

by Christ and the Apostles." (Rom. xv. 5.) "Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be like-minded one toward another according to Christ Jesus."

Question 49. "What is the Church Session?" Answer: "It is the assembly of the *Pastor* and *Ruling Elders* of a particular congregation. Acts xx. 17." "And from Miletus he (Paul) sent to Ephesus, and called the *Elders* of the church."

The first of these references is not sufficiently clear; the second does not support the distinctions made. Notwithstanding a few minor defects we think the catechism will be found very helpful by our Sunday school teachers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The editors desire it to be distinctly understood that they will not be responsible for the opinions expressed by their correspondents.

To the Editor of *Knox College Monthly*.

DEAR SIR,—There is a system at present in vogue in the Presbyterian Church of Canada, by which a mission station is supplied by a different student every Sabbath, and is a method that is in some respects needful of improvement. The people cannot be expected to gain much benefit, since there is and can be no regular system in the preaching. If all the services should be suited to the people, how can a student adapt his discourse to those of whom he knows but little? He is compelled to preach on great central themes, and to adapt them to mankind in general, rather than address himself specially to the peculiar disposition and needs of his audience. The hearers thus acquire itching ears, and, comparing one man's treatment of a favorite theme with another's, acquire or deepen the spirit of criticism. Besides, our present system not only retards, but even partially destroys,

the life of a mission charge. Our students labor hard and faithfully during the summer months, and it is certainly, to say the least, discouraging to them, and sad in itself, to see the summer gain vanishing during the winter. If anything is apt to dishearten a faithful worker, it is to see a congregation, in which he labored earnestly and with success, becoming disintegrated through the continual change of preachers, who often come as strangers, and go away again but little better known.

I know that, as the evils are many, so are the difficulties in the way of amendment. The question of remuneration for services is not the least, but, when the tendency towards criticism is increasing among the people and true sympathy is in consequence retrograding, surely the less should be sacrificed, if necessary, to the greater. But the executive leaders of our Church could, no doubt, devise some method by which, even this sacrifice need not be made. It is objected, also, that any other method would interfere with the student's college work, by requiring from him more arduous preparation for the Sabbath. Passing by the insinuation that he has a few well-thumbed sermons, I think that the extra work required would be so little, as not seriously to retard his college studies. Why not send the student who labored at A. during the summer, to B. for Michaelmas, and to C. for the Easter Term? Much good material, collected and invented during the summer, could thus be utilized during the winter, and be so moulded as to appeal strongly to the special wants and feelings of the people. Of whatever nature the difficulties are, and they are many, not a stone should be left unturned until they are all removed.

I hope that this subject will be so fully discussed in the columns of the MONTHLY, that when the General As-