

The St. John Wail.

REV. M. P. TALLING.

A LONG wail of complaint has come up from St. John, and spread even beyond the Dominion's bounds, piercing ears, and oppressing hearts, because of the emaciated condition of our church treasury, but the "wail" has done good service. The wailers and their critics have succeeded in impressing the church with the fact that something must be done by somebody. The patient needs a tonic. Only one method of treatment can be effective—we must administer the "gold cure."

Every body knows that many small doses are better than one large one, so a thousand sympathetic people have already begun to examine personal finances and are arranging to forward their contributions. Moreover, as "the fervent effectual prayer of a righteous man availeth much;" and as the praying ones will give their littles while praying much, we may expect the many "mickles that make a muckle," and why not expect that effectual prayer will bring a few substantial bequests this year?

The need is patent. The work is God's. He permits the pressure now on us to reveal that the rank and file are not doing all we ought, but He has said "My word shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please and it shall prosper in the things whereto I sent it." The gold will come and the givers will be blessed in the giving. The tonic will have a double action, while it strengthens the treasury, it will also strengthen the administrators.

The wail was opportune, but just let us rest our lips now, and use our fingers awhile. Perhaps, too, it would be a valuable exercise to use our faith a little more. Is it not written "and it shall come to pass that before they call I will answer"?

If we could only see the chart which the Head of the church has already drawn of the coming year's work, we would probably see that He has provided for various extensions and a surplus. So let us be happy and contribute at least a full tenth of all God sends our way.

No wail should be more than a year long. When the Assembly comes to London we want a jubilee. If we are to have it we must make it. Listen! I think I hear a change in the key of the wail already.

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