

THE  
**ECCLESIASTICAL AND MISSIONARY RECORD,**  
For the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

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## The Record.

### NOTICE RESPECTING THE COLLEGE COLLECTION, TO BE READ TO CONGREGATIONS.

As seen from the Abstract of the Minutes of Synod, that the Annual Collection for Knox's College is to be made in all the Congregations and Mission Stations of the Church, on Sabbath, the 6th day of December next, or on the earliest convenient Sabbath thereafter. And we would now earnestly and affectionately urge all our brethren, whether Pastors, Missionaries or Chuchists, to recommend the claims of the College to hearty and liberal reception on the part of their congregations.

At no period, either prior to our disruption, or subsequent to it, have we been more urgently called on, than at the present, to make vigorous exertions and devoted sacrifices for raising up a well-instructed Gospel Ministry in this land.

We have been bewailing the want of spiritual labourers; we have been calling for prayer to the Lord of the Harvest, that he would send us labourers; and doubtless some have been stirred up to plead with him to take pity on our destitution,—and now, in the number of pious youths who are aspiring to our Seminary for that mental culture, and those researches into Divine Truth which may fit them for being effective preachers of the Gospel, we may behold an answer to prayer. The Lord is virtually saying to us, I send you men suitable for my service, be it your part to aid them in the acquisition of those gifts which may contribute to their greatest usefulness.

If we are at all in earnest in our desires to have the kingdom of Christ set up in this land,—and if we would do our part towards bringing about this blessed consummation, then must we exert ourselves mightily in upholding and fostering our infant Seminary. It is yet only in the third year of its existence, and the Students are well nigh Forty in number. The Church may well consider herself bound to provide instruction for these, and to give assistance as circumstances require, for their maintenance. The ministry amongst us holds out few attractions as to ease, honour, or emoluments to the carnal mind,—and we do desire none but regenerated men to study for it; yet, it is too much to expect, considering the temporal circumstances of our people generally, that many youths will be found with resources adequate to carry them through a protracted course of study. Would to God that we saw many of the affluent consecrating their wealth for training themselves or their pious ones to the service of the Redeemer, in our own land or in Heathen lands: but, as things are, individual congregations in the Church collectively must in a sense adopt the pious youths who are giving themselves to this service, they must assist them with means for attending College, where

this is required, and they must maintain the College, which is just a company of Teachers, for their instruction.

The expenditure of the College hitherto has been very limited, from the gratuitous services of Deputies from the Free Church of Scotland, and of the minister of Knox's Church, Toronto. That expenditure henceforth must be greatly increased from the increase of Professors, the enlarged accommodation required for the College, and the greater demands on the Bursary Fund.

And we now call on our congregations to come forward with enlarged offerings, to show that they appreciate the honourable and important duty to which the Great Head of the Church is calling them, and that they are determined to give, as well as to pray, for the raising up of labourers for the gospel harvest.

This is the first general collection in our churches since the harvest of our fields has been gathered. Should we forget that the scarcity which prevails in many districts of our father-land is unknown amongst us,—yea, that that scarcity which causes wide-spread misery there has been the occasion of an increased demand and higher price for the productions of our fields? Let us then, at the ensuing collection, present liberal and hearty offerings of thanksgiving to Him who is Lord alike of the natural and spiritual harvest.

We have said nothing here of the Toronto Academy, because it is not directly dependent on the proper College Fund; but we cannot forbear to notice, that its prosperity will be of great importance to the College, as well as to the church generally and the country, and we rejoice to say, that, thus far, it is exceedingly prosperous, and we earnestly bespeak the prayers of our people for it, as well as for the College.

By authority of the College Committee.

WILLIAM RINTOUL,  
Chairman.

Streetsville, November 30, 1846.

N. B.—It was hoped that the above statement would have been in the hands of ministers and preachers at least, before the Sabbath in November, on which the collection for the College should have been announced. The new and peculiar engagements of the Editor of the Record have been one reason for the delay that has occurred in the publication of this number. It is hoped, that, though a corresponding delay may have taken place in making the collection, the collection itself will not on that account be eventually injured.—The weather and roads, especially in the country, have of late been very unfavourable to full congregations, and it may happen in many places, that the collections may be made in their congregations. In this case, it is earnestly requested that absent members should be waited on in private, that they may have an opportunity of contributing to the cause of the young ministry of the Church,

as well as those who may have been privileged to meet in the sanctuary, and listen to appeals in its behalf.

It may be proper to mention, that, when it was found that this number of the Record was to be late in being issued, the statement respecting the collection was printed in a separate form, with a view to its being transmitted to ministers and preachers, and, that it was not sent through the mail, because it was found that the Postmaster persisted in demanding letter postage for every copy of the statement.

W. R.

Toronto, Dec. 9, 1846.

The delay in the publication of this and the preceding number of the Record, has been occasioned by the removal of the individual, on whom the editorial charge of it is devolved, to Toronto,—and that so suddenly as to render it impracticable for him to make inter-current arrangements for its being issued at the ordinary period. The circumstances to which reference is made are now so generally known to the readers of the Record, that it seems unnecessary to be more particular respecting them. The variety of duties and difficulties connected with the commencement of such an Institution as the Toronto Academy, entered upon at very short notice, will easily be appreciated by all, and will, it is hoped, be sustained as a sufficient apology for the irregularity which has occurred. The Record will henceforward be published at Toronto, by Mr. James F. Westland, Bookseller, King-street, to whom all communications respecting the publication ought to be now addressed.

The number for December will be issued by the middle of that month: that for January, in the beginning of the month as formerly. The Editor thinks he has reason to hope, that, in his new circumstances, he will have more efficient aid than formerly in the conducting of the Record, and that it will be found in all respects more worthy of the attention of its readers than hitherto. He would take this opportunity of again requesting Clerks of Presbyteries particularly, and ministers, and missionaries, and members of the Church generally, to furnish such reports and articles of intelligence as they may deem suitable for the columns of this, the organ of the Presbyterian Church of Canada. Were this request generally complied with, as it might easily be without burdening any one, our successive Nos. would become, what it was designed they should be, a full and minute record of the state and progress of our Church in the various localities throughout the length and breadth of the country in which her congregations and people are found, and would thus acquire a very peculiar interest and value. We would anew urge this on the attention of all concerned.

There is less satisfaction, but a still greater necessity, to urge on the subscribers to the Record the duty of supplying the publisher with the funds requisite for carrying on the publication.