

sional duties ; and the duties of the Colonial Committee are only attended to, and can only be attended to, in intervals of relaxation, and amidst the distraction of those unhappy questions which are now agitating the Church. It is not for the Synod to look to the Church in Scotland, any more than to the scanty public aid here, for the support of its ministers. It is, we repeat it, under God, to the people alone. It is on the working of the voluntary principle that we must depend—every increase to our numbers shutting us up more entirely to such dependence. And the question which the Synod has to consider (as the Committee think almost exclusively,) is, how that principle may be worked in the most wise, efficient, and Christian manner, such as shall be for the real good both of ministers and people.

And if this be the case, then certainly the Wesleyan system, for the support of ministers, deserves the special attention of the Synod, as a system which has been long in successful operation. To this system the Committee early turned their attention. It was pressed on their notice by Mr. Gale, and it was recommended by the announced intention of a large body in the Church of Scotland substantially to adopt it, in the event of unhappy circumstances rendering a reliance on voluntary liberality alone necessary. The system has, no doubt, many advantages. It makes every member of the Church contribute to the support of religious ordinances in the Church. It suits the income of ministers to their peculiar circumstances and necessities. It frees them from a dangerous and harrassing dependence on their particular congregations. It saves from much unpleasant feeling which a minister of principle and delicacy cannot but often have in pecuniary dealings