

and fifty cents, or perhaps three dollars, as their contribution toward saving a world lying in wickedness." A pastor in a Western city had recently told him of a member of his flock who had built a house worth nearly two hundred thousand dollars, and who paid twelve hundred dollars for his carriage horses. 'How much does he give annually to the American Board?' 'Sometimes five, but usually three dollars.' "This Western man," said Mr. Dodge, "might have a right to give twelve hundred dollars for a pair of horses if able to afford the expense; but, while lavishing money on his own luxurious living, he had no right to put off the great benevolent operations of the Church with a mean and paltry pittance." We leave our readers to make the personal application.

There was probably as much truth as wit in the criticism of the minister who promised that next Sabbath "he would preach from a passage which none of his people believed," and when the day arrived announced as his text, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." And certainly there is great truth in the African preacher's comment on the same passage. Said he, "I've known many a Church to die 'cause it didn't give enough; but I never knowed a Church to die 'cause it gave too much. *Dey don't die dat way.* Bredren, has any one of you knowed a Church to die 'cause it gave too much? If you do, just let me know, and I'll make a pilgrimage to dat Church, and I'll climb by de soft light ob de moon to its moss covered roof, and I'll stand dar and lift my hands to heaven and say, 'Blessed am de dead dat die in de Lord.'"

Then don't be afraid, brethren. Do increase that uniform annual *Dollar* we have seen after your name for so many years to *two* or *five*, as a Thank-offering for Peace and Plenty. "Freely ye have received, freely give."

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

We occasionally meet with announcements such as the following, which appeared recently, in more or less extended form, in several of our exchanges:—"An Ecclesiastical Council was convened in the Regular Baptist Church, Onondaga, on the 21st inst., for the purpose of ordaining to the Gospel ministry S. C. Keetch, Esq., late of the Primitive Methodist Church."

Mr. Keetch's name appears in the *Canadian Almanac* for the present year, in the duly certified list therein published, as one of the ministers of the Primitive Methodist Conference, in charge of the Drumbo circuit. He was, doubtless, regularly ordained in connection with that body, and accustomed to the title, accorded by courtesy to all engaged in his sacred calling, of the *Rev.* Mr. Keetch. But he changes his views, and unites with the Regular Baptists, and at once his ministerial title of *Rev.* is exchanged for *Esq.*, and when invited to the pastoral charge of a Baptist church, he is solemnly "*ordained* to the Gospel ministry," and once more drops the *Esq.* and becomes a *Reverend*! What does it mean? Is the unimmersed pastor of a Methodist or a Presbyterian congregation a minister of Christ, or not? And if not, what is his *status* when occupying a Baptist pulpit? We need light on this subject: **who will answer?**