

Whenever the Scriptures furnish plans or suggestions for the performance of required duties we may be sure they are best adapted for their purpose. It is only the dictate of a becoming humility, docility, and obedience, to employ the same for all similar objects, unless they prove positively impracticable.

It were to be expected, after the distinct and elaborate instructions given to the few, concerning his mode of devoting property to God, that some information would be supplied to the Christian to the same effect; especially as God has given unto us "all things that pertain to life and godliness," and as the Scriptures, given by inspiration of God, are profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, *that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*

One method is pointed out for the use of the Galatian and Corinthian Churches, for one particular object: "Now concerning," &c. (1 Cor. xvi. 1, 2.) Some Christians think that this plan was enjoined by the Saviour after his resurrection among the "all things whatsoever I commanded you," (Matt. xxviii. 20); that it was at once adopted by the Pentecostal Churches, under the term *Koinōnia* fellowship (Acts ii. 42); that the apostle Paul received it from Christ himself, and urged its practice on all Churches, as he here does on those of Galatia and Corinth.

Certain it is that it was expressly *enjoined* on the Churches of Galatia and Corinth; that it carries the value and influence of a *Divine suggestion* of the wisest and easiest method for securing needful funds; and that it continued in the practice of the early Churches into the seventh century.

Will a teachable and obedient disciple of Christ demand more positive authority than this for a rule of this nature? Is it compatible with the genius of Christianity to enjoin one more authoritatively?

This method is, the presentation every Lord's-day, as an act of loving fealty and holy sacrifice, to the glory of God and the benefit of man, of a self-assessed portion of the week's earnings, placed in an accumulating fund, available for all gracious and benevolent purposes at pleasure.

"Oh, how unlike the complex works of man,  
Heaven's easy, artless, unencumbered plan!"

It secures the offerings of all, even the poorest, in such small sums as they can spare; and of the more wealthy, by its frequency, in such measure as to bear some due proportion to their ampler means. It constitutes every man the conscientious assessor of his own gifts. It makes his offerings ever depend on the benefits positively realized. It puts it on the high ground of principle, as done to God, and not procured by artifice or stimulant. Above all, it gives it the sanctity of an act of true heart-worship, and of loyal homage to the Lord of the Sabbath and Saviour of mankind.

The moral advantages of this practice are such as,—a greater equalization of necessary costs; greater freedom from the domination of

wealth; higher respect for all, rendering a nobleness; and ampler means. Among the spiritual blessings of God, of reception of His blessings; a weekly remembrance of His love and incense of prayer, training of ourselves in holiness, by frequently presenting ourselves to God, by dispensing with the part of what, as creatures, we are so working a warfare, whose pattern shall

Should it be objected that the sons of large varied families? The income-tax will not reach righteous ends. The thought it impossible for a poor woman who since she heard the wright who began in October, at a meeting before, now gives and ever feeling as to the Lord's treasure means of grace, the Lord's day morning constant liberal benevolence an urgent, special offering his richest donations for gracious purposes pel," whom I learned from Ireland last method of Sabbath carries round the world obliged by your presence Would that you establishing a permanent 'The Weekly Offering'

The writer of this Christians on this been indignant, method in the benevolence of the Lord's treasure aid in provoking motives to such a

The fields open