Established Churches, the Free Church of Scotland, the Methodists in England and Scotland, the Discenters—all have their Widows' funds; so also in Canada, the English Church, the Presbyterian Church in connexion with the Church of Scotland, the Methodists have theirs; yet this Church destined, we had hoped, to take a high place among the Churches of Christendom, in spreading abroad the blessed privileges of the gospel on this Continent, and extending the benefits of Christianity and civilization among the heathen destined, we had hoped, to shine in works of piety and benevolence, and to emulate the Free Church of Scotland—this Church has as yet made no provision for the Widows and Orphans of her clergy, and is it thus she is to fulfil her high destiny ?

Several sketches of plans were submitted to the committee by one of the members; of the one which was adopted the leading features are given in the minutes. It is as you will observe, a mere outline-we intended nothing more. We conceived it to be no part of our duty to enter into details of management, or devise minute regulations for the appropriation of funds which as yet were not. Our duty we conceived to be to contrive a simple, intelligible plan for raising the necessary funds-indicating the general principle of accumulation and disbursement-and we determined not to separate without beginning to carry it into effect.

Following, in some measure, the plan which has been so successfully adopted by the English Church here, our first sketch was to raise, as abovementioned, by subscription, &c.:-£1,000 to be raised by 1st Feb., 1851, and invested by 1st March.

Add Ministers' annual payment, 65, at £2-£130, to be paid by 1st Feb., 1851, and invested 1st March, 1851.

Add ordinary Congregational collection-£200, first collection to begin 1st Feb., 1852, invested 1st March 1852, and thus adding to the fund anmally the Ministers' payments, collections, and interest,—to give no annuities, but let the fund accumulate for five years. But desirous to give immediate relief equally to bereaved families and bereaved congregations, and in the confident hope that between £1,000 or £1,500 might be raised at once, and that the yearly collection would average £250-at least equal to the sum usually contributed to the French Mission-we unanimously resolved to give the full annuity of £40 from the first year.

Such, brethren, is an outline of the simple plan which, obeying the injunction of the Synod rather in the spirit than the letter, we now take leave to lay before you-a scheme which will at once insure immediate and effectual relief both to families and Congregations, and with the utmost confidence we appeal to your liberality. Never has a more important and more worthy object been set before you, or one which will tend more surely to establish and strengthen your own Church. It will strengthen, inasmuch as it will remove one formidable discouragement to men of talent to devote themselves to the service of the Church—the want of any certain provision for the families they may leave behind them; it will strengthen her inasmuch as it will unite her members in the execution of justice and benevolence; it will strengthen her, as it will tend to draw closer the ties between paster and people; it will strengthen her by removing a stigma which rests upon her; it will strengthen her as it will assuredly bring down upon her the blessing of Him who is "the father of the fatherless, and the judge of the widow."

It is, indeed, no ordinary object for which we new claim your support, since it embraces at once your own interests, spiritual and temporal, the happiness and efficiency of your pastors, the wel-fare and high standing of your Church, and the well-being and happiness of the widow and the fatherless through tuture generations—while your Church shall endure. No object, we venture to affirm, was ever yet placed before you in which

it was so clearly manifest that to be liberal is to be thrifty—to be parsimomous is to be wasteful.

And now, Brethren, we have thus far performed the task imposed on us by the Synod; with confidence and hope we leave the matter in your hands, fully persuaded as we are that you will " remember those who are over you in the Lord, and esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake."

Signed in name and by appointment of the Committee,

James Osborne, Chairman. GLO. ELMSLIE, Sceretary.

## RECEIPTS FOR THE RECORD.

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VOL. VI.-Geo. Petrie, Brooklyn; Andrew Morrison, S. Armstrong, Melbourne; Wm. Crosson, Miss Agnes Crosson, Richmond, C. E.; Alex. Laidlaw, Mono; A. Robertson, Psq., Palermo; James McKay, Geo. Munro, Finch; S. Fullarton, Toronto, two copies; John McQueen, Lobo; John Mckinnon, Georgetown, Esquesing; Wm. Stewart, Dundas.

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Toronto, June, 1850.