

comes for its display. It is to me one of the most attractive features of this fund that it is so thoroughly and peculiarly Apostolic, and that we may look through its advocacy for a great revival of spiritual life in the Church, and a great increase to the Christian liberality of the people. But there is another difficulty which stands in our way, and that is the congregationalism that has grown up in our Presbyterian Church. We cannot trust to the loyalty of our people to Presbyterianism if we endeavour to interfere with finance. This a very serious state of matters, and there is no doubt danger here. The Assembly may resolve and the Presbyteries endeavour to carry out these resolutions, but what will the people do? Every intelligent observer of the Presbyterian Church of the United States understands why a sustentation fund is impossible there, it is simply because that Church has become practically congregational, and no Assembly or Presbytery could attempt to carry out a uniform system of finance. We are gradually becoming tinged with the same dangerous elements of congregationalism, and may find ourselves, if we leave things alone, as awkwardly situated as our neighbours. Now, I venture to say that no surer barrier could be raised against the inroads of congregationalism than by the establishment of a sustentation fund which is founded so clearly on the principles of our Church and, were there no other advantage than this to be derived from such a fund, it would be worth while making an effort to establish it with the least possible delay. It is to be hoped that the Assembly will take a cautious step in advance when it meets in Montreal, and that we shall have the subject fully discussed.

P. McF. MACLEOD.

Our Home Missions.

EASTERN SECTION.

THE Committee met in Chalmer's Church Session Room, Halifax, on the 28th ult.—Dr. Waters in the chair. Interesting reports were submitted from Rev. S. Russell, of New Kincardine, Rev. G. Christie, of Bedford, and information from Little Bay, Newfoundland. Mr. Russell retires from New Kincardine, and Mr. Gunn from Little Bay. The Presbytery of St. John was asked to provide a successor to Mr. Russell, and Mr. W. S. Whittier was appointed to Little Bay, and referred to the Presbytery of Halifax to be immediately taken on trials for ordination, so as to be able to leave in May. Appointments to Presbyteries were made, of 14 preachers and 24 catechists for work during the summer. The

state of the accounts to date was submitted shewing that the contributions exceeded the outlay by five or six hundred dollars, leaving that amount to be applied to the removal of the debt of last year. The draft of the annual report was submitted, read and adopted, and Dr. Waters asked to take charge of it at the General Assembly. P. G. McG.

MANITOBA ITEMS.

On account of the large influx of French and Irish Roman Catholic labourers on the C. P. Railway, the Rev. A. H. Cameron has been relieved, and will assist the Presbytery in some other field. Most of the stations throughout the Presbytery have contributed this year to Manitoba College. The amounts in the majority of cases are small, but are in accordance with the circumstances of the stations, and show good will.

Rev. W. Mullins, of Headingly, has received a consignment of literature from the Upper Canada Tract Society, and will do good in distributing it. Reports from freighters in Carrot River, 40 miles east of Prince Albert, are to the effect that the 30 single men making up that settlement (there is only one family) are all Presbyterians. Carrot River is a large and inviting field for immigration. Steamers now leave Winnipeg via Assiniboine River for Fort Ellice—250 miles west—several times a week. They are literally overwhelmed with settler's effects, agricultural implements, &c. The Presbyterians in the North of Winnipeg city are anxious to have a Northern Mission church—and Knox Church Session looks on the matter favourably. Rev. Prof. Hart has been compelled to visit Perth, Ont., on account of the severe illness of his father. Rev. Alexander Campbell, B. A., of Selkirk, has been filling his place acceptably. Church buildings are projected at Nelsonville, Rat Portage, Riviere Sale, Grand Valley, Brandon Hills, Mountain City, High Bluff, Headingly, &c., during the present summer. A large addition of some 1500 volumes has been lately placed on the shelves of Manitoba College Library. Many of these are most valuable works, and range over almost every department of knowledge. They are the result of Dr. Patterson's visit to the old country. The College Library has now upwards of 2000 volumes. Mr. C. M. Copeland, Presbyterian missionary, at Birtle N. W. T., has been appointed to the position of paid secretary of Y. M. C. Association of Winnipeg, and another missionary is being got in his place.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The Presbytery of British Columbia in connection with the Church of Scotland, met in