

Church, Brooklyn, gives up the fight in favor of the free-pew system, after having tested it for nine years. Dr. Parker, in announcing the failure of the plan, took for his text Psa. lxxvi. 1, "We are like them that dream." He said: "We have dreamed our dream and had our vision, and now we have awakened to the hard and unmistakable and most cruel fact, and we are willing to acknowledge it, that it is all a dream and is not to be fulfilled. Our cherished ideal is not possible to realize."

Is it then true that the free-pew system is a failure? Can we not have an "exchange of views" in THE HOMILETIC, in which ministerial brethren in different parts of the country who have tested the free-pew system and found it a success will participate? Will not these brethren tell us just how they made it succeed? This talk of Dr. Parker's seems to me like turning the hands back on the dial of time. There must be a way by which the Church will stop its drifting toward the Fifth Avenues of our cities, and farther and farther away from the Five Points. The poor heard Christ gladly; and that was the evidence that he gave

that He was the Christ, and that His Gospel was from above. Year by year it is becoming truer and truer that the rich hear the Gospel and the poor are hearing it less and less. Let us have an exchange of views along this line.

A CLERGYMAN.

The Financial Credit of Ministers.

RECENTLY I noticed the statement in one of our daily papers that legal action was contemplated by the creditors of a certain minister in order to compel him to pay his debts. If this is not mere idle rumor, and there is any good basis for the statement, then is the case a shameful one, and one that is a reproach to the ministry at large. Sensitiveness in the matter of financial credit cannot be too fine. Indifference here betokens a condition of honeycombed morals. No man can expect other men to put any confidence in his word as a preacher of righteousness who gives them ground to fear that they can have no confidence in his promise to pay his debts. The place for a repudiating minister is certainly not in the ministry.

A DEBT-PAYING MINISTER.

EDITORIAL SECTION.

LIVING ISSUES FOR PULPIT TREATMENT.

The Divorce of Capital and Labor.

BY REV. LYMAN EDWIN DAVIS,
ALBANY, N. Y.

The eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee; nor again, the head to the feet, I have no need of you.—1 Cor. xii. 21.

In the building of the pyramid of Khufu 360,000 men were worked for twenty years, and their only remuneration was the food they consumed while engaged at the great task. Three hundred and sixty million days' work and

no wages! No agitation then about higher pay and shorter hours, for the labor market was as yet only the slave-market. And the relations of capital and labor appear very plainly in the fact that ancient historians ignore the individuality of the workman, computing the cost of the pyramids not from the pay-rolls of the taskmaster, but simply from the cost of feeding the myriad slaves who performed the work. Who shall write the tragedies which underlie that most ignoble of world-wonders, an Egyptian pyramid?

And what was the purpose of all the