

men are all well accustomed to the use of the axe—and a large share of the rough work of preparing the frame, hewing the timber, drawing logs to the mill and back in the shape of lumber, to the site of the church, would invariably be done by those who expected to become members of the congregation, and even, as we have seen in not a few cases, by neighbours who had no very great sense of religion themselves, but who from a kind motive would help those whom they saw anxious to help themselves. The amount raised, as contemplated by Mr. Inglis, would thus afford assistance to more than one church, and might assist to decide some who were in doubt, from not seeing how the whole expense was to be met, to make up their minds to the erection of a place of worship.

What, however, we would more especially draw attention to now, is the confirmation afforded by this proposal to the views expressed in our last number of the benefits of organization, and the large sums that could be raised with little individual exertion. The sum of five cents in the half year, less than a cent every month, would amount to a very respectable contribution in the aggregate. Out of the number, how many would feel it a sacrifice to give a cent once every four or five weeks? Yet this small amount would exceed the whole sum contributed to the French mission, including the maintenance of the day-school, would fall very little short of the congregational collections made for the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, and would be nearly four times as much as is sent by all the charges of our Church to the committee for assisting, by bursaries, the education of young and promising students in training for the work of the ministry. One cent in every five weeks from each Sabbath-scholar, placed in comparison with the efforts, or rather the no effort, made by the whole Church, might well shame us into doing something to remove the stigma which may well and justly rest upon us. Is this failure to do more a symptom of an apathy proceeding from a decay of spiritual life, or does it merely arise from the want of the subject being properly brought under the notice of the members and adherents of the Church? If the latter, then it will only be necessary to direct their attention to the disease, and its remedy to effect a cure. If the former, other and deeper sources of healing must be sought for, before the evil can be cured.

It is not a mere matter of pounds, shillings and pence on which we would enlarge. Money is only a means to an end, the highest which man can have in view. To attain this end, the man who feels convinced of its importance, would not consider even a heavy personal sacrifice too much to make. By wise management on the part of congregations, no such personal sacrifices need be made. A small sum from each to assist in carrying on the work laid upon the Church, would be sufficient to relieve the minds of the members of the Committees on the present schemes, from much and anxious thought as to the insufficiency of their resources to meet the claims urged upon them, and would enable them to calculate, with something like reasonable certainty, the probable income for the year. Arrangements could then be made, without the constant fear that the funds would be inadequate to fulfill the engagements entered upon—the French mission could be put on a footing commensurate to the magnitude of the field to be entered upon, and which has, as yet, been scarcely touched—assistance might be extended to those who are struggling to educate themselves for the ministry; and there are several at this moment to whom help of this kind would be all important, and the loss of whose future services would be a serious injury, not to our Church alone, but to the country: all the schemes, in a word, would experience a change of the most welcome character. All these benefits, and many more yet undreamed of, could be produced and continued, if a proper system of organization were adopted—if each congregation were awakened to a sense of the just claims the Church at large had upon it—and if every individual felt that his offering, however small, was swelling up the fountain from which might flow blessings innumerable to his own country, and to the world at large.

By the "*Home and Foreign Record of the Church of Scotland*," it will be seen that the question of association is exciting some attention there as well as here. The remarks on the circulation of the *Record* apply with equal force to the *Presbyterian*.

A correspondent from Greenock writes to us in connection with the article on Parochial Associations, and sends printed reports of parochial associations in the two principal churches in that town. Great good has been done, according to the writer, by means of these associations; and it is impossible to glance at the