

city would add \$3,000 to that amount. Mr. John McDonald, of Toronto said he would be one of ten to subscribe \$1 000, provided that nine others would do the same within ten minutes. The amount was subscribed on the spot, in five minutes. By this we are reminded of the saying attributed to the late Dr. Cooke, of Belfast. A missionary meeting had been held in his church. On the following morning, as he was pacing down the street, he was met by a parishioner to whom he gave a glowing description of the interest awakened at the meeting and instanced the case of an individual, hitherto notorious for his parsimony in regard to such matters, who had actually been influenced by the eloquence of the speakers to contribute a larger amount than any other in the assemblage. His friend at first appeared incredulous. On second thoughts he exclaimed,—"Why, the man must be mad." "If such be the case replied the Doctor," all I have to say about it is, that I hope he will bite every member of my congregation."

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.—Occasionally it falls to us to take up "the collection." On a recent Sabbath we noticed an envelope on the plate with this inscription.—"D. J. C.'s usual contribution for six weeks in the country. \$3.00." We think the best thing we can do in the circumstances is to "pass it round." It is a seasonable suggestion to a numerous class of church goers who, while enjoying a time of refreshing at the sea-coast, or elsewhere forget, sometimes, that the expenses of their own congregation are all the while running on. A very large sum is annually lost to the church, simply because very few take so conscientious a view of the matter as this D. J. C. Do our friends see the point quite clearly?

THE ELDER'S OFFER, to be one of ten to give \$1 000 each to the Home Mission fund of the church, is still open. We are now advised that the subscription book will remain open to the first of

October. The anecdote related of Lean Swift may bear repetition in this connection. He had been asked to preach a "charity sermon." He gave out for his text, Proverbs 19th and 17th.—"He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will He pay him again." "Gentlemen," said he, "you have heard the terms of this transaction; if you are satisfied with your security, *down with the dust.*" And so ended the sermon.

Supposing that Montreal and Toronto would, between them, take up this new stock, it would be a small thing after all: but the influence of such an example would be simply incalculable. "Bring ye all the tithes into the store house, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open you the windows of Heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."—*Mal. III. 10.*

REV. ALEXANDER N. SOMMERVILLE.

"Was na that a sermon? you's a workman that needeth not be ashamed!" So said a venerable lady who had seen four-score summers and listened to many excellent sermons, as she was leaving the door of St. Paul's Church, Montreal, one of these terribly hot sabbaths in July last. The subject of this well-deserved encomium was the Rev. Alex. Sommerville, minister of Anderston Free Church, Glasgow, one of the most remarkable preachers of the day, whose reputation as a laborious and successful evangelist is known in many lands. Since the rising of our General Assembly, to which he came as a delegate from the Free Church of Scotland, Mr. S. has visited many of the towns and villages of Western Canada—everywhere preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom with a power and eloquence seldom to be met with. The