

tend, find that they cannot do so. When this is ascertained to be the case, they ought at once to communicate with the minister, and get a meeting of session to receive their resignation and appoint a successor. This may be done any time before the meeting of Synod, as an amendment made last session to the Interim Act anent the Eldership specially provides for the transmission of commissions direct to the Synod, when there is no meeting of Presbytery to receive them.

With all who love the peace and prosperity of our Zion we unite in imploring her Lord and King, to imbue the hearts of her officebearers in Synod assembled, with the grace of meekness and wisdom, and to overrule all their deliberations to His own glory.

THE First Annual Report of Queen's College Missionary Association has been received. Owing to its length its insertion would put us to great inconvenience, and we hope that if we are expected to publish the reports of the association in future years they will be very much shorter than the first. We notice that a question is put as to the disposal of funds in the hands of the association, and we take the liberty of suggesting that they might be employed in printing the annual report in pamphlet form. We are sure that the students after leaving college would retain their reports in this shape as an interesting memorial of their early missionary life, while it might be of advantage to have them for circulation among the people for whose benefit they labour. It would always afford us pleasure to take special notice of their report in our pages, the space of which we find is getting too small for lengthy communications.

We gratefully recognize the importance of this association as an agency in the Church. We are aware of many instances in which it has been instrumental in promoting our ecclesiastical interests; and we sincerely hope that its labours may be abundantly blessed to the good of souls. We are of opinion that a reasonable amount of missionary work performed by students, while students, is an important element in their training for the active duties of the ministry; and we are glad to know that the Principal and Professors of the College consider the training of students to such work a part of their educational system.

IN our last we mentioned the receipt by us of a copy of a statement, drawn up at the request of the Board of Trustees of Queen's College in defence of a plan of University Reform. Our readers are aware that this subject has for some time been agitated by the press of Upper Canada. It is in fact a question of the times of great importance to the interests of the country. We deem it advisable to furnish our readers with some idea of the nature of the question.

As a result of the discussion of the subject, certain gentlemen were appointed by government as commissioners to inquire into the affairs of the University of Toronto. The commissioners put themselves in communication with the University Senate, and gave them certain queries to answer. The answers returned by the Senate constitute the basis of the plan of University Reform defended in the statement before us. These answers are:—

I. The senate are of opinion that it is desirable to have one University Board for Upper Canada, which may be designated "The University of Upper Canada," to which certain Colleges, such as are hereinafter stated, should be affiliated.

Amongst the advantages of this arrangement may be mentioned—the adoption of an uniform and equal course of instruction by such Colleges; the fixing of the value of degrees, the promotion of emulation amongst the affiliated Colleges, and the testing of the merits of different modes of instruction.

II. The present system of affiliation under the statute is unsatisfactory, as it is practically inoperative. No sufficient inducements are held out for those Colleges which possess University powers to give up or restrict them. The absence of limitation relative to the number and composition of the Senate is also objectionable.

III. (1) The Colleges affiliated under the University Board should be those which adopt a common curriculum, prescribed by a general University Board, which submit their students for simultaneous examination by Examiners appointed by such Board; and should have an adequate staff of Professors for giving instruction in the curriculum.

(2) The Senate would suggest that whatever funds the Legislature may see fit to set apart in aid of the Colleges affiliated by the University Act, exclusive of University College, should be divided into three equal parts, two of these to be divided equally amongst such Colleges, the other to be distributed in proportion to the beneficial results effected by such Colleges. It is to be understood that this suggestion is not intended to interfere with the endowment of University College, it being the opinion of the Senate that University College has a first claim to a fixed endowment amply sufficient to its support in its present state of efficiency; and that it should have the power to establish Fa-