

Building Fund, and not, as should be for the future, to the ordinary current expenses. The annual interest on the debt, as it stands at present, is upwards of £160, and as a large amount was paid last year, the actual deficiency for current expenditure was about £400. It is true, that nearly 40 congregations, some of them large and influential, have not sent in their contributions for the present year. The amount, however to be realised from this source next year will not probably, be larger than was realized from a similar source, and included in course of this year.

The chief cause of the deficiency, was probably the fact, that during the last three years the congregations were called on to contribute for both the Building and the Ordinary Fund. As no pressing claims need to be met for the liquidation of the debt on the property, it is to be hoped that the contributions for the ensuing year to the Ordinary Fund will be greatly augmented. Nearly £2000 will be required next year to pay the balance due on the ordinary Fund, and the current expenses, and as only about £1,200 were contributed last year, it will be seen that an increase of 80 per cent will be required. In connection with this point, the Committee desire to call the special attention of the Synod to the fact, that from 30 to 40 congregations annually fail to make any contributions to the College Fund, and they would recommend that Presbyteries be instructed to deal without delay with defaulting congregations, with a view to secure contributions from them for the past year.

The statements now made will very naturally suggest the propriety of adopting measures to secure the endowment of the College. The Committee are not prepared to suggest any definite course to be adopted for this purpose. They advert to the subject as worthy of consideration by the Synod, and also, they feel that it is very important to the efficiency of the College, that its revenue should be placed on a permanent footing, and they are satisfied, that if this were done, the Church would be better able to prosecute other schemes which are dependent on the annual contributions of the congregations.

The Committee have to acknowledge with gratitude, that during the past year they have received a very favorable indication of a disposition to support our College in the liberal bequest of £250, made by the late J. Thompson, Esq., of Beverly, by whom an additional sum of £250 was bequeathed for Missionary purposes. As regards the sum bequeathed to

the College, although no specific object was stated in the will, it was however understood to have been Mr. Thompson's wish, that the sum should be devoted to the Bursary Fund, and to the credit of this fund accordingly, the amount has been for the present placed. It remains with the Synod to determine whether it shall remain thus allocated, or be otherwise disposed of. The Committee are of opinion, that the understood wish of the Testator should be complied with, and the rather as the Bursary Fund stood greatly in need of assistance.

The College Library has received an addition of 300 valuable volumes, from friends in Great Britain and Ireland.

Besides the pecuniary support which is needed for the College, the Committee have felt deeply impressed with the conviction that an Institution, in which such vast interests as the training of our future Ministers are concerned, is specially entitled to the prayers of the Church in its behalf. In addition, therefore, to the supplications which are presented in the ordinary ministrations of the sanctuary, they have agreed to recommend the appointment by the Synod, of a day in which throughout all our congregations special prayer shall be offered up on behalf of our College. In answer to prayer God has hitherto abundantly blessed it, and the whole Province has derived signal benefits from the labours of many who have been trained for the work of the Ministry within its walls; and there is no reason to doubt, but that in answer to still more earnest and special prayer, this most important Institution of our Church would be still more abundantly blessed.

WILLIAM GREGG,

Convener.

DR. WILLIS' DEPARTMENT.

The class of systematic Theology, was conducted by Dr. Willis, as also that of Biblical Criticism, and Pastoral Theology. The great majority of the class being students of the second Theological year, and the seniors, or those of the third year, only four in number, they were all assembled together at the same hour, with the exception of a short series of meetings early in the session, which were given to the initiation of the younger, though larger division of the class, in the elements of Hermeneutics and Criticism, not to the loss, but, it is believed, greatly to the gain of the few seniors. The System was gone through from the commencement, not omitting a useful revision of the former year's course, but supplementing it by fresh dis-