

personal favour. but in the interests of the Church which they are trying to serve. Their attention to this magazine is to them a labour of love, not of worldly profit. They appeal especially to ministers to extend their powerful help. The "Presbyterian" will continue to be sent to them free, as last year, not as a bribe, but that they may in this regard feel themselves in privilege—not behind the ministers of the Church in Scotland, who receive the Home and Foreign Record gratuitously. The Committee ask the ministers to recommend this publication from the pulpit as the best means of promoting the prosperity of their own congregations, as well as of the Church at large; as there is abundant testimony, that the readers of the "Presbyterian" are the most attached and intelligent adherents of the Church, and support its congregational and general efforts with greatest liberality. This being the case, every minister has a direct interest in advocating the wider circulation of the "Presbyterian" amongst his people. To facilitate this they have issued extra copies of the present number and forwarded them; that minis-

ters may on recommending it be able to place specimen copies in the hands of those whom their appeal may dispose to become subscribers. Wherever it is practicable, they would urge the appointment of an agent in every congregation upon the terms made known a year ago, and ask the attention of the elders to this suggestion. A change has been made in the financial arrangements of the paper, which, it is confidently believed, will give satisfaction to all. If then ministers will as early in December as possible avail themselves of some good opportunity to bring the claims of this magazine before their congregations, causing the extra numbers forwarded to them to be distributed amongst the "in their community not subscribing who would be likely to do so, they will greatly encourage the committee of publication, as well as benefit themselves and the Church at large.

Report of presentation to Rev. Dr. McLeod, several communications and general news, have been unavoidably left over till next issue.

News of our Church.

SYNOD OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND IN CANADA.



On the 13th ult. the Commission of Synod sat in St. Andrews Church, Montreal. There were present Rev. Kenneth McLennan,

Moderator; Drs. Mathieson, Urquhart, Cook, Barclay, Spence, Snodgrass and Jenkins; Messrs. T. MacPherson, Davidson, Sym. Lindsay, Evans, Porteous, Inglis, McCaul, R. Campbell, Ross

(Chatham,) McLaren, and Mackerras, ministers and Messrs. Croil, Dennistoun, Brynner, Ferguson and Hunter, elders.

The Rev. J. H. Mackerras, Clerk.

The Minutes of last session were read and sustained. It was stated that the Temporalities Board had met the previous day, but no report was ready for presentation.

Dr. COOK was called upon to state the present condition of the fund. He reported that it had sustained a loss of \$142,000, through the suspension of the Commercial Bank, the par value being \$126,400. There were from thirty-three to thirty-six ministers for whom there would be no provision at all. The first question was how to meet the January payments for which about \$2,500 would be required.

Dr. BARCLAY agreed with Dr. Cook that the first consideration was how they could meet the

first payment. It was for the Synod to consider how increased contributions towards this end could be raised. He was in favour of an appeal to their people throughout the Province.

Dr. COOK. If the bank goes into liquidation the stock will be an absolute loss; but he trusted that if it was legislatively dealt with at least one half might be saved. There were two plans open to them.—either to make up the loss altogether and permanently, or to exert themselves to meet the first payment. He was not sanguine about the former, but if they were inclined to favour that mode of dealing with the matter, he had a plan to submit to the Commission. There were 13 commuting ministers on the roll, three of whom had suffered immediately and largely through the failure of the Bank. Excluding these three, and adding the ten who receive £100 a year, let the fifty contribute £10 each, and then let them apply to fifty wealthy laymen to give £10 each also. Should this plan fail, let them seek to provide for the coming semi-annual payments. In that case not thirty-three or thirty-six only, but very many more must give up all expectation of receiving assistance from the fund. The plan of endowing each minister would have to be reconsidered and perhaps dropped. Some might not think that a matter of regret. These questions should be first settled, viz, the propriety of meeting the difficulty permanently or of providing for the January payments,—and then a Committee should be appointed to consider their legal and moral res-