

unity, is out of place. If there be conflict something is wanting that is not present, or present that would better be wanting. But to get every worker into his place and sphere, there is to be a wise, patient, painstaking effort. The parts of a machine may be complete but will not come into place without some intervention—some one who understands construction must put the machine together : and construction is organization.

One great difficulty with pastors is that they lack experience and training as administrators. They do not understand business habits. A literary life is one of seclusion and solitude : and it is in the busy world that methods are learned. If there could be established in our seminaries a Chair of *Practical Business Life*, in which young men could be trained to understand business, money, political economy, laws of trade, household economy, book-keeping, arrangement of material for future use, etc., it would have more practical effect on efficiency in service than the best system of apologetics or theology. Perhaps such lessons can only be learned in the school of life itself, but knowledge of them is very desirable and necessary.

Now, it happens that, however destitute the pastor may be of systematic mind or habit, he has in his congregation a *few*, at least, of solid, substantial business men, ready to be called to his aid, and, especially when they combine business tact with spirituality, such men may be of great help in putting congregational work on a good, broad, methodical basis. The writer found himself marvellously helped by calling to his assistance a considerable body of such business gentlemen in his pastorate in Detroit. Elders, deacons, and trustees were all formed into a *Church Council*, which met about once in two months, or at the pastor's call. Before that body, which united in itself the three official boards of the church, every matter of consequence that pertained to church conduct was brought. It was thoroughly discussed, all objections or considerations weighed, and not until there was at least substantial unanimity in that body was any measure put before the congregation as a whole for adoption. It need not be said that, when thus matured by that large council, when so many methodical minds and such abundant common sense had been brought to bear upon a proposed measure, it commanded the general if not unanimous consent of the whole congregation.

Patience and perseverance will in due time provide appropriate work for every willing soul. A pastor once told us of a simple-minded German in his congregation, for whom he found it hard to make a fit place. At last, discovering that he had a taste for drawing, he set him at work, week by week, putting on a blackboard, with colored chalks, a lesson for the Sunday-school; and the man took hold of that work with such enthusiasm that no member of the church was more useful. His blackboard lessons became a visible sermon. Mr.