

ing part in every social or promiscuous expedient resorted to for raising his own salary. I relate a case which actually came before a presbytery. A congregation of one hundred and fifty members—all well-to-do—made a request to reduce their pastor's salary from \$700 to \$550. The pastor was poor and had a large family, and was greatly beloved by his people—so they said—for his talents, piety and fidelity, but they were not able to give him so much. A plain-spoken member of the court rose and said :—"I wish to put this *memorial* into plain English, as the memorialists should have done before they came here. It reads as follows :—"We respectfully ask of this reverend body that they will require of our beloved pastor to contribute of his own substance \$150 per annum for the support of the Gospel in our congregation; for if this is not done, then must one hundred and fifty of our number be compelled to add one dollar each to what is now subscribed, in order to keep the salary at its present rate'" "The prayer of the memorial was granted," is recorded in the presbytery records.

And how difficult to get the little that is promised, as the column for arrears show. At an annual meeting of a congregation a proposal was made to increase the minister's salary from \$500 to \$600. But the pastor sprang to his feet and earnestly pleaded that it be not done, and gave as his reason that "During the previous year he had been run off his feet collecting the little he had, and if he were made responsible for collecting an additional \$100 it would kill him outright." A minister in one of the eastern villages is threatening resignation, and the people feel his ingratitude keenly, for he has actually, during the year, been presented with a *comforter* and a *bushel of dried apples*. In Boston they give the professors in their colleges \$2000 per annum, but the head cook of the leading hotel receives \$4000. Even in that intellectual city the people seem to think more of their stomachs than their heads. Some years ago we met a striking statement in the *Princeton Review*—a periodical usually very accurate. "The cost of the whole ministry in the United States is estimated at \$6,000,000, and the *dog tax* at \$10,000,000." An elder in one of our wealthiest congregations said to me :—"Some of our people think our minister has a good salary—\$2,000. I give that to the foreman in my sugar refinery, and though he suits his place and work well, he can neither read nor write