

Letter was read from the Rev. H. C. Cooper, stating his inability to be present, on account of Parochial engagements.

The Secretary presented a statement in regard to the Widows and Orphans' Fund, showing the amount required to be raised by the October collection, 1875 ..... \$4077 82  
 Amount received up to 10th February, 1876 ..... 2919 21

Balance due ..... \$1158 61  
 Amount unpaid from Niagara Diocese ..... \$576 41  
 " " Toronto " ..... 582 20 \$1158 61

The Committee decided to pay the April pensions in full, relying on the existing deficiency being fully made up by both Dioceses.

The Secretary presented the Quarterly Financial Statement of the Theological Students' Fund, showing that the present charges on the fund are for seven exhibitors, at the rate of \$1.20 each per annum, and that the account was overdrawn on the 1st February instant, to the amount of \$28.78.

The applications of Messrs. Rowe, Ker, and Geoghegan, for Divinity Exhibitions having again been laid before the committee, consideration of them was deferred till the May meeting, the condition of the fund not warranting the committee in placing any more on the list.

### General Purposes, Statistics, and Assessment Committee.

*Present*—Marcellus Crombie, Esq., in the Chair. Revds. Dr. O'Meara, Thomas Ball, John Vicars, C. W. Paterson. D. B. Read, Q.C., J. C. Morgan, Dr. Hodgins.

An application for a grant in aid of a parsonage at Colborne was declined for the present, inasmuch as the general regulations of the Committee are not complied with, especially that one which requires that the building shall be so far finished as to admit of its being occupied.

A letter having been read from Mr. J. Calcutt, of Port Hope, in regard to the resolution adopted by the Committee in November last, the committee resumed the consideration of the Canon on the Constitution of Vestries in Free Churches.

*Resolved*—That the following resolution be substituted for the resolution of the General Purposes, Statistics, and Assessment Committee, on the subject of the Vestries of Free Churches, passed at its last meeting, viz.: The Committee having taken into consideration the Canon on the Constitution of Vestries in Free Churches, Resolved, That the resolution proposed by the Rev. C.W. Paterson and seconded by the Rev. Rural Dean Allen, at the last meeting of the Synod, on the subject of the Vestries of Free Churches, be altered as follows: That after the words, "habitually attending worship in such church," the following be added:—"That the words, '*habitually attending worship in such church.*' shall be taken to mean attendance (unless prevented by sickness or some other unavoidable cause) at one-third at least of the regular Sunday services of the said church during the previous twelve months. And no member of such congregation shall be allowed to take part in the business of the vestry meeting unless he shall have complied with these requirements. And the said declaration shall be signed annually at the Easter meeting.

*Resolved*—That a sub-committee be appointed to estimate the probable expenses of the next meeting of the Synod, and the balance to be raised from last year, and levy the assessment on the various parishes and missions on the basis of the assessment adopted by this Committee last year. That the Chairman (Rev. John Fletcher), Mr. Crombie, Mr. Read, and Dr. Hodgins be such sub-committee.

*Resolved*—That the following be a sub-committee to revise the statistical questions to be issued to the clergy in the usual way, viz.: The Chairman (Rev. John Fletcher), Rev. Dr. O'Meara and Rev. C.W. Paterson; and that such sub-committee be instructed to inquire into the possibility of adopting some means to enforce the answering such questions.

*Resolved*—That gentlemen who are on Committees of Synod be requested to endeavour to make it convenient to remain till the business of their respective Committees is completed.