

1886.

28

Minutes
of
Advice
Continued

to the Church from our ascended Lord which should not be lost sight of in our day. We are told in Ephesians 4th Chapter, that the Lord "gave some Apostles; some, Prophets, and some, Evangelists; and some, Pastors and Teachers, for the perfecting (or, more literally, the thorough equipping) of the saints, unto the work of ministering unto the building up of the body of Christ." Not that there should be in the Church a few teachers and many learners, but that all should come to such a knowledge of the Son of God, that each might be thoroughly equipped to hand forth the word of truth to those around them.

The importance of an accurate knowledge of the words of scripture was dwelt upon, that all should study to show themselves "approved unto God, workmen that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the

29

1886

word of truth."

Minutes
of
Advice
Continued

Ministers were cautioned to look to the great Head of the Church for guidance as to the state of a meeting or to the condition of individuals. It was impressed upon us that ministers should be careful to avoid any tone or manner, that in drawing attention to themselves might detract from the value and effectiveness of their message; and they should seek so to yield all their powers to the Lord that He might make the best use of every natural gift to give force to the message given to them to deliver.

Our meetings for worship form a good index, not only of the spiritual life of the Church, but also of our practical belief in the Headship of Christ and the priesthood of believers. Remembering the promised presence of the Lord, we will be punctual in coming together, prepared