

individuals. Some have nobly answered the appeal, as our acknowledgements show, but instead of \$1500 in fund to meet the semi-annual payment due January 1st, there is only about half that sum.

The fact becomes more apparent every year, that some of our Congregations are contributing admirably, and others are not giving at all in proportion, either to numbers or ability. There appears a lack of information and interest on the part of such Congregations, in many cases the effect of silence, or want of system on the part of the Pastor. System and effort are wanted.

That the contributions of the church might easily be doubled, is evident from the position attained by Primitive Church, New Glasgow, which clearly on this point occupies the van. Here are the contributions of a quarter.

Ministerial Education.....	\$78
Collected for Ch. at Moser's River..	78
Mr. Chiniquy.....	68
Deaf and Dumb Institution.....	86
Acadia Mission, Ladies Society....	20
A Lady.....	5

*Supplementing Fund:*

Ladies Society.....	\$16
R. S. McC.....	20
Collection.....	156
	— 192
	\$527

And this munificent sum is not the result of great wealth, for we have many larger, and some wealthier churches. It is the result of giving by all, giving on principle, and by system.

A single remittance from Truro Congregation in December, brought \$233.50 for two of the Church's schemes. This is indeed a large and a wealthy Congregation, yet the position which it has taken and holds is highly honourable.

Kiver Charlo Congregation was not self-sustaining till a year ago, and yet, within 6 months the Treasurer has received three Contributions for Foreign Missions, which with a forth from one of its members, make \$67.79 for this one scheme.

Many others have done well, but not all, and the only effectual security which the Church can have that the cause of her Lord shall not seriously suffer, is just the prevalence, all over her borders, of the prin-

ciple and practice of a cheerful, regular, giving on principle, and in proportion to means. Much is now said and printed on this subject, but not too much. The scale of Christian Liberality has been raised most certainly, but not by all persons in any Congregation, and not in any perceptible degree in some portions of the Church. The general prevalence of true principles of giving would speedily relieve us of all our difficulties.

Remember during this month, specially the weaker Congregations, and our Foreign Missions.

### • THE PAST YEAR.

Another of our few short years is past with all its sunshine and shadow—with all its joy and sorrow—with all its lessons and opportunities. What account have you, reader, to give of your stewardship for the past year? How have you treasured its precious moments? How much more are you like our blessed Lord and Master than when the year began? You commenced the year with solemn resolutions: how have you carried out these into action? How have you received your mercies, and your afflictions? This is a most appropriate time for faithful self-examination. See how you have discharged your duties as a father, as a husband, as a son or daughter: see what you have done to advance the cause of Christ, and how you have done your appointed work as a minister, or as a ruling elder, or as a Sabbath School Teacher, or simply as a member of the church. An honest estimate of last year's work will aid you greatly in starting well with the new year.

Looking abroad over the Christian world, we see delightful signs of progress within the past year. There has been a most exciting conflict between Romanism and the German Empire, to the decided disadvantage of the former. The Jesuits have been expelled from Germany. Every state in Europe is tending towards a position of antagonism to Rome. Evangelical operations are encouragingly successful. The