

ceiving assurance that, as the parish increases in numbers and wealth, proportionate additions will be made to the stipend of your minister.

Your gifts and offerings for advancing God's work on earth, He will always recognize; yes, and He will repay all by redoubled temporal blessings to yourselves; and more than all, by rekindling within you the glow and joy of the spiritual life. This richer gift He will vouchsafe you, if to assiduous prayer and careful waiting on His ordinances, you join those evidences of work and self-denial for His cause.

A peaceful conscience, an assurance of drawing near to God here, and a growing confidence of seeing Him face to face hereafter,—these are aims and hopes beyond and above all the aspirings for, and all the gains of the world. The best gifts of earth perish in the using, and often, alas, they leave a sting behind; but the graces and gifts of the Saviour, will be part of the joy and glory of the immortal being.

O how many, since my ties with the worshippers in this church were first formed, have gone to their everlasting rest! How many have closed their conflicts on earth, to enjoy, as we trust, the peace of heaven! We weep and mourn for them; but we are fast following them to the same destiny. As long as we survive them, may we so discharge our duties, and so fulfil our responsibilities, that coming generations may look to our example; and each as they pass, in the contemplation of success to pious enterprises, be enabled to say, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."