

and well adapted to useful practical preaching. He looks much as one might conceive the apostle John to have done. A tone of deep and fervid piety pervades the whole, giving the impression that a man of God is addressing to you the messages of Heaven."

Many other schemes of benevolence, besides those we have mentioned, have been introduced from time to time, into the United Presbyterian Church, and have been reduced to practice with encouraging success. The Friendly Society of Dissenting Ministers or Widow's Fund, though not Synodical, is yet closely connected with the Church, and has been in active operation for two or three generations. It embraces all Dissenting denominations, although now, from the unions which have taken place, it chiefly belongs to our Church. Its object is to secure annuities to the widows of ministers. It is left to the option of ministers of all Dissenting denominations, and of what were called Chapels of Ease, to join it or not as they see cause, but they are admissible only if they join within a year after their ordination. This Society is very generally supported by the ministers of our Church. There are different rates of annual payments, any one of which may be fixed on by the minister on his entrance; and these of course secure, in the event of his death, a corresponding rate of annuity to his widow, which continues during her life. This fund has been the means of doing much good, and we believe it is in a safe and prosperous condition.

There has also been for many years a fund for the children of deceased ministers. It is sustained by voluntary contributions. Its object is to provide support and education to such children of deceased ministers as, in the providence of God, are left in circumstances of comparative destitution.

We find that of late a Benevolent Fund has been raised, or rather an Insurance Scheme instituted, for the Widows and Children of Missionaries of the United Presbyterian Church, who have laboured in tropical climates. We believe that the Missionaries themselves are directed to pay annually, according to certain rates, into the Colonial Insurance Companies, it however, being left to their option whether to do so or not, and that the Mission Board agrees to make up certain deficiencies which may arise from extra premiums.

In May 1852, "The Committee of the Mission Board appointed to manage the Fund for the Widows and Orphans of Missionaries, reported their proceedings, from which it appeared that twelve Missionaries had availed themselves of the benefits of the scheme, and that the Committee had deemed it advisable, seeing that they had as yet no fund at their disposal to meet any claims which might emerge, to protect themselves against loss by a back insurance with the Colonial Insurance Company.

"The Synod approved of the proceeding, and on the recommendation of the Committee, agreed in reference to Missionaries in the West Indies, that in the case of such of them as had been five years