

the Church are largely centered in the young. How important, then, to give right and Scriptural views on the subject, and to foster the habit through the machinery of the Church.

Next to the claims of the local Church stands that of Missions, Home and Foreign, in which we ought to endeavor to enlist, as far as possible, the energies of all young disciples, inasmuch as upon their efforts largely depends the effectiveness of the Church, and instrumentally the spread of the Gospel to "regions beyond." The young Christian, so engaged, would be awakened to the necessity of much more ample provision for the service of the Lord, and thus, if he were a loving, spiritually-minded soul, his zeal would be fired and his mind expanded as to the duty of more devoted service, and greater self-denial in the Master's work, not only in regard to personal liberality, but by well-planned efforts for calling forth the liberality of others.

To incite to emulation, mention might be made of what is being done by various bodies of believers, some of whom are raising large sums of money by small weekly and monthly subscriptions, and thereby accomplishing very effective service in the Lord's cause. But as this might be considered somewhat invidious, we forbear.

It is, however, a fact that there is a very sad want of funds to uphold and carry forward the great work with which the Church of Christ is entrusted, until her Lord comes.

And how are these to be obtained? The writer would suggest one really good way—the obtaining of small monthly contributions, to be collected, if need be, by the young, from every member of the Church, it being understood that such collection shall not interfere with the ordinary weekly or monthly subscriptions for regular Church work, such as the payment of the Pastor's stipend, the care of poor, or the comfort and convenience of the place of worship.

Believers in the Lord, to whom He has given abundance, think of your responsibility in regard to this. You are but stewards of his manifold bounties, and the time is coming when the Saviour will say to you, "Give an account of thy stewardship." Ought not each one, then, to put to himself the question, as in the presence of the Searcher of Hearts, Am I using *fairly* the gifts the loving Saviour has put into my hands? "How much owest thou unto thy Lord?" "Both riches and honour," says the Psalmist, "come of Thee." Is it not then for a lamentation that while those who truly love Jesus are "heaping up riches, not knowing who shall gather them," that His cause should languish for want of the means to go up and possess the land.

Every Christian devoutly prays for the descent of the Divine Spirit to comfort and strengthen believers, and to quicken dead souls into spiritual life. But are there, in the experience of the Church as a whole, large answers to these aspirations? On the contrary, is it not to be feared that the spirit of worldliness has crept into the Church to such an extent as to induce deadness and leanness of soul, a want of brotherly love and confidence, fault-finding and apathy, in short, the absence of nearly all the characteristics of a living, working Church "known and read of all men?"

Christian! you pray, "Thy Kingdom come;" but of what use is it uttering such a petition unless a due sense of your responsibility be felt