

idea of his generosity than might have been warranted by facts,—"I am sure I kept my hands in my pockets." I have before me Mr. McMurrich's state of the sacramental collections in Oct. 1849, and I observe that, compared with those of 1854-5, the difference is as £13, to within a trifle of £23.

Ample reference has been made by Mr. John Shaw to the plans proposed for the benefit of the Church finance in 1852. He forgot to state that the entire origination of the plan contained in the following paper, belongs not to the trustees, but exclusively to the pastor, whom at that time the same influence, now at work, sought to exclude :

TO THE MEMBERS AND SITTERS IN KNOX'S CHURCH.

At the annual meeting of the Congregation, held in March last, it appeared from the Report of the trustees, that the ordinary income and the ordinary expenditure nearly balanced each other, leaving nothing for the payment of interest on the debt, or for meeting some repairs rendered necessary for the comfortable accommodation of the congregation. To cover these outlays, an amount of about two hundred pounds will be required for the present year.

In order to suggest a plan by which such an augmentation might be made to the regular funds of the Church, as would be sufficient to cover this outlay, a Committee, consisting of the Trustees, members of Session, and six members of the Congregation at large, was appointed, who having given the matter their most careful consideration, came to the resolution that the easiest and most effective plan would be a voluntary agreement on the part of the Sitters to add considerably to their ordinary weekly contributions.

The Committee are aware of the liberality with which many already contribute, and for this they would make every grateful acknowledgment. Still they are persuaded that the subject of regular contributions on the Lord's Day has not engaged the attention of members so fully as its importance entitles it to; and they are satisfied that a regular and duly graduated scale of weekly contributions must commend itself to the approval of all who desire to see the congregation flourish.

The Committee desire it to be distinctly understood, that in making such a proposal, they are far from wishing to dictate to the congregation, or from appearing to propose a compulsory assessment. They desire merely to indicate their own impressions of the financial capabilities of the congregation, and respectfully to suggest for voluntary adoption a plan which, in their opinion, if fairly carried out, promises to be successful. From a careful survey of the congregation, and independently of any additions which may be made to it from time to time, it is the opinion of the Committee that a scheme of contributions, somewhat like the following, might be aimed at, and if successfully carried out, the result would be amply sufficient to realize the object in view, while the pressure would not be felt so much by individuals.

Supposing that in the congregation considered as ordinarily assembling at the two diets of public worship on Sabbath, there may be of sitters representing families—