

and blood have almost recoiled from the lot of the neglected, over-tasked, and under-paid Colonial Minister. The marvel rather is, that men of education and character have been found to occupy such a position. If they had not the consciousness of their Divine Master's love, they would surely be of all men most miserable.

Among the people, too, the Church has suffered many disadvantages. Settlers, bent on worldly success, have neglected the cause of God and their own salvation, for "pieces of ground," and "yokes of oxen." They have also been so divided in sentiment, that they have attempted to raise six denominational interests in localities where one united Church might have contained them all. Village and Country Congregations, too, have sometimes been formed of persons so uneducated, or so selfish, that the Minister has been compelled himself to transact all the Church business, in order to rescue it from entire neglect; and alas! so unenlightened or ungodly, that none can be found, at the first planting of the Church, to act as Elders or even Sabbath School Teachers, and the entire ecclesiastical machinery falls to be moved and managed by the individual Minister.

All these discomforts and evils we from our hearts deplore; but we notice for our consolation, that many of these are disadvantages naturally connected with the immature state of a Colonial community, and may be expected to pass away as population and intelligence increase. The initial difficulties are already in good measure overcome, and brighter prospects begin to relieve our somewhat gloomy picture. Indeed, the picture has even now a sunny side, on which we prefer to look.

The Colonial position confers many *advantages* on the Church.

It liberates the Church from many weights and incumbrances which accumulate in the old communities, and affords her more freedom of development than she may obtain in the mother country. Emigrants unlearn and learn much—forget some of their old things, to begin anew. The Church, that has emigrated, has in many respects to do likewise. Her change of position gives her opportunity, if she has wisdom to use it aright, to shake off some of the coils of traditional usage and pedantry that gather in course of time round the purest and wisest Churches on earth. The Colonial situation tends in an eminent degree to foster a spirit of courageous enterprise, and gives large scope for the operation of those energies that exist in every "corps" of living Christians.

Another advantage of the Colonial position is this: that it renders unnecessary the perpetuation of such ecclesiastical divisions as have arisen out of historic peculiarities of the mother country, and is favorable to the healing of wounds that have long smarted and bled, and to the formation of unions on a simpler and broader foundation than the Churches of Great Britain and Ireland enjoy. In so saying, we do not imply, that all past divisions have been unwarrantable; or prejudge the difficult question, what basis of union in doctrine, government, and discipline ought to satisfy the Churches of the present day. But this is