

course was more particularly intended amongst the absentees. It is quite true that discourses exhibiting learning and eloquence and warmth are calculated to draw hearers; but is also as true that an attentive congregation will encourage a pastor and stimulate him to work with hearty earnestness and zeal. Come then, Sabbath after Sabbath. For this is a duty which you ought most regularly to perform, and a privilege too which you ought most highly to value and most diligently to improve.

And this leads me to say that it is your duty to strengthen the hands of your minister, by co-operating with him in every good work. As Christians are you not soldiers of the cross? And as such is it not your plain and solemn duty, under the great Captain of your salvation, to fight bravely, zealously and preservingly against all wickedness? He who acts otherwise must be treated as a coward or deserter. In order to be lost and ruined for ever, it is unnecessary for any one to commit very heinous crimes; all that is needed is, to sit still and do nothing. Beware then of a doing nothing christianity. "To do no harm," says Baxter, is the praise of a stone, not of a man." Oh then be up and doing. One officer in a company alone cannot do much; and so your pastor requires and looks for your co-operation. You have influence and many opportunities for doing good; use them all in your several spheres and stations, in drawing the reckless and ungodly to this house and into the fold of Christ. With your minister consecrate all your talents,—all the powers of your bodies and all the faculties of your souls in advancing the kingdom of your Lord and Master.

And let me exhort you to beware of indulging any feeling of distrust and causeless prejudices against your pastor. In these days of strife and sectarian animosity there may be many who would

him, to the injury of his comfort and usefulness. But listen not to idle remarks, from what ever quarter they may come. We will feel assured that your minister will endeavour to perform his duties faithfully and conscientiously; but to expect that he should never err and never come short would be to look for more than can be expected from mortal man. And we also feel assured that he will be more sensible of his own unintentional failings than you can be, and a great deal more sorry for them. It would be wrong then,—nay it would be unjust to him, and unjust and detrimental to yourselves to take offence at every unintentional failing, fault or omission on his part. He may not at all times discharge his duty to your satisfaction. But this may often be owing to you (not knowing all the circumstances, or to your forming wrong views of what his duty is and indulging unreasonable expectations. Men are often quite alive to their neighbours' faults, and totally blind to their own. "Why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, and considerest not the beam that is in thine own."

And it is your duty to act liberally towards your pastor, that he may live comfortably and without anxiety whilst persevering in his good work. As the Apostle Paul says,—*"If you have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things."* But I believe that in fulfilling this obligation, you shall be in the future as in the past, rather an example to others.

But above all these things let me exhort you to be frequent in prayer and supplication for the influences of the spirit, to fit your minister for his work and bless his labours and to prepare your own hearts for profiting by them. It is a praying people that makes a successful minister. And hence it is that the Apostle Paul pleads,—*"Brethren pray*

for us." A  
agement in  
Jesus Chri  
tional thro  
and is const  
to his Chur  
ful and his  
and that eye  
by a heart  
tenderness  
He delights  
for the pros  
such encour  
should serve  
God on his  
gladdened i  
the end of h  
in the spirit  
his congreg

And let u  
hope that  
formed here  
pastor and p  
consummate  
affection and  
division. N  
congregation  
grow in day  
more and m  
Saviour in t  
fulness of lov  
and sorrows  
of this transi  
you be enal  
in the celesti  
song of the c  
him that lov  
our sins in hi  
us kings and  
Father; to l  
for ever and

#### TRIALS OF

The follow  
the baptism  
of a Sikh has  
J. W. You  
Gujrat.