

THE FIRST PARISH IN MILTON.

At a Parish Meeting held on the afternoon of the 26th of August, at which all the members of the congregation had been invited to attend, the undersigned were appointed a committee to prepare some scheme for carrying on the financial affairs of the parish which should be more satisfactory and not less efficient than the present method. with the view of ultimately abolishing the distinction now existing between those who are taxed, for the support of the church, upon their estates, and those who are taxed upon their pews only, so that all the members of the congregation may become members of the parish, and be entitled to take part in parish affairs, instead of, as at present, the former class only.

In pursuance of the duty assigned us, we have determined to recommend to the parish to abandon, for the term of five years, the taxation of estates, and to rely for the necessary revenues partly upon the taxation of pews and partly upon stated voluntary subscriptions, the subscriptions being assured for five years to come. To raise the whole amount by a pew-tax, as was suggested at the parish meeting, would involve a new valuation of the pews, and have other obvious inconveniences.

In order to carry on the church, to extinguish a small debt, and properly to provide for contingent expenses, about thirty-five hundred dollars a year is needed for the five years. Of this, the pew-tax, and the rent of pews belonging to the parish, furnishes, and will probably continue to furnish, about one third.

We accordingly propose to procure subscriptions to the amount of twenty-four hundred dollars besides. If those who now pay taxes on their estates, or who already are in the habit of making an annual voluntary contribution, will undertake to continue their payments under the form of a stated annual subscription, and others, who at present pay only a pew-tax, or pay nothing at all, will assume a corresponding share of the burden, there will be no difficulty in carrying out the plan we have indicated as soon as it shall have been approved by the parish.

This circular is sent to all the members of the congregation, in the hope that they will, if the scheme meets their approbation, send word to either one of the committee what they will be prepared to do under such an arrangement. If it does not approve itself to their judgment, the committee would be glad to receive any suggestions that would tend to improve it.

J. HUNTINGTON WOLCOTT.
HENRY P. KIDDER.
FRANKLIN B. WHITE.
WILLIAM R. WARE.

MILTON, Sept. 15, 1878.

(OVER.)

Mr. Badger

We find that you are now paying towards the expenses of the First Parish, besides a poll tax of \$2.00, a personal tax of \$ *4.*

Will you please send word to the undersigned whether, in case the arrangements suggested in the enclosed circular are carried out, you will be willing to continue this payment, as a voluntary contribution, in accordance with its provisions?

F. B. WHITE,

For the Committee.

MILTON, Sept. 15, 1878.

J. B. Badger Esq

Milton

Mass.

