

THE PRESBYTERIAN.

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THE management of *The Presbyterian* owes much to the numerous contributors who are manifesting their interest in the publication by forwarding communications. Little difficulty is experienced in filling the space to be disposed of with readable matter; in fact, the chief difficulty experienced of late lies in the want of room, even with an increased number of pages at our disposal. In these circumstances we express the hope that writers will endeavour to make their communications as short as may be, consistently with the elucidation of their subjects. In a periodical such as this, the effort must be to give variety rather than long, exhaustive articles on any single topic. As a rule it is better to make several brief communications with separate headings than one long one, even though the points discussed are closely related. These remarks will explain to some of our contributors the reason of the distribution and condensation processes to which their papers are occasionally subjected, and will we hope commend themselves as satisfactory. It is in vain to lay down any absolute rigid rule in the matter, and indeed a good paper might be spoiled by division; but in the majority of cases, we must now follow the course just indicated, both in order to secure a feature which is of importance, and to accommodate our contributors who, though increasing, are not more numerous yet than we desire.

We must call the special attention of those to whose obliging kindness we are indebted for *The News of our Church*, to the necessity of brevity in this department. The desire is to make this periodical, from month to month, the medium of every item of intelligence respecting the Church which is worthy of preservation. Whatever else may be excluded nothing of this kind should be left out. But we presume the object is gained and our readers are satisfied when a simple statement of the leading fact is recorded. The news of our Church should be

a chronicle of passing events, and not a collection of long paragraphs about presentations, soirees, the opening of churches and the examination of Sabbath Schools. It is very well to notice these; *detailed accounts* can only interest a local few. It may be said that we have this matter in our own hands. So we have; but we wish to save the time required of us for emendation, and the time of our contributors in writing what is likely to drop between the editor and the printer. We wish also to state once for all, the reason why lengthy communications on such matters as are now alluded to, do not see the light except in a very curtailed form.

THE first Sabbath of April having been appointed by the Synod for a collection in aid of the Bursary Fund, it is earnestly hoped that a liberal response will be given to the call then to be made. The present state of the Fund is far from satisfactory, and yet there is no scheme of the Church which deserves a more cordial support. Many pious and talented young men are in a great measure dependent on it for defraying their necessary expenses. Although they may labour unremittingly during the summer months as school teachers or missionaries, the pecuniary profits of such labour are rarely a bequest for their maintenance during the ensuing session, and too often they are unable to return to College at the regular periods, thus protracting their Divinity course over four or five years instead of three. This delay in their entrance upon the duties of the ministry is greatly to be regretted, when there is such pressing need of increased zeal and activity on our part in the cause of Home Missions, unless we would see ourselves far outdistanced by sister Churches, in the glorious work of giving the precious gospel to those of our fellow-countrymen who are without Christian ordinances. The Bursary Fund has received one hundred dollars from the