

ject. And the Committee have to state, that while a continuance of support on the scale in which it has hitherto been contributed, will be barely sufficient to enable them to fulfil the engagements under which they have come—for extending their operations, a greatly enlarged measure of annual aid will be requisite.

The Committee are deeply impressed with the conviction, that hitherto the interest excited in the Christian public generally, in the cause of our Colonial Churches, has never been in any degree proportioned to the importance of the subject; and that, relatively to its magnitude, this great scheme has not met with encouragement. This state of things they are convinced, arises from the members of our Church not being fully aware of the amount of spiritual destitution in our Colonial Settlements. And the Committee would respectfully, but most earnestly, suggest, that ministers would take occasion to explain to their respective flocks the duty of the Church, and of every member of the Church, in this great department of usefulness; and that, in their approaches to a throne of grace, they would lead the hearts of their people, Sabbath after Sabbath, to wrestle in earnest supplication with God, for our brethren that have gone to far countries,—And the prayers and alms of our thousand parishes coming up together as a sweet memorial before the Lord, will, it is hoped, be diffused in streams of refreshing and gladness, to the hearts of Scotchmen in many and distant lands.—*Home and Foreign Missionary Record.*

INTERESTING EXTRACTS.

IS YOUR PASTOR COMFORTABLE?

It is characteristic of the good man to desire the comfort and happiness of all about him, and especially of those who administer to his comfort and happiness. I have no doubt, therefore, that the situation of his Pastor is a subject of careful investigation to every one who has any real claim to goodness.

No one contributes so much, and so directly to the comfort of believers as their Pastor. The inquiry therefore, at the head of this article, may be proposed with great appropriateness to every one professing to love the Lord Jesus Christ. Is your Pastor comfortable? That this question may be answered in a suitable manner, let me state what in my mind makes a Pastor comfortable, and on the other hand what tends greatly to his discomfort.

1. It is a great comfort to every Pastor, when he has reason to believe, that the people of his charge are harmoniously united in him. When in visiting his people, or looking over them from the pulpit, he can say and feel that they are all his friends, and delight in receiving instruction from him, he has great happiness. But if the flock be divided and dissatisfied with him, if he has any sensibility at all, he will be very uncomfortable.

2. It tends greatly to a Pastor's comfort, when his ministrations are regularly and fully attended by the congregation.

Nothing renders a faithful pastor more uneasy and uncomfortable, than to find his people grow remiss and careless in attending upon the services of the sanctuary. After carefully and oftentimes laboriously preparing for the instruction and edification of his flock, and then on the Sabbath finding a house full of empty pews, he feels any thing but comfortable. He feels as though his labour were lost. His people care so little for the gospel at his mouth, that a little wet, or cold, or heat, or a little fatigue from the labours and business of the week, will keep them at home. Such conduct makes a Pastor very uncomfortable.

3. When he sees the people of his charge striving both to profit by what he teaches and to exemplify the doctrines of the cross he feels happy. They are then his joy and his rejoicing. He feels that his labour is not vain in the Lord. But when they seem to be forgetful hearers, and suffer themselves to be careless and worldly minded, his heart sinks within him and he is ready to despair.

4. When his people strive together for the faith of the Gospel, and maintain the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace, then his joy and comfort abound.

5. When his people free him from worldly cares and harassments, by the cheerful and punctual contribution of a full and sufficient salary, every Pastor feels comfortable and happy, so far as such things can make him so. When he devotes his intellectual, moral, and physical energies, for the welfare of his people, it is as little as they can do, to keep him not only above want, but free from harassing care. Where they are unwilling to do this, it cannot but cause, not only discomfort in the circumstances of the Pastor, but also turn his mind against the people. No man of sensibility can feel comfortable, when he is asked for debts which he might pay, if his people paid what they promised at the time their promise

became due; but which because of their failure he finds himself unable to pay. It makes him feel that his people care nothing for him; that notwithstanding his efforts for their good, they are unwilling to relieve his temporal necessities. It cannot be expected that any man can attend to the duties of the Pastoral office with comfort, where his people are so mean spirited as to compel him to enter into some other engagements in order to sustain his family. Every church, thus treating her Pastor, will soon find that she is not only injuring one who feels a deep interest in her, but also laying the foundation for her own destruction.

It is an ordinance of God, that they who preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel; and both scripture and reason declare, that "the labourer is worthy of his hire." If this be so, then to withhold a comfortable support to the minister of the Gospel, is as unjust as to grind the face of the poor, or to stint and oppress the hireling in his wages. And if God will visit for such conduct, surely he will for the like conduct towards his ministering servants. But I cannot enlarge. In view of what I have now stated, as making a pastor comfortable and uncomfortable, let me ask every church member, is your Pastor comfortable? Have you done, and are you doing all you can to make him comfortable? Are you satisfied and pleased with him? Do you regularly and punctually attend upon his ministrations, in public and in the social prayer meeting? Are you willing to take part in prayer when requested by him? Do you strive to profit by his preaching, and is it your earnest endeavour both to maintain the truth, and to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace? Have you paid and do you pay punctually and liberally your portion of the salary? Do you visit him occasionally? Are you in the habit of showing your respect and affection for him by making him an occasional present, &c.?

I would like you to think of all these questions and give them a suitable answer. And in closing I would suggest, that every church and every church member, begin immediately and examine this subject: see whether their Pastor be comfortable or not, and if he is not, take no rest until he is made so. You will thus greatly cheer his heart, and strengthen him for increased effort, for your spiritual and eternal welfare.—*Presbyterian.*

BEAUTIFUL EXTRACT.

When the keen-eyed eagle soars above all the feathered race, and leaves their very sight below, when she wings her way with direct ascent up the steep of heaven, and steadily gazing on the meridian sun, accounts its splendor all her own; does she then regard, with any solicitude, the mote that is flying in the air; or the dust which she shook from her feet? And shall this eternal mind, which is capable of contemplating its Creator's glory; which is intended to enjoy the visions of his countenance; shall this eternal mind, endowed with such great capacities, and made for such exalted ends, be so ignobly ambitious as to sigh for the tinsel of the state; or so poorly covetous as to grasp after ample territories on a needle's point? No; under the influence of such considerations, I feel my sentiments expand, and my wishes acquire a turn of sublimity. My throbbing desires after worldly grandeur die away; and I find myself, if not possessed of power, yet superior to its charms. Too long, must I own, have my affections been pinioned by vanity and unmured in this earthly clod. But these thoughts break the shackles. These objects open the door of liberty. My soul, fired by such noble prospect, weighs anchor from this little nook, and coasts no longer about its contracted shores; doats no longer on its pitiful shells. The immensity of things is her range and an infinity of bliss her aim.

Had the brightest archangel been commissioned to come down, with the olive branch of peace in his hand, showing his Maker's readiness to be reconciled, on our bended knees, with tears of joy and a torrent of thankfulness, we ought to have received the transporting news. But when instead of such an angelic array, he sends his only begotten Son, his Son, beyond thought illustrious, to make us the gracious overture: sends him from the "habitation of holiness and glory," to put on the infirmities of mortality, and dwell in a tabernacle of clay; sends him, not barely to make us a transient visit, but to abide many years in our inferior and miserable world; sends him not to exercise dominion over monarchs, but to wear out his life in the ignoble form of a servant; and at last, to make his exit under the infamous character of a malefactor! Was ever love like this? Did ever grace stoop so low? Should the sun be shorn of all its radiant honours, and degraded into a clod of the valley; should all the dignities of heaven be deposed from their thrones, and degenerate into insects of a day, great would be the abasement. But nothing to thine, most blessed Jesus; nothing to thine Prince of Peace, when, for

us men, and for our salvation, thou didst not abhor the accommodations of a manger, thou didst not decline even the gloomy horrors of the grave.—*Hervey.*

THE INFIDEL IN THE APPREHENSION OF DEATH.

Percy Bysshe Shelley, who gloried in his infidelity, and whose unquestionably fine talents were fearfully desecrated, was apparently a person of the most heroic character, and not likely to feel any serious alarm in the hour of danger. When sailing in Lord Byron's Yacht, a storm arose which threatened the destruction of the vessel. Shelley was immediately alarmed—nothing could render him tranquil; he called out in agony for mercy from the very Being, on whose laws he had not only himself trampled, but whose sovereignty over the hearts of others, he had sought to overthrow, and whose name he had never mentioned; without the most profane ridicule. His terrors are described as having been fearfully awful.—He is not the only infidel, however, whose last hours have been embittered at the near prospect of death. In the season of health and supposed security, the blasphemer may deride the idea of a God of judgment and eternity; his feelings will be far different, when God causes his waves to go over him, and judgment and eternity are at the very door.

ANECDOTE.

An excellent clergyman, possessing much knowledge of human nature, instructed his large family of daughters in the ordinary practice of music. They were all observed to be exceedingly amiable and happy. A friend enquired if there was any secret in his mode of education. He replied, "when any thing disturbs their temper, I say to them, sing; and if I hear them speaking against any person, I call them to sing to me, and they sing away all causes of discontent, and every disposition to scandal." Such a use of this accomplishment, might seem to fit a family for the company of angels. Young voices around the domestic altar, breathing sacred music, at the hour of morning and evening devotion, are a sweet and touching accomplishment.—*L. H. Sigourney.*

ON PUNCTUALITY.

"METHOD is the very hinge of business, and there is no method without punctuality. Punctuality is important, because it subserves the peace and temper of a family; the want of it not only infringes on necessary duty, but sometimes excludes that duty. The calmness of mind which it produces, is another advantage of punctuality: a disorderly man is always in a hurry; he has no time to speak to you, because he is going elsewhere; and when he gets there, he is too late for his business, or he must hurry away to another before he can finish it. Punctuality gives weight to character. "Such a man has made an appointment—then I know he will keep it." And this generates punctuality in you; for, like other virtues, it propagates itself. Servants and children must be punctual where their leader is so. Appointments, indeed, become debts. I owe you punctuality, if I have made an appointment with you, and have no right to throw away your time, if I do my own."—*Cecil's Remains,* p. 344.

THE SPIDER AND THE FLY.

A spider had prepared his web in one corner of my room, with great care and skill, and having completed it in the most perfect manner, he retired to its darkest recesses to lie in wait for his prey. Soon, a little thoughtless fly became entangled in the net, and the spider, warned by the struggles of the victim to obtain his freedom, leaving his hiding place turned one web around him, and retired upon some slight cause of alarm. By and by he again approached the fly, turning another web around him and retired.—This was repeated several times, till the fly was fast bound and incapable of resistance, when the spider fell upon him and deprived him of existence by sucking his life's blood.

The thought occurred to me while I was watching this process, that there was a striking analogy between the spider, his web and the fly, and the venturer of intoxicating drinks, his shop and his customers. The vender builds or hires his shop, fills it with barrels, decanters and glasses, all arranged in the order best calculated to allure attention and inflame the appetite, and then a sign varnished and gilded, "waves in the wind," or glitters on the front. He then takes his stand and waits for the receipt of custom.—Soon, some unsuspecting one approaches and enters. A glass of "cordial" is poured out, drank and payment is made. Thus the web is turned once round. By and by he comes again, and another web is turned, and then another, and another still. Now the victim may make an effort to escape, but in vain. The web is fixed—the fetters are strong—the appe-