

ing of Societies, Friendships, Kindreds, Families, Heritages, Callings, yea, the wise Providence of God in disposing mens habitations, now in the very Infancy of Reformation: by forgetting that a little leaven may season a large lump: and it is much better to do good than receive. It were a most uncharitable and unserviceable part, for good men to desert their own Congregations, where many may glorifie God in the day of his Visitation, for their presence and assistance. If a Christian would pick out a way to thrive in Grace, let him study to administer Grace to them that want; or to make sure a blessing upon his Family, let him labour to multiply the Family of Christ, and believe, that he which soweth liberally, shall reap abundantly; and he that spareth more than is need, from them that have more need, shall surely come to poverty: yea, let me say, that he who forsakes the means of Grace for Christ and his Churches sake, shall meet with a better bargain, namely, Grace it self. It is a time now, when full flocks should rather scatter to lean Churches than gather from other places to make themselves fat; when able Christians should rather turn Jesuites and Seminaries, than run into Covents and Frieries: had this been the course in the Primitive time, the Gospel had been pinfolded up in a few Cities, and not spread as it is.

What more ungodly sacriledge or man-stealing can there be, than to purloin from Godly Ministers the first born of their fervent Prayers and faithful Preachings, the leaven of their flocks, the encouragement of their Souls, the Crown of their labours, their Epistle to Heaven? I am glad to hear our *New-England* Elders generally detest it *dispuenter*, and look at it as a killing *Cordolium*: If men will needs gather Churches out of the World (as they say) let them first plough the World, sow it, and reap it with their own hands, and the Lord give them a liberal Harvest. He is a very hard man that will reap where he hath not sowed, and gathered where he hath not strowed, *Mat.* 25. 24.

He that saith, it is or was our case, doth not rightly understand himself or us, and he that takes his warrant out of *Joh.* 4. 37, 38. is little acquainted with Expositors. Wisemen are amazed to hear that conscientious Ministers dare spoil many Congregations to make one for themselves.

In matter of Reformation, this would be remembered, that in premonitory judgments, God will take good words, and sincere intents; but in peremptory, nothing but real performances.

*Composition.*

**I**F Reformation were come thus near, I should hope Composition were not far off: When hearts meet in God, they will soon