

value of ministerial services. We have no doubt that right ideas will gain wider and wider prevalence. All denominations feel the necessity of similar action to that for which we plead. The Canada Presbyterian Church has named \$600, with a manse, as the lowest salary a rural pastor should receive. It is in the power of the Colonial Society by speaking the right word at the right time, to do a very great service in this matter. Let them but make it thoroughly understood that they are heartily with the movement, that they approve of such an appropriation of their funds, and say, with us, "consolidation first—their extension," and they will do much to heal the soreness of the past, and send us on our way rejoicing.

We have advocated the taking of the initiative by the Missionary Society. But nothing could be farther from our meaning, than that any church should wait for that. Infinitely better that they should move of their own accord, without being stirred up by any deputation. It is their bounden duty so to do. They will thus make their increased contributions worth twice as much to the pastor's heart, if not to his purse. Let them devise liberal things, and come before the Missionary Committees with their new arrangements in their hands.

We will venture to suggest that the several District Committees, in May next, when dealing with the applications for aid, do so on these principles, with, of course, all requisite safeguards and discriminations; that they take high ground on the subject; that they vigorously second all advances made by the churches in the direction of liberality; and that they lead the way when they are not called upon to follow. So will one shame and reproach be rolled away from us, and "they that preach the Gospel" will be able to "live of the Gospel."

A LAYMAN'S THOUGHTS ON GIVING.

In looking at the work in which the Church is engaged, I have long been impressed with this to me evident fact, viz., that they who say they love the Lord Jesus Christ have not,—even in this enlightened age of gospel truth,—right views as to the duty of Christian giving. This is evidenced by the method, manner, and amount of such gifts. A large-hearted liberality is not cherished and manifested by the Lord's people as a whole. Were not something wrong here,—viewing the duty as relating to our own country merely,—think you that there would be so many languishing causes in this our Canada? or so many pastors of churches plodding on with cheerless hearts in their works of usefulness, "with carefulness," because of the dilatoriness of the people in bringing up to the "Lord's treasury" that which they had promised for their support?

Besides this, how little true sympathy is generally manifested with all efforts involving the outlay of money in Church-work! Why, then, such lack of fervour in His service—of zeal in His cause? Pondering this matter, the conclusion I arrive at is, that the people are either too *poor* to give, or, having enough and to spare, have not the *heart* to give, to sustain and help forward the great work of evangelizing the country and the world!