

£2,000,000 and accumulated invested funds for various religious and benevolent objects to the amount of about £1,000,000, every penny of which has been contributed by her liberal members. One loyal son whose name will be held in everlasting remembrance, having given among other handsome offerings the princely sum of £500,000. Three millions sterling within little more than 50 years is no mean tribute of the liberality of the sons and daughters of that national church to whose traditional name this congregation adheres.

Probably the disestablishers will hardly have the daring to propose the confiscation of those recent endowments; but the older endowments were acquired on precisely the same principle, and to seize either must equally violate the spirit as well as the letter of the Eighth Commandment. Mr. Hill then referred to some arguments used for the disendowment of the church, such as (1.) The dissenting churches have solved the problem of church maintenance in Scotland by the free will offering of the people. He showed by statistics that the inevitable tendency of dissenters is to cultivate the large cities and to forsake the poor and sparsely peopled districts, to follow the West end proclivities of the wealthy adherents and to leave the masses to their fate. (2.) That it would be a good thing to leave the church to present day resources. This is not an argument that will have much force in Canada, where amid the straits of many congregations an endowment would be of the greatest advantage. But supposing for the sake of argument, that there is something in those reasons, the voluntary system will be objectionable in Scotland (1) because it mars a minister's influence; (2) it impedes his missionary efforts; (3) it dries up the resources of charitable institutions—the fact being that Scottish charities are mainly supported by the Established Church; (4) it occupies a minister with financial work which is utterly alien to the spirit of his sacred office. The parish minister offers a gospel literally “without money and without price,” and when he invites an individual to the communion table his mind is not haunted with the spectre of the collector who will

follow in his track the following year. Neither has he to demean himself by the manner of appeals and schemes to raise up the funds like the dissenting minister whose success as a pastor is very gauged by his skill in extracting money from the pockets of his people. It would be a black day for Scotland when her churches have to become “touters” for adherents to their churches and rivals of the “collector” rather than dignified pastors who need care for none of those things.

MR. MOODY ON CONVERSION

Messrs. Moody and Sankey have had large and interesting meetings at Montreal. We select the following example from *Montreal Star*:—

After prayer, Mr. Sankey sang “Work in My Vineyard.” Then the Rev. Mr. Dey prayed, the congregation sang hymn 192, and Principal MacVicar read the sixth chapter of Galatians, giving explanations. Mr. Sankey then sang “Are you going to do.” The Rev. Mr. McKay then opened the discussion subject for the day, “How to secure conversion of our young people.” He thought more should be done in dealing with the children. More money should be given them and God’s kingdom should be opened up to them.

Then Mr. Moody spoke. Just two weeks upon this subject. We make a great mistake when we don’t give more attention to our children. We parents ought to be young with them one day in the week at least. Once a mother brought her child a long way to see me in hope that I might be able to reclaim him. The boy had been very deeply

interested in some services I had given, and I thought him a most beautiful character. Well, that boy hadn’t been in town more than twenty-four hours when he got acquainted with the scum of the place. He was a moral leper. Two younger brothers were traveling the same way as he was, going right to ruin. Now, I couldn’t understand this was. The boys had a beautiful father and mother; and every inducement to keep them from going. Well, two years ago I was at the place where these boys lived, and saw