

a good prospect of making a fair if not a prosperous voyage by June, 1870.

We thank those who responded to our request to forward sums on hand; and we are happy to add that the supplements were all sent off in the middle of January. A valued friend of the Church, C. D. H., responded to our invitation by saying, "Pay the amounts due, and draw on me, I'll wait till the money comes in." We accepted the offer, and all tantalizing delays have thus been avoided.

We offered another suggestion that collections for the funds, and for the supplementary fund in particular, should be taken in all congregations, and in the proper order, those who have done least hitherto, taking the priority. This, however, is only calling attention to the order of Synod. Hitherto our weakness in finance has been the want systematic and uniform action; the absence of harmonious concentrated effort. Many respond to every recommendation of Synod, but a number decline, sufficient to give an air of languor to the project, whatever it may be.

For this, some plead poverty in means or paucity of numbers; sufficient causes for collections being small, but not for neglecting the duty or despising the luxury of giving. "Moreover, Brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the Churches of Macedonia, how that in a great trial of affliction, the abundance of their joy and their *deep poverty* abounded unto the riches of their liberality."

If congregations are small in number or limited in means, they are only called to give as the Lord has prospered them! "For if there be first a willing mind it is acceptable according to that a man hath and not according to that he hath not." The Church will not be like her Lord unless she values the smaller contributions, and welcomes them as heartily as the larger. They often display the truest liberality, and are most worthy of record; and our Church will not appear in her strength until scriptural principles of giving are more generally practised, and the memorable words of the Lord Jesus realized "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Our Church in liberality is excelled by none in the Provinces, but still she is only waking up to her privilege and duty in this respect, and the coming day has dawned first on the older congregations, and on the middle class. The poorer and the wealthier of the people chiefly require stimulus and system in contribution.

The page of the *Record* most worthy of study we believe to be the last, and during the present month it will repay perusal. One hundred and ninety-three dollars from a congregation, chiefly rural, at one time is a fine effort of liberality. Thirty dollars from a small congregation, not wealthy nor even self-sustaining, sparse as well as small, and not long ago a mere fragment of a congregation, shews an excellent spirit. Forty dollars sent twice within a year from one Sabbath School for "Dayspring," betoken knowledge of and faith in Christ's law of finance; and for regularity and system in contribution, no congregations in the body excel the second congregation of Maitland and Noel and the congregation of Middle Stewiacke and Brookfield. Some others may give more, but none remit with greater punctuality, for we expect their quota just as we look for summer and winter, seed time and harvest.

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### WEEK OF PRAYER.

The first week of the year 1870 was truly a week of prayer in the lower Provinces specially, as well as in the Christian world generally. We are persuaded that the season was precious to the Lord's people in itself, and that it will prove precious in its results. Not in vain have the voices of Zion's watchmen been lifted up together, and the songs of the many thousands of Israel blended in unison, and myriads of hearts sent up fervent prayers for a new and sensible baptism of the Holy Spirit. The *Record* should surely lay before its readers some account of the more prominent features of this hallowed season. We therefore select a few of the more central localities, and present such notices as we have been able to gather.