judge of the ministry, and manifest a concern for the support of our religious testimonies, and the preservation of our discipline, as well as for the advancement of truth and righteousness; such as these being clothed with christian meekness, and wisdom, may even rebuke with authority, and therein will realize that description given by the royal Psalmist.—"Let the righteous "smite me; it shall be a kindness; and let him reprove me; it "shall be an excellent oil." Psal. cxli.-5.

Ministers and elders thus united, become mutually useful to each other; and are as nursing fathers and mothers in the church; particularly to those who are young in the ministry: for this class we earnestly desire, that they may with all care and diligence be advised and admonished: and if occasion appear, reproved in a christian and tender spirit, let them also be exhorted frequently to read the holy scriptures, and earnestly to seek the mind of the spirit of truth, to open the mysteries contained in them. Ministers thus abiding in a simple and patient submission to the will of God, and keeping down to the openings of divine life in themselves, may witness a growth in their gifts, and will also be preserved from extending their declarations further than they find the power of truth to accompany them.

If any in the course of their ministry, shall misapply, or draw unsound inferences, or wrong conclusions from the text, or shall misbehave themselves in point of conduct or conversation, let them be admonished in love and tenderness, by the elders or overseers where they live; and if they prove refractory and refuse to acknowledge their faults, they must be further dealt with in the wisdom of truth, as the case may require.

As the occasion of our religious meetings is solemn, a care should be maintained to guard against any thing that would tend to disorder or confusion therein; when any think they have aught against what is publicly delivered, they should speak to the party privately; and if any shall oppose a minister in his or her preaching or exhortation, or keep on the hat, or shew

any remarkable dislike to such when engaged in prayer, let them be speedily admonished in such manner as may be requisite; unless the ministry of the person against whom the uneasiness is expressed, has been disapproved by the monthly meeting.

Every monthly meeting is to select two or more friends of each sex to sit with the ministers, and they together are to compose a meeting to be denominated a preparative meeting of ministers and elders: care should be taken, that those chosen for this service, be prudent, solid, friends, and that they duly discharge the trust confided to them.

When there is occasion for the appointment of one or more elders, in any meeting, a committee to consider the subject should be first appointed in a monthly meeting; and in this committee, the names of the persons who may be thought suitable, should be first mentioned, and, when concurred with, reported to the monthly meeting, without consulting the person or persons, or otherwise divulging it. Upon due consideration, the nomination is approved, a minute should be made expressive thereof, and a copy forwarded to the quarterly meeting of ministers and elders: where the nomination being weighed, and the sense of the monthly meeting concurred with, or otherwise, information thereof should be given to the preparative meeting of ministers and elders, which should inform said monthly meeting of the judgment of the quarterly meeting of ministers and elders.

It is the order of society, that when any friend, appointed to the station of an elder, believes him or herself called to the ministry, and shall have appeared frequently in that capacity in our public religious meetings, that such should withdraw from the meetings of ministers and elders; one of the particular objects of their appointment being thereby nullified.

When any friend has frequently appeared in our religious meetings as a minister, and the preparative meeting of ministers and elders apprehends that it is seasonable the subject should claim the attention of the monthly meeting for