

THE APPROACHING MEETING OF SYNOD.

In the course of the month an annual Synodical meeting takes place. Many most important matters connected with the work of the Church in its Theological Institute, and its missionary operations will come up for consideration; and Divine guidance and direction will be peculiarly needed. We trust that many prayers will be offered up, that needed guidance may be granted, that heavenly wisdom may be vouchsafed, and that a spirit of harmony and forbearance may prevail at all the assemblies of the brethren.

It will be borne in mind that, in the providence of God, questions of great difficulty have been forced on the consideration of the Synod. We refer to the contemplated retirement of Professor Young from his chair in Knox College, and the proposal, of which no doubt most of our readers have heard, of the erection of a Theological School in Montreal. These questions will no doubt be approached with judgment, and with a desire to consult the best interests of the Church at large. We form one Church and must earnestly and resolutely guard against all sectional feeling and action. The Home Mission scheme, too, must be considered and settled. Of course there will be differences of opinion, and no scheme could be devised that would fall in, in every respect, with the views of all. But the aim must be to ascertain what is best for the Church at large, and, we doubt not, even those who might prefer a different mode of operation, will at least give a trial to the system which commends itself to the judgment of the majority.

In regard to the financial department of the Church, it will be satisfactory to know that, in regard to the College Fund there has been a very considerable improvement. We regret that in the case of the Foreign Mission Fund there has not been such an improvement.

We trust that there will be a large attendance of ministers and elders. But in order to secure this, congregations should see to it that funds are provided to enable the minister or elder to go the annual meeting of Synod. This is most reasonable and just. It is not for their private business, nor for their pleasure, that they leave their homes, and travel, in many cases, hundreds of miles to the Synod meeting. It is for the business of the Church at large, and for the interests of every particular congregation, and therefore means should be provided to defray the necessary expenses. Efforts are being made to lighten these expenses. On application being made, the leading Railway Companies have agreed to give return tickets to ministers and elders attending Synod. The Committee of Accommodation are doing what they can to arrange for the reception in private families, of the brethren on their arrival in Toronto. But when all is done that can be done in this way, there will be still a considerable expense which must be met, and we earnestly urge this subject on the attention of the office-bearers in every congregation.

THE TRUE RULE IN GIVING.

“He that giveth, let him do it with simplicity.”

No one denies that it is the duty of all who bear the Christian name to give