

arrears. Finally it has been found successful in congregations, having in several cases more than doubled the revenues previously received when pew rents were in force.

Next to the system of weekly offerings, the plan of *Monthly Contributions* is recommended. The details of this plan are similar to those of the weekly offerings already described.

In some country districts, in which money is in circulation only, at particular seasons of the year it may be found difficult to carry out the plan either by weekly or monthly contributions. In such cases the Synod recommends that calls be made at the houses of the people, who should be invited to contribute, as according to the other systems, not in proportion to the amount of church accommodation required, but in proportion to their means. They should also be urged to give with as much regularity as possible. This implies that the calls are made with regularity. If these suggestions were faithfully attended to, deacons or managers would be enabled to meet their engagements with punctuality, arrears would be less likely to accumulate, and ministers, even although the amount of their stipend was not increased, would be placed in much more comfortable circumstances; for it is very evident that a smaller income, regularly received, is better than a larger amount irregularly paid. These remarks apply with equal force when it is found impracticable to depart from the plan of renting sittings or pews at fixed rates.

The commencement of a new year is near at hand, and as it is generally at the beginning of the year that congregational meetings are held and financial matters discussed, it is hoped that the recommendations of Synod will receive attentive consideration. No very great additional efforts are needed to remedy the evil of inadequate support. We have 41,000 communicants. An average increase of two cents a week on the part of each of these would suffice to increase the stipends of ministers to one third beyond the present rates. Such an increase might be effected with great ease, if the recommendations of Synod were adopted.

In conclusion, the attention of the members and adherents of our church is respectfully invited to the following passage from the Word of God, "If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?" If others be partakers of this power over you, are not we rather? Nevertheless we have not used this power; but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the gospel of Christ. Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple; and they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar? Even so hath the Lord ordained, that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel."

WILLIAM GREGG,

Convener of Synod's Committee on the Augmentation of Stipends.
TORONTO, 19th November, 1866.

HARVEST WORK ON THE SABBATH.

Part of a Harvest Homily in the County of Grey 30th September, from the text, Job 1 : 9. "Doth Job serve God for nought?"

Every sacrifice required by religion will be unhesitatingly submitted to by every religious man; everything God's law make incumbent, though it stand in the way of advantages, which those less scrupulous may lay hold on. I shall speak, in this connection, only of the sacrifice which, to many in such a season as this, may seem to have been required by the strict ob-