

In reply to similar requests in former years the trustees have been told that Ministers cannot urge its claims, because, although they may be entirely disinterested, yet appearances are against them, and thus, unless the officers of the Church take an interest in the object, the collection is not made.

It thus appears that the want of sympathy and co-operation of friends at a distance has not been fairly chargeable to the people, but rather to a want of management on the part of their leaders. When the claims of the fund have been set before the people it has met with no inconsiderable response ; and had it in all cases been brought under their notice the result would have been very different.

The largest number of contributing churches in any one year was 21 out of 75 or 80 ; while the number during the past year was only 15 ; and the result has been, not only a small aggregate sum collected, but also much discouragement to those who have longest and most liberally contributed to it.

The trustees have now a request to make, and it is surely a very reasonable one, namely : that each Pastor will inform his Church, through the Deacons, of the request that a collection shall be made on the above named Sabbath ; and further, if consent is obtained, as doubtless will be in every case, let it be properly announced ; and if there is any delicacy about personally commending its claims, then read to them such parts of the Report (an abstract of which appears in this number of the *Canadian Independent*) as may be thought best, and leave it to the judgment of the brethren to contribute as they see fit. If the trustees could secure the passing around of the collecting bags or plates in each case they would have no fear of the result ; the amounts would in some cases be small, perhaps a dollar or two, but a small collection may be as valuable an expression of sympathy as a large one, while the large number of collections will secure the desired result.

In another denomination where the request for a collection is almost invariably complied with, while the individual amounts vary from one or two dollars to over one hundred dollars, the total amount received has sufficed to make their scheme exceedingly efficient, and surely our Congregational Churches ought not to be less prompt and liberal in a work which, in our case, is even more necessary than theirs.

In a word then, the Trustees ask the Churches : *Will you give the fund a collection, or will you not ?* and if you do—let it be ON THE FIRST SABBATH IN AUGUST.

Montreal, June 24th, 1862.

Trans-Atlantic Retrospect.

We resume our summary of the May meetings, and regret that the space at our disposal does not allow us to notice many societies which are really worthy of notice, but which have not the first claim upon us. We begin with the COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY, the twenty-sixth annual meeting of which was held on the 19th May ; E. Ball, M.P., in the chair. Dr. Wilkes was among the speakers, and gave a lengthened retrospect of the work in Canada, contrasting the state of the cause now with what it was when he first arrived here in 1836. In the review he found much to encourage them, and many grounds of hope for the future.