

to Stipend: St. Andrew's Church—Kingston, Chinguacousy, Eldon, Hornby, Chatham (Presbytery of Montreal), Beechridge, and Guelph. The first mentioned of these and also the last, have given no report as to Temporalities.

Though the arrears of the small Stipends of the Ministers of the Church be as before mentioned, and the Temporalities so ill cared for, this does not arise from a deficiency in the number of persons holding the office of Managers, for the Returns received from 82 Congregations give an average of more than 6 to each Church. Indeed it appears, in not a few cases that the larger the body of temporal Managers in a Church, just so much the less are the Temporalities duly cared for. Your Committee being deeply impressed with the importance of this matter, and the urgent necessity of steps being taken to remedy this increasing evil, which is daily enfeebling the energies of Ministers, and exerting a baneful influence upon very many Congregations, would respectfully direct the attention of Synod to the serious consideration of the Temporalities of the Church. Considering the smallness of the Stipends promised, the large arrears owing by many Congregations shew, not so much the material poverty of the people, as the low state of the Christianity of very many of them. If men be not honest, need it be said, they are not Christian? "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me." (Malachi III. 8). And is it to be reasonably expected that God will bless the labors of his ministering servants to such? It cannot be expected. This state of things, it is possible, may arise in many instances, not from dishonesty or an attempt to defraud God's Ministers of a proportion of the pitiful sum dignified by the name of Stipend, so much as from carelessness and indifference. If so, it is a carelessness and an indifference which are highly culpable. And if the disease that is preying upon the Christianity of many Congregations, and paralyzing the energies of not a few able Ministers, be capable of a cure, it ought surely immediately to be attempted. To quote from the excellent address of our present revered Moderator at the close of Synod:—

"The responsibility of the Synod and Presbyteries is peculiarly great. No delicacy of feeling should hinder them from devising and carrying into prompt operation an economy that would set the minds of Ministers free from the absorbing, racking, cares of life, an economy liberal, yet prudent, that would check avarice, repress selfishness and be a sure token that Christian charity and benevolence (the genuine fruits of Christianity) were prevailing more largely in every congregation. Unless something of this sort be done, you may legislate as you may for the spiritual welfare of the people under your superintendence. You may put forth the most assiduous efforts for the extension of the Church. You may be zealous for the conversion of the heathen to the faith of Christ. But your laws will stand inoperative on your records, evidences of a pretentious zeal and monuments of folly; your College Halls will be deserted; your churches will be empty; your pulpits supplied from the very refuse of corrupted humanity.

"The hardships and privations incident to new settlements have hitherto prevented and will for some time continue to prevent the formation of an efficient ecclesiastical organization. Inability at first becomes indifference in better circumstances, and the Minister, who contentedly toiled with his flock in poverty, is left to toil on without sharing the fruits of their prosperity. Inadequately and irregularly paid, he is too often driven from a field where his affections centred, and they are left without the regular administration of Divine ordinance, or to find a successor whose qualifications seldom rise above the

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