

face. Cases of this sort are becoming few and fewer. Thank God that a great scandal is thus coming to an end; but the few cases that remain are all the more glaring and shocking.

From some quarters of the Church, tidings came of great activity in the Lord's service,—large additions to the church, liberal contributions to the Lord's treasury. From too many quarters the story was altogether of an opposite tenor,—“My leanness, my leanness.”

The old ecclesiastical year is over,—dead,—gone from us forever. Its ill-used, unused, murdered moments may indeed meet us at the Judgment seat of Christ, but it is irrevocably gone. How shall we profit by the errors and failings of the past? How shall we make the Synodical year on which we have just entered the most profitable in our history? We ask every minister, elder, and member of the church to think over these questions and to answer them as in the presence of the Searcher of hearts. There is an easy and obvious answer: need we put it in words?

Other Churches are in earnest doing the Lord's work. Thank God that it is so. Ought not we to be roused to generous rivalry in the common Master's service? The missionaries of error, the champions of superstition, folly and spiritual tyranny are active in their work of evil: ought we not waken to the duty and privilege of doing all we can for the truth, for the glory of our Lord, and the salvation of souls? What is the use of our pure doctrines, our well arranged creeds, our scriptural system of Government, if we are not good and hard-working Christians? A dead Presbyterianism, holding on with a death-grip to all the “points”—to all the pins of the tabernacle,—is simply hideous, a mockery and a snare. Infinitely better is living Christianity even if found among the most condemned of sectaries. Our Church can never be beautiful, comely, in the eyes of God or man, except it be a living and working Church.

Infidelity is in earnest sapping the foundations of the faith, far and wide. Superstition is in earnest spreading her dark wings over

once christian lands. Mammon-worshippers are in earnest hoarding up this world's wealth for their own gratification, not for God's glory or the good of men. Are we in earnest in the best and noblest of causes? Time is short, and the work is great. God who has given us much expects much of us in return for his abundant grace.

The members of Synod understood, what we hope every member of the church will in a few weeks fully understand, that our Church is now in special need of money for several departments of her work. The money is in your hands, brethren: God has given it to you to hold at His pleasure. Christ needs it: will you give it? “I gave my life for the,” says Christ: “What givest thou for Me?”

1. The Foreign Mission Fund is empty,—a rare thing in our church. Our people love the Foreign Mission work; they love the Missionaries, and the needed funds will be forth-coming without delay. We cannot for a moment imagine that our Foreign Missions which have already been honoured so highly by our Divine Master are to be forgotten, neglected, or starved by our people.

2. The Supplementing Fund is in urgent need. This Fund is to our church what Sustentation Funds are to the other churches. Our existence as a living, thriving, expanding church depends under God on the prosperity of this Fund. We want at least \$3500 to meet the current demand. Read and study the Report in our present issue, and you will have a correct idea of the necessities of this Fund.

3. The Education of the rising ministry must excite a warmer interest than ever in our hearts. The collections from the churches nearly met current expenses. This year we hope and believe that the necessary advance in liberality will be made and that current expenses will be fully met. But it is of still greater importance that the Theological Hall now so efficiently equipped, should be largely attended by pious, devoted and talented young men. The work of our church at home and abroad, can never be efficiently carried forward unless we have a large and regular supply of young ministers.