

At the time of its insertion in the Book of Public or Common Prayer, every Parish in England was endowed, and the chief concern then was for the poor, the clergy having their support adequately secured them. And, also, that the population was not then so numerous as in our day, and that it would be now a great inconvenience for each person to come up separately from his seat, and place his offering in the *Alms-basin*. This is done with more facility, and order, by having a few persons to go and take the offerings and bring them, on behalf of the people, to the Priest, for presentation to God. But, I think, my brethren, you will see that all the time it is *your offering*—you, as a congregation of the Lord's disciples are there and then, coming before the Lord in His Courts, on the most solemn occasion, with some proof of your Christian love and thankfulness for weekly preservation and all the blessings of this life,—some proof be it much or little. And be it much or little, you should, at least, make the offering (as your Church directs you), *reverently*, *yes REVERENTLY!* for you are making it to the Lord God of Hosts,—you are presenting it to the Eternal Almighty God—whom the Heaven of Heavens cannot contain; but Who still condescends to accept the mite of the widow; and repay that mite, with blessings inestimable. To HIM you are presenting your weekly offering in gratitude for the blessings of the week past, and anticipating blessings in the week to come; not to speak of the best of all blessings, there and then received, in the gracious Gift of the Body and Blood of Christ. Therefore well and wisely does your Church direct you, then she tells you the offering must be made *reverently*;—and to do it reverently, I think the only outward position—such as you would adopt were you to come into the presence of the Sovereign, and bring Her Majesty some special gift, would *not* be that of *sitting down*. You would either *kneel*, or you would *stand up*. I think I need say nothing more to convince you of the propriety of a respectful position while the offering is making. I have no doubt it will commend itself to your right feeling, and your desire to obey the wise directions of your Church. At the same time you will observe that the true idea of the act itself will be impressed on your minds,—that you are not giving anything to men—that it is not like a collection at some secular meeting or worldly entertainment;—that it is not the Churchwardens or the Ministers that are going to you to crave money of you, which you give to them; because you have that day received a certain amount of enjoyment, or instruction, and so discharge what you may fancy is more or less of an obligation to the Church's officers. No, Brethren, the very fact of your *standing up* will ever remind you that it is to God you are giving, not to men;—that in reality it is, not the Church asking you to give—but your asking the Church to receive;—it is your making use of the Church as your *almsman*—your employing the organization of the Church to lay out for you the money you can afford and desire to devote to the Glory of God, and the support of God's Church. And finally, my Brethren, I think this very position of standing will help to drive out of the mind all mean, selfish, illiberal considerations. For, as you remember, it is to the *Great God* you are making the offering—as you remember that you stand in His Holy Presence—before His Throne of Grace; that on His altar, your money, your gift, is to be laid immediately. Surely this thought will encourage you to devise liberal things, to give as God loves to be given to; “not grudgingly, nor of necessity, for God loveth a cheerful giver.”

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Srs.,—The Member for Algoma has presented a petition to the Legislature for an Act of Incorporation for this school. We understand that it is the intention of the Provisional Committee, in the event of the charter being granted, to hold a meeting for the election of the Council, on the day following the next quarterly meeting of the Church Society. Should the Charter not be obtained by that time, due notice will be given to the subscribers to the School Fund. The voting will be conducted by ballot, and every subscriber of five dollars (paid in to the Treas-

urer) will be entitled to one vote. The votes of those who have subscribed more liberally will be regulated by a gradual scale.

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