

will better have its place in the concluding portion of my remarks to which I now proceed, in which I purpose to offer a few suggestions as to the best mode of obviating and remedying the present state of things.

The mere supply of funds could easily be obtained by a return to the remedy adopted by Nehemiah in the similar dilemma to which our attention has been drawn. His remedy was the regular payment of the tithes, and who can doubt that if each member of the Church was conscientiously to give into the Lord's treasury the tenth of his means, we should have ample funds for all the purposes of piety, necessity and charity, as well as of justice to the Clergy. And why should this not be the case? It is true that the payment of tithes is no longer obligatory as it was under the law, but the duty of giving of our means to the service of God is as incumbent on the Christian as it was on the Jew, and so far from our obligations being less because we are living under a covenant of grace, we ought to feel them as greater, because our mercies are greater. Even before the promulgation of the law of Moses the tithe seems to have been looked on as a suitable proportion to offer for religious purposes. Should it not, then, seem to be the duty of each member of the Church to give at least a tithe of his means, while not necessarily confining himself by this limit? It requires very little consideration to see that the means available for the purposes above mentioned would be immensely increased if this were done. There may be, and probably are, persons who systematically devote the tithe of their means, but it needs but a cursory inspection of the incomes of our religious and benevolent societies, with a large allowance for private charities, to convince us that the number of those who act thus are very few. There are congregations in the Province in which if the tithe of the incomes of all the members were taken it would probably be found greatly in excess of all the sums publicly given for religious purposes. What is wanted is for our people to realize their responsibility in the sight of God, and to feel that it is their bounden duty to give