

do your own share of work and also your negligent neighbour's, give God the glory.

Again how many congregations forget their full duty towards themselves and the Church at large! How many forget or neglect to contribute their due share towards the support of our Church schemes! The result is that a considerable number have to do double work and bear a double burden. It may seem hard thus to do and to bear, but it is dutiful and Christ-like. The most discouraging thing in the aspect of our Church is the number of congregations and of individual members who neglect their duty and fail to make common cause in all efforts with the Church at large. It is a sin and a cruel shame to shirk duty and to lay on the weary shoulders of others the burdens which we ourselves should bear. O that all would learn that it is more blessed to give than to receive—to do for others rather than let others do for us!

Our Fathers on the other side of the sea toiled for us, made great sacrifices for us. Our Saviour died for us. Let it then be our delight to do what in us lies for the good of others, to send them the Gospel, to supply their lack of service, to tell them of the love of God in Christ Jesus. Possessed ourselves with the spirit of the Redeemer nothing can be more beneficial to us than that we should be mindful of the best interests of others.

The Power of Littles

The Church cannot be too deeply impressed with the "power of littles." The Lord gave the lesson very emphatically to His disciples when He directed them to gather up the fragments, that nothing should be lost. Let our Sessions, Presbyteries, Synods, and General Assembly take due measures to "gather up the fragments." Let the help of all be secured. Let us so arrange that every congregation and station however small and weak may have an opportunity of doing something towards the Church's enterprises. The reproach and weakness of the Presbyterian Church are that there are so many of her members and adherents who are satisfied to look on while others are doing the work, and bearing the burden. We must learn the lesson of the children's little verses:

Little drops of water,
Little grains of sand,—
Make the mighty ocean
And the solid land.

And the little moments,
Humble though they be,
Make the mighty ages
Of eternity.

When all our people do their work as faithfully as some do it—when all our congregations learn to bear their due proportion of the Church's burdens—then may we expect better and more prosperous days, both in matters spiritual and temporal. There are within the bounds of our Church some congregations the joint resources of all the members of which would not amount to \$5000 a year, and yet who contribute regularly to all the schemes of the Church. This is the spirit we hope to see diffused throughout our bounds. Let nothing be lost, not the cents of the children, not the poor widow's precious "two mites."

A General Sustentation Fund.

THE EXAMPLES OF THE FREE CHURCH
AND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
ENGLAND.

WHEN reference is made to the example of the Free Church, and to the wonderful results achieved through the successful working of her sustentation fund, the objection immediately follows: but her circumstances were peculiar, and her sustentation scheme was carried forward on the great wave of enthusiasm, caused by her separation from the Church of Scotland. Our circumstances in Canada are entirely different. We would have no such tide on which to float off a new system of finance; but on the contrary, we would have to contend against the intense prejudices of those who for long years have managed their own affairs, as far as money matters are concerned, as they pleased, and who would look upon this new plan as an interference with their liberty. We are sure this objection will meet us at the Assembly, and it will therefore be advisable for us to meet it now by giving a short sketch of the origin and history of the Free Church sustentation fund, and drawing some inferences therefrom. In the year 1841, when it was becoming evident that the disruption was imminent, Dr. Chalmers drew up and