

amount to about \$4,000,000 per annum. The one-tenth of this sum would be equal to the present total average contributions of the whole Church to the Foreign or Home Mission Boards. If distributed among the several boards it would support one-fourth of their entire work. We know, however, that the contributions of the ministry form a large part of the present revenues of the boards, and are, proportionally, greatly in advance of those of the laity."

We believe that, in Canada also, a large proportion of the Missionary income of the Protestant Churches is derived from the gifts of its ministry. But it is doubtful, however, whether any large number of the ministry of these Churches have come up to the full requirements of Paul's rule, and to the full responsibilities of their position as ensamples to the flock.

This may be one reason why so many pulpits are silent, not as to giving in general, but as to the proportions and periods in which the giving should be. Let ministers of the Gospel ponder the sufferings through which the early teachers of Christianity had to pass, when they were made "a spectacle unto the world, and to angels and to men," "when they suffered hunger and thirst and nakedness," "when they laboured working with their own hands," and let them also remember "Him who though he was rich yet for our sake became poor, that we, through His poverty, might be rich."

"Must Jesus bear the cross alone,
And all the world go free?
No! There's a cross for every one,
And there is a cross for me."

LIVING PREACHERS.

ENTRANCES OF PEARLS.

BY REV. T. DE WITT TALMAGE.

"And the twelve gates were twelve pearls."—
Rev. xxi. 21.

Our subject speaks of a great metropolis, the existence of which many have doubted. Standing on the wharf and looking off upon the harbour, and seeing the merchantmen coming up the bay, the flags of foreign nations streaming from the top-gallants, you immediately make up your mind that those vessels come from foreign ports, and you say: "That is from Hamburg, and that is from Marseilles, and that is from Southampton, and that is from Havana," and your supposition is accurate. But from the city of which I

at this time speak, no weather-beaten merchantmen or frigates with scarred bulkhead have ever come. There has been a vast immigration into that city, but no emigration from it—so far as our natural vision can descry. "There is no such city," says the undevout astronomer. "I have stood in high tower with a mighty telescope, and have swept the heavens, and I have seen spots on the sun and caverns in the moon; but no towers have ever risen on my vision, no palaces, no temples, no shining streets, no massive wall. There is no such city." Even very good people tell me that heaven is not a material organism, but a grand spiritual fact, and that the Bible descriptions of it are in all cases to be