expected him to do all that, will be displeased and dissatisfied ! And being in a bad humor, they disagree among themselves ; the only point of agreement being that there's something wrong with the pastor ! Now the cure for that is—not to get into parties ! But party-making will never be desisted from except there is plenty of work going on ! So the real remedy is to "get to work !" When all the members are hard at work, gathering in souls, and building up one another in the faith—the minister helping and directing, and the members working and being directed—there is no fear of a "short pastorate."

Then, at the end of ten, twelve or fifteen years ; when the generation has grown up whom the pastor found as children, and the generation mostly passed away who were fathers and mothers in Israel when he came—it is sometimes best for the pastor to make a remove. If he is a good man, a strong man—and made better and stronger by the people he has so long been among—some other church perhaps deserves his help ; and the old church can take a new man, and help him into strength and wisdom, as they did the other.

There can be no fast and rigid rule ; but as it is, the pastorates are too short, and both ministers and churches suffer from it.

MAKING A NEW HOME.

There is a great deal of removing going on among our people ; not one-fifth probably living in the township or county where they were born—

and a little consideration on the subject of moving has therefore its place.

There are good neighbors and bad neighbors ; and they are not all in "the third person," as the grammarians would say : sometimes in the "first." A good test is to ask a new comer, "What kind of neighbors he had where he came from ?" If he is a good neighbor himself, he will have a favorable report of his former neighborhood ; if not—not. And he does not always think how the answer "bewrays him."

Now we assume that all our readers have been, and wish to be, good and Christian neighbors. Be sure and take that character with you ! We don't mean only the reputation of it—though that is good—but the thing itself. Go to church the first Sunday. Enquire about Sunday school. Put down your foot, firmly yet pleasantly, against all social "visiting" on the Lord's Day. Take your church letter with you ; and make use of it towards new church membership at once.

Make up your mind that you are going to have *a little more influence* in your new neighborhood than you had in your last. If that is not the way with a man, there is something wrong with the man ! A prophet is always more honored elsewhere than in "his own country."

One good, honest Christian family, coming on a country concession, will have a refining, Christianizing influence on the whole "line." And former mistakes can be guarded against. Perhaps you had something that almost amounted to a quarrel with somebody ; and it hurt your influence in several directions. You will now be careful that there is no repetition of such a mistake. You are conscious of imitating, and having been influenced by, certain persons. You did not always remember that others were watching and imitating you. But so it was.

In the great fight with sin and evil—sin within as well as sin without—let us remember Christ is ever with us, to arm, direct and rejoice ; a blessed Senior Partner ! In this fight we can each say, adapting the lines to suit us :

"Thou, O Christ, be King this day,
And I'll be general, under !"

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