

barns are filled with plenty, whose homesteads are surrounded with fertile lands whose stores of merchandise yield ample incomes, whose manufactures are already a source of enrichment to many, whose ships float on lake and river, and on almost every sea,—let us do our duty, honouring the Lord with our substance and with the first fruits of all our increase. Let us see to it that the Ordinances of the Gospel are liberally sustained in our settled parishes and stations. Let us also look with kindly, loving eye toward those remote portions of the country where the people live in destitution of the means of grace;—where the aged forget the God and Church of their fathers, and the young grow up in ignorance of the Holy Scriptures, and of the way of life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Let our Cities become centres of energetic Missionary movements. Let our whole people wake up to a sense of the responsibility which rests upon the Church to do for the outlying and other destitute districts of Canada, what the people of Scotland out of their comparative poverty, yea and beyond their power, once did for us.

The progress and present position of the Church of Scotland in this Country are largely due to those ministers who, in the year 1854 surrendered, of their own free-will, a part of their share in the Clergy Reserve Fund for the sake of providing for each of their successors in the ministry a small endowment. The sacrifice which these honoured men thus made, yielded the chief outlay which has been incurred by the Synod, since that time, for Church extension. Ministers were the creators of that Fund by which, with inconsiderable contributions from the laity year by year, the Church has been enabled to advance her position to previously unoccupied posts. The growth of the Church has outstripped the wise and worthy provision which this Fund thus supplied. Some years ago its custodians were obliged, practically, to reduce the annual allowance to each minister from \$200 to \$150. At this time they find themselves constrained to withhold from nearly *forty ministers* the help which their older brethren receive. For this emergency it behoves you to provide; the more, that the larger number of these forty ministers are, of all their brethren, in greatest need of help. It is probable, as has been lately foreshadowed, that permanent relief will be sought to be supplied by the creation of a Home Missionary

Fund, separate and distinct from the 'Temporalities' Fund. Whether this change shall be effected, it will be for the Synod of 1870 to determine. This at least is clear, that, in these circumstances, you owe it to the Church and to yourselves, to make provision, first of all, for the pressing wants of your under-paid clergy; secondly, for the extension of Ordinances to those who are destitute. This two-fold obligation we press upon your earnest consideration. We ask you whether, in view of your early training and present privileges, as well as of the bounties which Providence has bestowed upon you, you are willing to allow the Church which has so long cared for yourselves and your children, to fail in its great mission to this country for lack of that help which it is in your power to afford? We ask you whether, with the means which God places at your disposal, you are content that the Church to which you belong shall remain the lowest of all the Churches around you in the scale of Home Missionary contribution? We ask you further, whether, in view of the extension of Canadian settlements to the territories of the far West, and the certain migration thither of many families and people belonging to the Church of Scotland, you are prepared to let them go there unfollowed, and to live unblessed by the Ministry and Ordinances to which they are loyally attached? Rather, will you not rise to a sense of the opportunity for doing good which God now sets before you?—emulating the zeal and liberality of your Christian neighbours? Is there any reason why other Churches in this country should exceed in ecclesiastical liberality the Church of Scotland? Are the members of other Churches more able to give than you? Are their farms larger than yours, or their crops more abundant? Are their merchants and manufacturers richer, their mechanics more skilled, their laborers more muscular, energetic, thrifty? Or, are they more distinguished by Christian intelligence and education than you?

Shall we then put it down to lack of regard for the Church or of loyalty to her interests, that you fall behind in this work of the Lord? This can scarcely be charged against you. Witness your noble effort to place our University and "School of the Prophets" beyond all danger of decay; yea more, to raise it to a position of capacity and influence worthy of its Ecclesiastical and Scottish connection! The prompt