

liberality but every one is the richer; for in discharging a debt of honor you have performed a duty which will tell to your advantage in the worship of the sanctuary and in the consciousness of self-respect. Moreover, you have set a worthy example which many churches would do well to imitate. You have done all this money-raising without word or suggestion from me. Some congregations seem to think that the best test of a minister's success is the amount of money he is directly instrumental in extracting from their pockets. That is a success I have never been ambitious of and I am proud to minister among a people who in this respect know what is due to their minister and to themselves.

"It is nothing short of an indecent thing to mix up a minister with congregational finance and the congregation that so far forgets its duty is lacking in self-respect, and, by the infliction of a positive injustice, incurs serious loss in the lowered tone of its sacred services. It was therefore with no small pleasure that I watched the spontaneity with which you were doing your part; and I augur the best results from the quickening of Church life such spirited and creditable activity demonstrates. One thing more I must notice in connection with this is that you have solved a problem which has puzzled many, viz: How to utilize the working power of the church so as to distribute between office-bearers and non office-bearers, between the elderly and the younger elements a due share of active duty. You have solved it perfectly and I hope I may venture to suggest that your Executive Committee which has worked so successfully may be made a standing committee of the Church.

"Speaking of the future, I look forward to drawing the bonds closer with the Mother Church. We belong to a great institution and it is only right and proper that we should be in full accord with her spirit and work, and I am sure that those who have clung so loyally to her traditions will not be slow to give tangible token of their interest in all her good works.

"And now brethren it is as the exponent of a quickened christian vitality that the matter I have been referring to is I hope to be regarded.