

to remedy or prevent this state of matters, none know better than the defaulters themselves. It has not been for want of repeated asking that the various amounts have not been collected.

Distasteful as the subject is, your Committee feel compelled to refer to it, in order to point out how unjustly the system which has been adopted of supplying the deficiency in the revenue falls upon the liberal and charitably disposed. For instance, the \$1,650.00 received during the year from the Kirk Session is just so much money (less some few hundred dollars) taken from those who have paid their pew rents in order to make up the deficiency caused by those who have not. For it is to be assumed, that no one will give to the collectors for the Schemes who has failed to contribute, to the extent of his pew rent at least, to the just debts of the Congregation with which he is connected. The Committee would not willingly hurt the feelings of any one who, from unforeseen misfortune, and the general distress, may be unable to meet a liability undertaken in good faith. The Congregation as a whole, as well as such individuals, must expect to suffer from the almost universal depreciation in property and the depressed state of trade and business, and, until better times come, the strong among them must be prepared to bear the burdens of the weak. Can it be, however, that the weak in our Congregation are in the serious proportion towards the strong of 75 to 103?

The Committee for the coming year will necessarily have to face the fact that their revenues will be deficient. The probable claims upon them will be over \$6,000.00, and, even if all the pew rents and Glebe rents, and the probable available arrears of such, be paid, it has been calculated that the Committee will have to rely upon voluntary contributions to the extent of at least \$600.00; and this \$600.00 will be increased to \$2,000.00, if the pew rents are as heavily in arrear during the coming year as during the past.

Owning a large property, the Congregation may be thought by some to be in a position to contribute much more extensively to the work of the Church. But it must be borne in mind, that apart from the rents received