

expenses of the annual deputations to the Lower Provinces, and those who have read the deeply interesting narratives of the delegates of the year before last, which were presented to last Synod and appeared in our columns, will agree with us, that this important reciprocation of kindly sentiments between struggling branches of the same church, should not lightly be given up. Last year, one congregation, that of St. Andrew's, Montreal, by a private effort, contributed £35 to this fund, for this special purpose, but it is not to be supposed, that one congregation will continue to assume the burden. We therefore urgently counsel a judicious liberality towards this Fund, which besides, has to bear the printing of the Synod minutes and a variety of incidental expenses connected with the meeting of Synod. It should be cheerfully and liberally supported. The Treasurer is John Cameron Esq. Toronto.

THE ENDOWMENT SCHEME OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

We have from time to time noticed this great scheme, and have steadily placed before our readers accounts of the system of meetings being held in Scotland for its furtherance, in the hope of exciting in the minds of some a desire to go and do likewise. No plan has of late years been crowned with such wide success as this has been. Originated by a master mind which has been spared to direct and guide it with consummate skill and untiring energy it has risen to colossal proportions, while the name of Dr. Robertson will be handed down to remote generations as a benefactor to his kind. At last General Assembly the subscriptions to the fund of this Scheme had risen to the princely sum of £194,211 sterling, of which £28,000 were subscribed during the previous year; and up to that time 38 new parishes had been erected. Not satisfied with this, and designing the erection of 150 new parishes, the committee propounded a new supplementary scheme embracing certain Provinces, in each of which it was proposed to erect groups of parish churches provided with endowments by contributions to each chapel of a group. Five Provinces were thus set apart, and the work has since the rising of the Assembly been going bravely on. In a recent address, Dr. Robertson states that for each of the first 20 chapels that shall be endowed in group first, upwards of £700 had been subscribed, or £16,000 in all; in group second, about £500, or in all £10,000; in group third about £1160, or a gross sum of fully £23,000; and in group fourth, much the same as in group second. In group five, the effort was only commencing, but in the last two months nearly £350, or in all a capital sum of £7000 had been subscribed. On the whole, Dr. Robertson stated "that he cherished the sanguine hope that they should be able to report to

next general assembly, the accomplishment of this part of their task of a gross subscription of £160,000 stg., or £2000 for each of 80 chapels."

Is not this subject for gratulation, and is it not pleasing to see the Church of our fathers putting forth such noble efforts to place the good tidings within the reach of the poor and needy in the land. We earnestly wish the Parent Church God speed in this wise and noble undertaking, and the while, we earnestly cherish the hope that some earnest large hearted man of vigorous thought and determined Christian energy may be raised up amongst us, to grapple with the scheme for an addition to the temporalities of our church, contemplated by our Synod.

The Presbytery of Toronto have already initiated the movement, and we believe are succeeding well.* But a larger, more general and comprehensive movement is wanted, and we trust that when the fitting time has come, it will not come already, the effort may be made and carried to a successful issue. We believe that our church may be a blessing in this land. May pastors and people be pervaded with the spirit of their Master and be ever active in his work.

THE FRENCH MISSION.

This scheme of our church has lapsed into partial abeyance, we trust it will be revived to active life. Our church has a duty to perform in this matter. She has put her hand to the plough, she may not turn back. The French Canadian people are at our doors, living under the same government, united to us by many ties, they have strong claims upon our Christian sympathies. We notice that at the last meeting of the Presbytery of Montreal, a French Mission sub-committee was appointed, charged with the duty of watching over this effort of the church. Our Synod owns a valuable property in Montreal belonging to the French Mission and another in Sorel, on which there is a brick church. These should be made available. The main difficulty has been in getting labourers, yet these may be forthcoming in time. Our own College is likely to furnish a French Minister, and we believe one of our divinity students has some knowledge of the French Canadian dialect. Eventually a station might be opened at Sorel, round which there is a small Scottish population, and the two

*A friend in a letter to one of the Editors writes in regard to this effort as follows:

"The Presbytery of Toronto are getting along hopefully in their efforts to initiate a Missionary temporalities Scheme. I was last week at two meetings, one of them at Markham and one at Scarborough. The audiences were good and subscribed very well for the year. Vaughan too though having no minister responded nobly." We should have been glad to have been in a position to place fuller details before our readers. Our people neglect too much to avail themselves of the influence of the Press.

missions might be combined. The whole subject merits earnest and prayerful consideration. Meanwhile we copy an extract from a report of the Rev. F. P. Sim, and Alex. Morris, Esq., Elder—a sub-committee of the Montreal Presbytery, who visited the former mission at Milton, and reported as to its position, in a report adopted by the Montreal Presbytery and by them transmitted to the Synod as their report. Owing to the marriage of the former missionary to his wife's sister, there was a difficulty as to his remaining in the employ of the church, and shortly before the visit of the committee to the Station, distant about 100 miles from Montreal, the French Protestant people of Milton and neighbourhood, formerly in connection with our body, had united with the Wesleyan Methodist Church. The committee, before narrating the incidents of their journey and the result of their visit and inquiries, throw out the following suggestion, viz:—

"Before explaining the present state of the Mission it may be remarked that there are two modes in which such a mission may be conducted, the one, that of carrying it on on a broad basis, proclaiming the cardinal doctrines of our holy religion, irrespective of denominational peculiarities, and the other, that of proclaiming these truths, but at the same time endeavoring to attach those brought under their influence to some particular method of church government.

The first method however captivating in theory, your Committee do not think adapted to the circumstances or views of our church. If it be adopted, a system of church government must eventually be observed, and the views of one or other of the sections of the great Protestant family must be adhered to, and in the interval, the members of the little church weaned from their former faith are liable to become unsettled in their views. Your committee therefore conceive, that the true policy of our church is to conduct its mission under its own supervision, preaching the great doctrines of the truth as it is in Jesus, but at the same time, attaching the people to the order of government and distinctive views of our church. * * * * *

And then conclude as follows with some practical suggestions which we copy, as the subject requires consideration in the hope that the mission may yet be placed on a satisfactory footing.

But to conclude, with the loss of the mission station at Milton, the active operations of our church in the French mission field cease for the present.

Shall they do so entirely? We trust not; having put her hand to the plough, we trust the church will not draw back. The French people have strong claims upon us. We live in the same land. Their condition as regards intelligence, morality and religion, acts and reacts upon us; we may not therefore say "am I my brother's keeper"? No, the church must go forward, and learning from the past, we would suggest, that another station should be selected within the bounds of the Presbytery, but in some locality where the missionary would be under the constant supervision and easy access of the members of this court. In the first place, and until the church is in a position to render available the means collected for a mission Church in the city of Montreal, and to place in it a minister of standing from the Geneva or Vaudois church, let a person com-