

America full of these cavillers and idlers, they would not convert one son of Adam in a whole century, except perchance they might convert him from liberality to miserliness or from activity to indolence. We do not ask gentry of this stamp to be 'members of our parish,' as saith the Scottish Divines.

No longer looking at this chapter of things, my brother, but turning a new leaf and taking the oracles of the Lawgiver, let the question be proposed with all its point and pith: What better or more efficient co-operation is required than the co-operation of the Lord's friends composing the churches, without one new officer and without a modern and man-invented organization? Let us suppose that the Lord's people in the state of Ohio desire to concentrate their liberality either to convert their neighbors in the state, or to christianize their neighbors in Africa, India, or the Isles of the Pacific. There are, we shall say, five hundred churches in Ohio. Not to burden our vision with too wide an outline, let us make the churches in Cincinnati, Marietta, Cleveland, and Columbus the representatives of all the congregations in the state. These churches, or rather each of them, if modelled after the old-fashioned model, will have a treasury for the joint liberality of the members; and according to the original pattern, each treasury will have scriptural officers to keep and manage it. There is wisdom enough among the chosen of the Lord in Cincinnati to make the right use of the sacred fund in the purse of the church; there is equal wisdom in Marietta, Cleveland, and Columbus; and all being the Lord's people, all having the same love, and all have the same willingness to do the Lord's work, the contributions in each treasury are either sent to the laborers whose hands the brethren resolve to hold up, as Paul and his companions received from various churches, or their contributions are brought together into one treasury, as the churches in divers places sent their funds to the treasury of the brethren at Jerusalem for a specific purpose.

Now if the brethren of two or ten churches are able to be fellow helpers together in working for the general interests of Christ's cause without the aid of modernly equipped officers or a newly framed organization, on the same principle all the churches of a state or of a whole country could co-operate. Nay, all the brethren in all the churches in America could work together without a humanly devised society.

Would it not seem as though a single church knew little of the institutions of Jesus if it set its wisdom to work to 'organize' a 'society' to collect and manage its own funds, either for missionary or other