

All that is required of Presbyteries is that they send to the Committee, once a year, the very statistics which they must have for their own guidance, unless they carry on their work at hap-hazard. He objects that the large Presbyteries of Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton and London have been cut in pieces in such a way that the strong parts had little or no mission field, and the weak and feeble had the whole outlying work to themselves. With the exception of Hamilton, all these Presbyteries have a larger Mission field than they can overtake. Montreal has an immense territory with twenty-five mission stations; Toronto has also an extensive territory with the same number of stations; and London extends over five counties, and has nineteen mission stations. The Presbyteries in respect to the number of ministers are larger than before the union, and surely in extent of territory they are large enough to satisfy even Mr. Kemp. No arrangement could be made by which the weaker portions of the church would not have the most necessitous fields. This has been the case all along, and hence the necessity of a Central fund.

Mr. Kemp complains that Presbyteries are deprived of their legitimate work, that the scheme keeps the Presbyteries in ignorance of the actual wants within their bounds, and that they cannot project new missions. These statements may all be simply contradicted. The regulations of the Synod make it imperative on Presbyteries to keep up a minute acquaintance with all the facts connected with their mission stations and weak congregations. Every encouragement is given to Presbyteries to project new missions and to carry them on with efficiency, without involving themselves in the penalties of debt. In a word, Mr. Kemp writes in ignorance of the whole scheme. He has been viewing the subject at a distance, "through the loop-holes of retreat," and has fallen into the most astounding mistakes.

One other statement must be corrected. Mr. Kemp says the Synod has shewn opposition to the institution of a new College in the eastern part of the Province, where it is earnestly desired and greatly needed. This is not true. The subject of a new College at Montreal was brought before the Synod by overture in 1864, and the resolution of the Synod was: "That the Synod sanction the formation of a Theological College, as overtured by the Presbytery of Montreal, and that for this purpose the Presbytery of Montreal be authorized to prepare a Charter, *mutatis mutandis*, similar to that of Knox's College, and to report to next Synod." The only amendment to this motion was one approving the object but preferring to send the overture down to Presbyteries. The Synod, by a large majority, decided in terms of the motion. In 1865 the Charter was completed, and it was remitted to the Presbytery of Montreal to mature arrangements. In 1866 the Synod expressed satisfaction with the progress made, and it was again remitted to the Presbytery of Montreal to prosecute and mature the scheme. If this is what Mr. Kemp calls "shewing opposition to a scheme," surely he uses words in the very opposite sense from that in which they are usually understood.

In regard to Knox College it is only necessary to recall attention to the fact that the small increase in the number of ministers is not due to the falling off of the Canadian licentiates, and to add that the senior class who are now finishing their studies consists of 14 students, the largest number we have had in any year except 1858-9. The following numbers will shew how many have finished the course of study since 1856-7. The first number refers to the Senior class of 1856-7, and the others to the following years in their order:—7, 5, 17, 5, 3, 6, 11, 9, 8, 11, 14. There are in all this session 33 Theological students. There are a large number of students studying in the Toronto University and other Colleges with a view to the ministry of our Church, exceeding the number at any previous period in our history.

The only one of Mr. Kemp's remedies which it is necessary to examine in detail is his proposal in regard to Home Missions. He proposes "to organize three or four District Synods, and intrust the Mission work to them." Does Mr.