

Fund. In accordance with the recommendations of the Report the Synod have instructed the Committee to prosecute diligently during the present year, the work of obtaining subscriptions among the ministers and members of the Church, and collections in our congregations. The Committee met lately, when it was resolved that the members of Committee should be agents in their respective Presbyteries to take charge of the business; that those Presbyteries which have not taken subscriptions among their members, be requested to do so, and give their countenance and support to the agents in taking up subscriptions and collections within their bounds. These agents are in the Halifax Presbytery, Rev. Messrs. McKnight and Annand, with whom is associated the Agent of the Church, in the Truro Presbytery, Rev. J. H. Chase; in the Pictou Presbytery the Convener and Rev. Messrs. Ross and Roddick; in the Tatamagouche Presbytery, Rev. H. B. McKay; in P. E. Island Presbytery, Rev. Isaac Murray. Those Presbyteries in which no members of the Committee reside, are requested to take action themselves, and make such appointments as they may judge best fitted to carry out the object.

It is proposed that, besides taking subscriptions from ministers, the agents should solicit subscriptions from as many of the wealthier and more liberal members of the congregations as they can visit, and obtain such other contributions as they can by means of congregational collections. The Committee hope that it is unnecessary to make any lengthened appeal on the subject. They would only commend to the members of our congregations, especially those whom God has blessed with abundance, the words of Sir Francis Crossly, who recently, in addition to a gift of £20,000 stg. to the London Missionary Society, and to a donation of £10,000 as the basis of a fund for the widows of Congregational ministers, presented £10,000 to the Pastors' Retiring Fund, accompanying it with the following kindly expressions:— "In making this donation to a Society which contemplates help for minis-

ters who retire from age or infirmity, I desire in this way to acknowledge the goodness of that God to whom I owe both the blessings of this life, and the hope of the life to come. It has not always been sufficiently considered by us, who have had the privilege of intelligent Christian instruction from Sabbath to Sabbath, and of comfort in our times of weakness and sorrow, that those who have been thus helpful to us have renounced more lucrative paths, which lay equally open to them and to us, and that in by far the majority of instances, it has been impossible for them to provide against a season of prolonged sickness or of old age. It surely cannot be right, that those to whom we and our families owe so much, should be left without pity, when they have rendered us all the service in their power, to drag out their last years in straits and misery. To avert, in some degree, this unhappy condition of things, it is with a pleasure, which I cannot express, that I beg the treasurer to accept this contribution." May the members of our Church be constrained by the same spirit, according to their ability, to go and do likewise.

REPORT

Of the Committee on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, 1870.

The Committee on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund beg leave to report, that in consequence of the members of Committee being widely scattered, they were not able to meet in regular form, but at the time of the meeting of the Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations at Pictou in October last, a Conference was held of the members then assembled, when it was agreed by those present, to write to the various Presbyteries of the Church, requesting them to take action on the Resolutions of Synod of last year, as to taking subscriptions among ministers and members of the Church. The appeal has been responded to by only three Presbyteries, which took subscriptions among their ministerial brethren as follows:—

Pictou.....	\$360.
Halifax, about.....	300
Tatamagouche.....	72

\$732.

For various reasons, the Committee were obliged to defer taking action to receive subscriptions and collections among the