

less "pile," to be scrambled over and probably squandered after the accumulator's death. Besides which, the various benevolent objects all need the donations a once, many of them urgently. Thus Peabody, Samuel Morley, and the Crossleys, gave or are giving munificently, year by year.

But what of those who need the income of their capital, for their own maintenance during life? It is this class that we have specially in view. And the plan which we recommend to them, as adopted elsewhere, is this. Suppose, for example, that some good friend of the Congregational College wishes to leave it the sum of \$5,000. Instead of waiting till he dies, and leaving his purpose exposed to all the delays and risks of realising property, the promptitude of executors and family disputes, he makes over this amount at once to the College—a legally incorporated body—on the condition, that, as long as he lives, interest at so much per cent shall be paid to him; and (if he will) after his death, to his wife or unmarried daughter, if she survive him. In this way, the donation is absolutely secured to the College, in the least expensive way, under the eye of the donor; he has a responsible body to depend upon for an income, and is freed from all that worry of managing investments, which is particularly burdensome in the bodily and mental weakness of old age; while of course no difficulty can arise with posthumous "claimants." The Widows' Fund or the Missionary Society (when incorporated) could share with the College in such an arrangement, on similar terms.

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### THE UNION AND THE ASSOCIATIONS.

We observe that, at the recent meetings of the Eastern Township and Western Associations, the subject of membership in the Union, as related to membership in these local bodies, came up for discussion, and resolutions were adopted, which, though differing in several respects from each other, agreed in this, that they favoured the removal of questions of "good standing" in the body from the cognizance of the Union, and relegating them to the Associations.

The subject is one of much interest and importance, and deserves the best attention of the entire brotherhood. A change commended by the Associations of the extreme East and West, respectively, will command the respectful consideration of all.

Many members of the Union, we are aware, have felt dissatisfied with existing arrangements in relation to the reception of churches and ministers into that body, and this, on various grounds. One chief difficulty is, that the session of the Union are so brief and so far apart. The time is closely occupied with public sessions. Ministers and delegates on the Membership Committee are probably sitting on others as important. It is difficult to get them together. Some are infected with that mad haste to be home again which works so much mischief in the transaction of all our business. And hence, questions of membership are sometimes forced to decision without full time for enquiry. Postponement is felt