

of his kingdom, the Apostles were subordinate to him—the Evangelists to the Apostles—the Elders and Ministers to the Evangelists—and the congregation to the Elders and Ministers. If the members could not agree, they could refer their matter to their Elders and Ministers—if they did them injustice, they could accuse them, on two or three witnesses, before the Evangelists—and if the accusation was sustained, the Evangelists should rebuke them before all, that the others might fear. The law requires the Evangelists, in all cases, to do nothing by partiality, by preferring one before another. Peace and harmony, and the rights of all concerned, can be better secured in this way than in any other. The good sense of our civil rulers is exemplified by a similar arrangement for the settlement of differences among our citizens. Instead of calling a whole county or town together to vote which of two disputants is in the right, they submit the decision of controversies to proper officers, leaving reasonable opportunities for appeals.

All these provisions were made for the peace and usefulness of the great missionary institution, called the Congregation of God. The Apostolic commission is the constitution of this society, and the regulations made by the Apostles are the rules and by-laws for its government.

God designed that his manifold wisdom should be made known to the principalities and powers among the heavenlies—the angels of God, through the congregation. His wisdom is made known in the world's creation—his manifold wisdom, in a world's redemption. God has constituted this congregation the light of the world—the salt of the earth. By its shining, others are to see its good works, and glorify our Father in the heavens. The members of this community are required to shine as luminaries in a world, holding forth the word of life.

In every accession to this great missionary society there is joy in the heavens—joy among the angels of God. These heavenlies behold in it the manifold wisdom of God. How they adore the wisdom which ordained that the embryotic kingdom—the small lump of leaven—should subjugate the world to the King of Glory—should leaven so large a mass!

The philanthropy which induced the Father to send his Son into our world, constrained the Son to come on the mission, and the same principle animated the Apostles, and cheered on their converts in their career of glory. The cold-heartedness of the modern times was as un-