

# THE CANADIAN

# UNITED PRESBYTERIAN MAGAZINE.

VOL. II.

TORONTO, JULY 1, 1855.

No. 7.

## Miscellaneous Articles.

### FUND FOR AIDING AND ENCOURAGING STUDENTS IN DIVINITY.

THE SYNOD OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA,  
TO THE PEOPLE UNDER ITS CHARGE:

DEAR BRETHREN,

Affectionately and solemnly wishing you grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, we feel ourselves called upon to address you on a subject which, we doubt not, you will concur with us in regarding as of the highest importance, for the maintenance and extension of the Church, in which, again, the spiritual good of yourselves and your families, as well as of the people of this rapidly advancing Province, is deeply concerned. We refer to a matter closely connected with the procuring of an adequate supply of duly qualified Ministers of the Gospel.

We are persuaded you are fully satisfied not only that the Gospel Ministry is a divinely sanctioned ordinance of our holy religion, but also that a ministry considerably educated is, if not absolutely necessary, at least in the highest degree useful, and, practically speaking, in the present times, almost indispensable. It has ever been an object with our Church, and, indeed, with the Church of Scotland since the Reformation, and, we may add, with all the sections of the Presbyterian body which have sprung from her, to secure such a ministry, and to guard carefully against investing with the sacred office, any man who had not made some attainments in literature and philosophy, as well as in theology; and experience has clearly proved that such a course meets with the approval and blessing of the glorious King and Head of the Church. Deplorable will it be, if we are ever forced to abandon a practice so reasonable in itself, and so beneficial in its results.

For some time after the introduction of our denomination into Canada, we were inevitably dependent wholly on the parent Church, at home, for a supply of ministers; and we trust a feeling of fervent gratitude will always be cherished on our part for the generous efforts and sacrifices made for our behoof. It is obvious, however, that this arrangement, necessarily attended with many inconveniences, could never be reasonably contemplated as anything else than temporary. Accordingly this Synod, a number of years ago, instituted a