

this coming year." This resolution was unanimously carried. I fear, however, that a goodly number of the pastors and delegates, after the vote was taken, felt like the man who signed a note for his debt, and said to himself with a sigh of relief, as if he had paid the debt, "Well now, I am thankful that that matter is disposed of!"

Stimulated, doubtless, by the earnestness of which this resolution was the outcome, your committee, ignoring the existing debt and the decreasing receipts, and with a great faith that the spirit of the resolution would be carried back to the churches, and worked out to a successful issue by the ministers and delegates so resolving, increased the mission grants by  $17\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. over the previous year.

Applied to certain things faith is a great virtue, and works wonders, as we have the best authority for believing; but as applied to matters of finance, there is no doubt, as we have equal authority for believing, that faith without works is dead. In this case I regret to say, that in most instances the "works" did not accompany the "faith," and the results show that it would have been the wiser course to have recognized the debt, decreased the mission grants, and allowed the hoped for increase in subscriptions to reduce the existing deficit.

As it is, the Treasurer's statement, which I now present, shows that the year closes with a shortage of \$223.19, not including, of course, the debt with which the year began.

I must here give credit to the mover of the aforesaid resolution for doing his best, and that most successfully, to realize the spirit of his motion. When the time came for taking up the Home Mission collection, Mr. Silcox gave the entire Sunday morning to the society, preaching no regular sermon, but telling his people what the society had done in the past, what its aims and objects were, and what it proposed doing in the future. He gave illustrations of the good it had accomplished in various places, and imparted information in this way of which many were completely ignorant, thus giving his people reasons why they should contribute liberally to such a good object.

He also frankly told them that they ought to be ashamed of the scant support they had given the society last year, being only \$160; and called for \$500 this year. What was the result? Emmanuel Church this year is credited with \$534, or equal to an average of two dollars per member.

Now I give this illustration, not for the glorification of Emmanuel Church, because it has simply done *its* duty, but to

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