

"SUGGESTIONS TO MINISTERS AND ELDERS WHO VISIT CONGREGATIONS ON THE
SUBJECT OF MINISTERIAL SUPPORT.

"After the minister has preached on the Scriptural duty, he might give some account of the present state of Ministerial Support throughout the Church. In every case, the deputies should invite the elders and committee, with those members of the congregation who may be inclined, to remain for a conference at the close of public worship. At the conference they should make special inquiries regarding the following points:—

"1. Whether the sum promised to the minister has been all paid, and is punctually paid, and what stipend has been annually paid to the minister for the last three years? 2. Whether the families pay regularly the stipend due by them? 3. Whether there are families, and if so, how many, who pay no stipend? and whether the more wealthy are called on to pay according to their ability? 4. What are the sources from which the stipend is paid—from seat-rents exclusively or from other sources? and whether the whole seat-rents are paid to the minister?

"The deputies should urge the following points on the elders and committee: 1. To arrange that the whole seat rents go to the minister—it being essential that there should be a distinct source of income known by the people to be designed for the support of their minister. 2. To arrange that persons so inclined be invited to contribute what they please above and beyond the seat-rent. 3. To see that the committee has a list of communicants; and to suggest the propriety of dividing the congregation into districts, and getting an elder with a member of committee to wait on every family and press on every communicant who has a means of livelihood, the duty of contributing to the support of the minister. 4. To arrange that henceforth the payment of stipend be made quarterly. 5. To urge the committee to take timely measures for the publication of the Congregational Accounts, agreeably to the instructions of last General Assembly. 9. When it appears that there is anything unsatisfactory in the provision made for Ministerial Support, or when something requires to be done to put it in a better state, to obtain from the session and committee a promise that they will meet on an early day for the purpose of deliberation, and putting their decision into immediate execution.

Official Notices.

Ministers, Sessions, and Congregations are reminded that the Synod has recommended that the contributions in aid of Knox College should be taken up in November, or as early as possible. It should be borne in mind that, in consequence of the movement in aid of the Building Fund last year, the ordinary fund has been, and is still more behind than in former years. Congregations that can collect just now are earnestly requested to do so.

APPOINTMENT OF A DAY OF THANKSGIVING.—The Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church having, at its last meeting, held in Toronto, devolved upon me, as Moderator, the duty of appointing a day for special religious services, adapted to the condition of the country, when the results of the harvest should have been ascertained, I hereby appoint the third Tuesday of November as a day of Thanksgiving to God for his goodness in blessing our land with a plentiful harvest. The congregations of our church, in observing this appointment will remember, as an incentive to special gratitude, how generally it was feared, during the early part of the season, that there would be an almost total failure