

These all died in faith ; and now they desire a better country that is an heavenly : wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God ; for He hath prepared for them a city.

From time to time, nay often, the summons must come to one and another in such a congregation as this. Let us all be ready, and where one is taken and another, let those who are alive and remain close up the ranks and undeterred toil on. 1 Cor. 15—58.

Financial.

There has been a fair increase during the year in the offerings, over \$200.00 more being given through the envelopes, and on the whole the financial outlook is hopeful. The most cheerful thing of all is the very happy inception of the system for the reduction of the church debt, a scheme that has so far been crowned with success. Over \$1200.00 being paid off so far. But I must again and again even at the risk of tiresomeness and wearisomeness reiterate what I am forever saying that *the finances of St. Paul's will never be what they ought to be and what they might be unless two things are systematically and earnestly carried out.*

(1.) A vigorous and hearty canvass of the old contributors one by one *personally* shewing them the present state of the churches finances, and an appeal to them to consider if they would be willing, if able, to raise the amount of their weekly contributions.

This of course would be a purely voluntary matter with them, but there is surely nothing contrary to the free principle in letting the members of the church know that the church expenses demand a larger contribution for its smooth working.

(2.) A hearty and systematic canvass of all new comers to the church by a responsible committee to explain the working of the envelope system, and the desirability of all members contributing in that way to the church's support.

The members of St. Paul's must remember that the Argyle Hall for some five years and the National School for one