

COLONIAL SCHEME.

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.

DRAFT OF A PROPOSED MINUTE.

April, 1866.

THE Colonial Committee, having had under consideration the manner of distributing the funds intrusted to them, find that their expenditure for the most part falls under five heads:—

(1.) The payment of salaries to missionaries at the rate of £150 sterling a-year.

(2.) The payment of supplement to the stipends of ministers, in sums varying from £25 to £150 a-year.

(3.) The payment of the outfit and passage-money of missionaries and ministers.

(4.) The payment of grants in aid of church buildings.

(5.) A special annual grant of £350 to Queen's College, Kingston, Canada.

They find further—I. That since they began to make grants for the purpose of promoting the religious interests of Scottish Presbyterians in the colonies, all the colonies aided by them have made great advances in wealth and prosperity, and that the Presbyterian Church in them has been organized and consolidated. So great is the advance made in some colonies, that they have spontaneously ceased to expect pecuniary aid from the home Church; while, in others, there is a growing ability to supply their own wants. Facts might here be cited with reference to the colonies of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, British Guiana, and Ceylon, which substantiate the opinion of the Committee.

II. That in the present state of the colonies the Committee's practice of sending missionaries to districts destitute of ordinances, and of aiding weak congregations, is unsatisfactory, because the