

# THE HOME AND FOREIGN RECORD

OF

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

No. 12.

OCTOBER, 1864.

VOL. III.

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## COLLECTION FOR THE WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND, AND THE FUND FOR AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS.

By appointment of Synod, the collection for the Ministers', Widows', and Orphans' Fund, and the Fund for Aged and Infirm Ministers will be made throughout the Church on the third Sabbath of the present month. The objects are most important in themselves, and from increased claims on both funds, in consequence of the death of some ministers, and the impaired health of others, who have borne the burden and heat of the day, they are assuming a growing magnitude and importance. Since the last collection was made, there are four additional annuitants on the Widows' Fund, and at least one more annuitant on the Fund for Aged and Infirm Ministers, the whole number of widows on the Fund being 12, and of ministers 5.

We have abundant cause of thankfulness on account of the success of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund; but its present position, in view of the large and yearly increasing number of annuitants, must not induce a feeling of security and negligence. Whatever difference of opinion may exist among the friends of the Church, as to the relative importance of the two funds, or the relation in which they have hitherto stood to one another, there is no difference of opinion as to the urgent necessity of more being done for the fund for aged and infirm ministers. It is most desirable that there should be a capital fund for this special object. But in the absence of such a fund, it is all the more necessary that the annual collection should be liberal, and that it should not be overlooked by any congregation. This fund is really as much for the benefit of congregations as of ministers, and it is trusted that there will be no unwilling or grudging response to a call in behalf of an object of such importance to the Church generally.

[Another minister has been suddenly removed—the Rev. J. McDowall.]

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### PRAYER FOR KNOX COLLEGE.

We beg to remind ministers and missionaries of the appointment by the Synod, of a day for special prayer for the College. The day is the second Sabbath of the present month. It is, we are persuaded, altogether unnecessary to urge attention to this important matter.

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### SETTLEMENT OF CONGREGATIONAL ARREARS.

We are glad to find that the matter of arrears has not been lost sight of. In all the Presbyteries, we believe, the matter has been under consideration, and steps have been taken to stir up congregations in arrears to do what they can to wipe them off or reduce them, and to prevent, if possible, their accumulation for the future. The Presbytery of Brockville at its late meeting, besides adopting a Committee to visit congregations in arrears, in accordance with the suggestions of the Synod's Committee, adopted the following resolutions:

"1. That the Presbytery shall see that a good efficient organization exists,