

hope of a blessed immortality. Church membership merely, without the grace that joins you to Christ the living Head, and makes you living members of his body, will avail nothing but to augment the wretchedness of that soul who shall in the hour of final decision be weighed in the balance and be found wanting. God is able, dear brethren, "to make this grace to abound toward you in all riches to the full assurance of faith," to prepare you, in your various spheres, to work the works of Him who has called you into his Kingdom, and sent you forth as laborers into his vineyard.

Permit us to remind you, dear brethren, that whilst you should seek "first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness," in all the relations of domestic and social life you are not to overlook the important relations you hold to the state. Your Christian citizenship does not render you any less citizens of the country in which you live, and your subjection to Christ does in no way weaken the bond of your allegiance to the state. Whatever part, then, you may be required to act in the exercise of your civil rights, ever keep it in mind that you are the servants of Christ as well as members of the body politic, and that, as such, you are set as "the light of the world."

We would, dear brethren, most affectionately impress upon you the importance of faithfulness in your attendance on the social and public means of grace established among us, for much depends on your careful and scrupulous attention to this. Remembering then, how much your frequent absence from the services of the House of God will affect your brethren to their hurt, and hinder the Church in her efforts to extend the light and power of the Gospel, "forsake not," we beseech you, brethren, "the assembling of yourselves together."

It affords us very great pleasure to advertise you that our present Conference is the fullest, and, on the whole, the most gratifying we have ever held; and in view of this fact we are constrained to say, "Not unto us, not unto us, O Lord, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy and thy truth's sake." In all its deliberations and debates wisdom and love were happily blended, and though every subject presented for consideration was thoroughly discussed, yet throughout it was pleasingly manifest that diversity of sentiment did not induce alienation of affection.

The religious services held during the session were uniformly seasons of great spiritual interest and power; the Divine presence was singularly manifested in them, refreshing, quickening, and saving the brethren, and preparing the ministers and representatives to return to their several departments and enter with renewed energy and zeal on the arduous labors of the coming year.

It is matter of much satisfaction and thankfulness to God that we can announce to you that the success which He has accorded to the devoted labors of the brethren in the various de-