

THE PRESBYTERIAN.

NOVEMBER, 1870.

WE are glad to notice that the half-yearly contributions to the Synod's General Sustentation Fund have begun to come into the treasury. It augurs well for the success of the scheme, that nearly all the sums acknowledged are in full of the amounts promised. Some of the congregations enumerated are among the smallest and least wealthy in the Church; some of these are vacant charges, and others are mission stations; since these have thus promptly implemented their engagements, surely others, more favourably situated, will not be found wanting. Fears have been expressed by some that there may be ministers, whose income from this fund or from the Temporalities' Fund, by reason of the accident of their seniority, is comparatively secure, who will be less enthusiastic about the matter than their juniors, and who may therefore fail to realize from their congregations what has been considered their fair share of the amount required to meet the January payments. But this touches a point of honour, and we

will not allow ourselves to believe that any congregation can be content to look on with indifference in a matter of such vital moment as this, while others around them are putting forth their best efforts. We hope that there will be a universal response and that the expectations of the Synod will be fully realized. In one Presbytery each minister has agreed to become personally responsible for the amount expected from his congregation and we feel sure the confidence reposed by them in their people, will not be misplaced. A correspondent suggests to us that no payments should be made to any of the ministers in a Presbytery, until each one of that Presbytery has contributed his quota. This would doubtless be a very effectual mode of compelling Presbyterial supervision. But let us hope there will be no need to resort to it, even should it be considered a proper thing to do.

We have been compelled to leave over several communications and other matter from want of room.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Presbyterian.

SIR,—At the earliest moment after receipt, I send you a full and true copy of the minutes of the joint meeting of committees on union, hoping it may be in time for insertion in your next number. In doing so I act in accordance with what was distinctly understood before the meetings closed, as to the propriety of giving publicity to the proceedings through the ordinary recognized channels of communication with the people. This course has for its object the placing of the whole proceedings before the Church, that they may be carefully considered prior to the next annual meeting of Synod, when the Church will be asked to declare its approval or disapproval. Upon perusing the minutes your readers will readily distinguish between the

basis of union, properly so called, and the recommendations of the Convention as to matters of detail. With respect to these matters of detail the only recommendation which has attracted particular notice, since the Convention closed, is that with reference to Collegiate Institutions, and I think it is not out of place for me to remark that the subject of the recommendation, so far as a university is concerned, is not the *establishment* of a new Presbyterian University, which would be an egregious folly, but the *maintenance* of a university in thorough efficiency.

I remain, yours, &c.

W. SNODGRASS,

Convener, &c.

Queen's College,
20th October, 1870.