

receipts for *The Presbyterian*; but it is still greatly in arrears, as there are upwards of twenty students who will require to be aided by it this winter. It is therefore hoped that all our congregations will give in proportion as God has prospered them; and especially that those ministers, who, while themselves at Queen's University were enabled to pursue their studies by the aid derived from Bursaries, will not be unmindful of the timely assistance thus afforded them, but will prove their remembrance of it by stirring up their congregations to contribute liberally to this valuable scheme. Remittances are to be addressed to John Paton, Esq., Kingston.

EXPERIENCE has shown that annual Sabbath collections for each of the Schemes cannot generally be depended on as a reliable means of sustaining them. However this may be accounted for, it is quite plain that some other means must be used in nearly all our congregations or the Schemes must languish. The miserable result of such collections is surely not to be regarded as a true index either of the sense of duty or the interest in the work of our Church which our people feel. The difficulty is probably not in destitution of means, even in the poorest congregation, nor is it in an absolute want of liberality, but rather in the lack of a deeply felt personal interest. Among remedies which might be proposed, we suggest one which will tend both to promote an interest in the work of the church, and an increase of funds. This plan is particularly applicable to towns and villages. The existence of a Ladies' Society or Association will facilitate the working of the plan. Considering the many ways in which such a society can benefit the Church, it is exceedingly desirable that there should be one formed in every congregation.

Instead of theoretically describing the plan suggested, an actual case will best make it plain. It was adopted a year ago in a small congregation, very weak both in numbers and in pecuniary ability. The primary object in view was to raise \$50 for the Home Mission. A Ladies' Society, being in existence, took the management. Four committees of two ladies each visited the people who attend the church, described to them the Schemes, their management, &c., and ascertained what amount each person was willing to contribute monthly for their support. A list of 66 names was

thus obtained with subscriptions ranging from 5 to 25 cents. Six small books, about 4 by 3 inches, were then prepared, just large enough on two pages to have a column on the left for the names, then one for the amount of subscription, and 12 narrow columns to enter the monthly payments. The whole list was divided into six according to the locality of the subscribers, and one of these small lists was entered in each book. Six of the larger children of the Sabbath School were then engaged as collectors, name and authority being inscribed in the book. On the first Saturday of each month they call on their subscribers, obtain their contributions, and report to the Treasurer who keeps a larger book of the same form, and enters the payments as received. The interest in the matter is thus kept up, and the regularity of the collector's visit promotes punctuality in the payments. A few who do not wish to be called on monthly, make an annual subscription payable to the Treasurer directly.

Where there is not a Ladies' Society the work might be done by the session or managers. In the country it would be difficult to get the collecting done regularly. Perhaps there it would be well to have small books or cards left with each family when far apart, or with two or three families when living near;—returns to be made quarterly. In this case it is desirable that all the members of families should contribute to excite the interest of the children in the church's work.

In the instance referred to, besides \$50 for the Home Mission, a sum was raised for the other Schemes, far larger than could have been realized altogether by church collections. The plan is earnestly recommended to the consideration of our ministers and people generally. We attach very great importance to the Schemes of the church, and by consequence to systematic effort in their behalf. Confident that the best interests of the church are involved in their vigorous maintenance, we shall be glad to receive suggestions which may be useful to congregations.

WE are pleased to see that donations of suitable books continue to find their way to the Library of Queen's College. A list will be found among our advertisements. This is a very simple but also a very useful method of benefiting the University.