

The Temporalities Fund:

ITS ORIGIN AND HISTORY.

The Temporalities Fund; £127,448 5s., was founded by 73 self-sacrificing ministers of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, of whom 40 are now dead. The survivors differ with each other as to the disposition of this fund, which originated thus :—The ministers of the Church of Scotland in Canada were recognized by Imperial and Canadian Acts of Parliament as being entitled to State subsidy, in the form of an annual allowance of £150 each, payable out of the sales of the Clergy Reserve Lands, supplemented when these were insufficient by payments out of the Exchequer of Great Britain.

In 1853, Imperial and Canadian Acts authorized the Government of Canada to settle or commute these allowances, and to pay to the several ministers of the church a block sum, representing the capital value of the allowance, calculated at six per cent. interest upon the probable life of each minister.

By this plan each of the 73 ministers was entitled to receive and apply to his own personal uses capital sums averaging from \$8,000 to \$10,000 each. Well knowing that they became entitled to these sums on account of their being ministers of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, they determined in 1855 to unite the several sums they were entitled to receive into one sum for a SPECIFIC PURPOSE, and upon certain *fundamental principles*.