

neighbours; and they are perhaps the most hopeful as they were among the earliest of my city friends.

E. R.

The Monthly Record.

MAY, 1877.

THE SUPPLEMENTAL FUND.

Having ascertained at meetings of most of our congregations that they are hearty and unanimous in favour of a scheme that will raise them in a few years above the necessity of applying for any external aid, which, from circumstances to which we need not refer, is from year to year becoming more and more precarious, it will be necessary for the Presbytery, at the earliest possible date, to arrange the details for setting the machinery in motion in order to accomplish this much to be desired and praiseworthy end. The success of the scheme will largely depend upon the heartiness, vigor, and zeal with which Kirk Sessions will go to work and with which they will inspire their several congregations. That they will have much uphill work, and many discouragements to contend with is pretty certain. A large sum looked at through the sombre colours of "hard times" will discourage not a few. But while there may be a few faint hearted soldiers in the ranks, we believe that, as a whole, a braver band never went more undismayed to face hardships or danger, and we predict for them a proud triumph. Their history shows that they have always been equal to the occasion; and although the burden about

to be undertaken may appear to be heavy for the comparatively few who are to share and bear it, we believe it can be carried without galling or chafing the shoulders or backs of any one. Outsiders will lend a friendly helping hand. To secure the sympathy and help of others we have but to go to work in earnest ourselves. The church expects every man and woman to do his and her duty in the matter. Every one is expected to give as the Lord hath prospered him, and the "Lord loveth a cheerful giver." Not only are the lovers of God and His Zion expected to contribute their share while living, but also in imitation of the late generous, benevolent Wm. Gordon, Esq., to remember the claims of the Church in their final disposal of their earthly possession, when "setting their house in order."

We offer the three following resolutions passed at a meeting of coloured Christians in the S. States, for the consideration of all, viz:

1. Resolved that we shall all give something.
2. That we shall give according to our ability.
3. That we shall give cheerfully.

If the above be acted out in good faith we need not fear the result. We are convinced that the "people have a mind to work." We believe the people are willing to deny themselves many luxuries, and even necessities, that the work may be accomplished. No one need face the work feeling that he is obliged to "make brick without straw." The mite of the poor and the widow will not fail to receive commendation and reward from him who, though now ascended up on high, still "beholds how the people cast money into the treasury." Let each gird himself to the task before us and may the testimony of Him who knoweth all things, of each of us, be "he hath done what he could."