

In these hard times some men may not make more than \$5 per week, and have to pay rent and keep a family. Can they do it? I own it looks difficult, but faith and experience says, God is able to make \$4.50 go farther with His blessing, than \$5 without it. Who will trust God? Who will give Him the tenth whether their income be much or little? Who will have faith enough in God to try Him? He Himself invites us to "prove him," and see if it is not profitable. Some one has said, "Free-will offerings and giving to God's cause won't count till we have paid our just debt." When we have paid our tenth, which we really "owe," then after that we can begin to do what is really giving. O, friends, let us rise up in our might as the heart of one man, and be determined we will not bring down upon ourselves or the Church of which we form a part, the curse of barrenness, or be compelled to use so many artificial ways of raising money. Then our socials would be socials indeed after our Lord's pattern, when we would have no anxiety about how much we were going to make out of them. We would then invite to our supper the poor, the aged and infirm who could not recompense us; but God Himself will recompense us at the resurrection of the just.

Now, if each of God's children would lay aside the tenth (or tithe) as the Apostle we believe refers to, would there not be meat in his house, that is, a plentiful supply for all needful service, and also keep our seats free? Let not the day come when people will have to pay for the seat they sit on to hear the gospel in our church. Let us not treat God meanly, for "He is the bountiful Donor of all we enjoy." In the days of Malachi they treated the Lord's offerings contemptuously and said, "Behold what a weariness is it, and ye have snuffed at it, saith the Lord of hosts;" but He marked it. "There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; there is that withholdeth more than is meet, and it tendeth to poverty." I have been signally helped to make ends meet when I determinately avoided touching the tenth for my own use, though none knew of it but the Lord Himself. I give a clipping which I think is very good:—

"THE CONVERSION OF THE WORLD WAITS ON THE GENEROSITY
OF GOD'S PEOPLE."

"The habit of storing or laying aside one tenth of our income is the secret of a happy, useful, and often steady-going Christian life. Of course it pays.

"A Christian Hindu who tried both keeping and neglecting it, once remarked, "It pays to mind it, for nine tenths with God's blessing goes much further than ten tenths without it." We hold our possessions as stewards from God. Mark Guy Pearse says:—"There is no stealing so mean or so bad as stealing from God."

"Then on the other hand the habit of giving elevates the character, enlarges the heart and invigorates spiritual life. 'It is a great help in getting away from self.'

"One of our members who some two years since adopted this plan met the Secretary the other day and said, 'Do you know anything that wants funds, I have given all my subscriptions and I still have money on hand to give away.' In another case whenever a special sum is needed or some purpose the secretary has only to telephone and it is sent over."