

## THEIR WIVES,

it would in many cases be an impossibility. A friend once told me the experience of a lady of her acquaintance, who had married a minister. She had expected to lead a very useful life, in which she could do a great deal of good for others; but, she said, "I find my life is spent in washing dishes, and striving to make ends meet." Yes, and she is doing noble work, too, if she does indeed make ends meet, and keep everything neat and clean. I once heard a minister, in receipt of a very good salary, say to some friends, in presence of his wife, "Well, as to small salaries, I must say this, when I began life in a city with \$1,000 a year, I was just as comfortable then as I am to-day." "If you were, I was not," his wife instantly replied. He had been in the habit of giving her all his money, and, therefore, the whole burden of making ends meet had fallen on her shoulders, and so, if he did not know the difference that a good income made, she did.

To give another illustration of how much the Church owes to the ministers' wives, who are in many cases splendid chancellors of the exchequer: I was once dining with a country brother, in presence of his nice large family. He had been in his charge for over twenty years, and had never all that time received over \$500, and had a horse and buggy and sleigh to keep off that. Smilingly he asked if I could guess how old his coat was. It was a very good coat, and I felt inclined to say two years, but I professed my inability to do so, and was just as glad I did, for he told me that it was twenty years old. It was the coat in which he was married. Yes, I thought, and what carefulness and diligent housekeeping does this fact imply?

## CAN WE DO ANYTHING

to remove the scandalous condition of things that exists? If we had \$35,000 per annum additional to what is now being raised, we could give each minister in the western section of the Church \$750 per annum and a manse. The General Assembly thinks this should and could be done. The question may be fairly asked, are the aid-receiving congregations doing what they might be expected to do? And the answer is, they are doing better than the self-sup-