

The treasurer of Chalmers Church affirms:

"I do not think that we could exist as a congregation under any other than the free-will offering plan. 'None of us would go back to the pew-rent system.'"

Port-Massey says:

"The Sabbath offerings pay all the congregational expenses." "The Sabbath average varied from \$80 to \$80 at first." "It now stands at from \$85 to \$85 per Sabbath."

Annapolis reports:

"Find that it is more successful and more easily operated than the subscription system; and that they would not go back to the old method on any consideration."

Dartmouth states:

"The success of the scheme is shown by a constant yearly increase in the receipts, and for the last several years a testimony on the right side."

Alfred's, Truro, is thus reported:

"Regarding the working of this system of collecting, I think the trustees are quite satisfied it is a good one, and as far as our experience goes, much preferable to any other mode formerly in use."

Moncton says:

"Last year the amount contributed was considerably in advance of any previous year. At our late annual meeting it was found that after all liabilities in carrying on the work of the congregation had been met, and after contributing more than ever before during the year to general work of the Church, there was still in the hands of the treasurer \$400."

Stellarton reports:

"We find the Sabbath collection taken in the church every Sabbath much better than the old way of appointing collectors to go round the district and collect the amount subscribed by each person quarterly, and less trouble."

United Church, New Glasgow, which inherited the system from Primitive Church in which it had been practiced for more than a quarter of a century, reports:

"We do not use envelopes. No collectors are appointed, no member of the congregation is in arrears for stipend. We have no pew-rents. Every dollar raised by the congregation for any purpose, whatever is dropped into the contribution-box each Sabbath, and no one knows what his neighbor contributes, but all are expected to give according to their ability, and we always have enough to meet our outlay."

The treasurer of James Church says:

"While eight years ago there were many who were afraid to trust the voluntary system, I do not think there is today a single member in the congregation who would go back to the old system of a subscription paper."

River John says:

"It is now about eight years since we adopted this system and have met with fair success. In contrast to the old subscription lists we have found it much better for various reasons:—It is not half the trouble, it gives people a chance to do their duty unasked, and persons can contribute small sums which are not felt by the giver."

Such is the testimony which has been received from the several congregations specified. As these congregations, however, are all located in cities, towns and villages, it may be suggested that the system advocated would not work so well in country districts. Possibly this suggestion may be correct, but as bearing upon it your Committee would submit extracts from the reports of the treasurers of all three of the country congregations which have reported.

Upper Steviacke reports:

"The system has been in operation about ten years and on the whole has worked in a satisfactory manner." "We are often behind more or less for the first three quarters of the year, but in eight years of the ten, we have been square at the close of the year, while in a few cases we have had a respectable surplus."

Milford says:

"Since Mr. Dickie's settlement, two years in January, we have been contributing by envelopes weekly. Some parties have in that time been giving a hundred per cent. more than by subscription. Those who do not pay weekly are generally behind in paying and contribute less than those who do."

Kempt, which is a weak congregation as well as situated in a rural district, gives a very pleasing testimony. The treasurer says:

"It has worked well ever since its introduction. It has given good satisfaction in the past and is in general favor with our people at present." "Our people are taught to believe that it is their duty to honour the Lord with their first-fruits, i. e., lay by the first part of their income for the Lord's cause. On Sabbath morning they come into God's courts and bring their offering and place it in a box at the door. They do that as an act of worship believing that if it is sincerely offered it is as acceptable to God as any