

The Monthly Record of the Church of Scotland.

wie, and most liable to err, even the wisest and best of men. In my previous communication I gave proof from Scripture where God not only ordered but commended instruments to be made to praise him with, and I ask any one to point out to me where he ever commanded to discontinue the use of them in praising Him. Your correspondent says if we want Instrumental Music, we should also continue the sacrificial Priesthood. How any person in his common senses could make such an absurd proposal I cannot comprehend. Any child who attends Sabbath School if you ask them can tell you all offering of sacrifice was only typical of Christ, who when He offered Himself a sacrifice to satisfy Divine justice, put an end to all that. Not so with praising God; that was to be continued and continued more fully than ever. I consider praise the most beautiful part of our worship, for what is more appropriate than for God's people to praise Him from whom all blessings flow. And we are distinctly told that praise is the only part of our worship that will be continued in Heaven. And we are told we will praise Him with Golden Harps. Your correspondent says the preaching of the Gospel of Christ ought to be sufficient to draw people to Church. But I would beg leave to justly remind him that even that of itself is not sufficient unless accompanied by the blessing of God and the application of the Holy Spirit, for Paul may plant and Apollonia may water, but it is God that giveth the increase. The same holds good in praising him; unless we praise with a right spirit our praise will not be acceptable to Him who alone is able to judge the heart. No matter whether it is vocal or instrumental. But, if one with a right spirit, it is just as acceptable accompanied by an Organ as without. The only sign of an objection to the Organ from Scripture by your correspondent, is if it cause a weak brother to offend. Well there may be something in that. But I fear we cause our weak brother to offend much more seriously than in introducing an Organ into the Church. But when we can prove that the thing is not really wrong in itself and not contrary to God's word, we ought to try and feed our weak brother

on the stronger food, and educate them up so that they could stand the full light of the word, instead of strengthening them in their prejudices.

Another objection was the means of the church to be used in that way. Well, that cannot apply to our Church as one of our young men offered to put one there at his own expense, so that puts an end to another objection. I am afraid I am making this too long. If your correspondent approves of economy in Church action, he should have begun earlier and instead of building such an expensive Church as St. Andrew's, Pictou, they could have built one that would have served his purpose for fourth of the money it cost. And there would be some 25,000 dollars at the disposal of the congregation for Missionary purposes. Hoping your correspondent will give more tangible objections in his next I will conclude this time.

Written by a Worshipper in St. Andrew's.

SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE.

No scheme has been or can be invented by which the Church's work can be done apart from earnest individual effort. Perpetual motion is a dream of fanciful empires. Equally vain and fanciful is every dream of self-working Church schemes. If we are to have "systematic beneficence" it must be regularly, faithfully, loyally wrought out by living men and women and children. Method is of immense importance; but after all the great point is the carrying out of our methods. A Scriptural system of Church finance honourably and faithfully followed up from day to day by individual effort is the great desideratum of our Church. God's method must ever be the best. When the poor give of their poverty and the rich of their abundance, when the widow brings her mite, and the child his five or ten cents, and the wealthy man his hundred or thousand dollars, when the inflow is steady, regular, conscientious, our Church finance will be in a satisfactory condition; but not till then. Giving to the Lord is as truly an act of worship as praying or singing to the Lord. We teach our children and our people generally the duty of regularly