

**\$200.** Owing to the increase of ministers, this fund has for some years been insufficient to meet stated demands, and special efforts have been made to supplement it. During the last 12 months, however, the fund suffered the loss of \$120,000 by the failure of the Commercial Bank, producing a more alarming prospect for the future. The Committee proposed either to leave it as it is, and pay simply what they could afford, or to make a simple Home Mission Fund of it, and pay those that require aid at their discretion or to make up the loss by special effort. It seems that an increase of \$4,000 a year is required. As by a liberal effort of the Church, funds are in hand to meet calls up till January next, it was resolved to make renewed efforts in the meantime to raise between four and six thousand dollars a year. It must be borne in mind that this endowment is altogether peculiar—it belongs to the man and not to the parish. If it were bestowed only where it was required, it would be far more than sufficient to supplement the stipends given by the people. But it is often given where it is not needed and is now in some cases, in danger of being withdrawn where it is needed. Many congregations in Canada are as large as our Pictou congregations, but many in new places are very small—consisting of 30, 40, and fifty families and external aid is indispensable. This question was discussed very temperately and wisely, though one, on which from its temporal bearings and the peculiar inequalities in the distribution of their money, members were at least liable to entertain strong feelings.

The two Colleges formed also an important subject of consideration for the Synod. With reference to Morrin College, Quebec, Dr. Cook, the Principal, reported verbally that there were thirty students in attendance of whom three were divinity students. A spacious building was in course of erection and the use of a valuable library of 18,000 volumes had been obtained. A grant of £500 a year from the Quebec Legislature was expected. Principal Snodgrass read the Report of Queen's College. The number of students was 184 of whom 12 were divinity students. The College had lost about £1,064 a year by the failure of the Commercial Bank and the withdrawal of the grant from the Ontario Legislature was threatened. By the Act of 1853 funds were granted for the support of a Provincial University with which all Colleges were to be affiliated. The plan had not been carried out and the funds had been absorbed by the University of Toronto. Provincial Colleges had become dependant upon annual grants, which were now to be withdrawn in violation of good faith and justice. The Principal pled that measures ought to be taken to bring the question before the bar of public opinion. A lively interest was displayed by members of Synod in this question. The feeling of interest in the

College seemed to be unanimous and many of the speeches were very able. Dr. Cook spoke with great ability and good feeling. He suggested the preparation of a circular to be sent to each member of Parliament, setting forth the claims of the college. It would appear that so long as so much interest is felt by the ministers of the Church in Queen's College, no permanent danger hangs over the existence or efficiency of that institution. One remark of Dr. Cook was very important, at least as regards Ontario and Quebec "that he saw no evil in the multiplication of Universities. One university with a number of affiliated colleges is the right idea. The standard of learning will thus be kept up and be uniform. The Church of England—the Methodists and Roman Catholics in Ontario have entered warmly into this matter. These bodies constitute more than one half of the population of the Province. The ablest statement of this question will be found in an address of Dr. Williamson at the close of last session of Queen's College.

The time of the Synod during a whole forenoon was occupied with an appeal case from Boumanville, in which certain parties appealed against the Presbytery of Toronto for refusing a moderation in favor of a Mr. Spences. The plea of the Presbytery was that the congregation was divided—the plea of the appellants was that the majority were able and willing to pay. The pleadings were very able and very much in order. No case could have been better conducted. The opinion of the Synod was evidently that the Presbytery of Toronto had acted well, but that it was desirable to proceed with the moderation.—Dr. Cook thought that Mr. Spences should withdraw, in which most persons would agree with him. A Mr. Galbraith, a village orator, who had been a candidate for a parliamentary seat, fired into the presbytery at a great rate. He spoke well, however, and to the point.

One of the most pleasing incidents was the presentation of a testimonial to James Croil, Esq. Mr. Croil had been appointed agent of the Church, at a salary of five hundred. He had travelled over the whole church for one year and four months. For this he took no salary, but presented it all to the church.—The result of his labours has been a most ably written and carefully preserved statistical volume. Dr. Jenkins in front of the Moderator's chair, presented a gold watch, a silver urn, and a large family Bible—the watch for himself, and the urn for Mrs. Croil. He made a few humorous and appropriate remarks. Mr. Croil made an able speech in reply. There was an utter absence in his speech of any attempt at oratory. He appeared as an intelligent layman—an enlightened friend of the church—one who had tried up to his ability to do her a service. He cordially expressed his gratitude that his labours had been appreciated. We wish that we had more James Croils. There would be fewer