

devise liberal things and to give, not in a niggardly spirit but with open-handed, liberality, not grudgingly but cheerfully, consecrating your gifts as you have consecrated yourselves to the Lord, and following your gifts with earnest, fervent, continual prayer. So shall your giving to the Lord bring a double blessing—a blessing to your brethren, who, through you, may enjoy the means of grace, and a blessing to yourselves, for “God loveth a cheerful giver,” and hath promised that “the liberal soul shall be made fat, and that he who watereth shall be watered also himself.”

Finally, be prompt in your contributions. At once, “let every one lay *oy* him in store as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings,” when your contributions are required to be sent forward. Seek promptly to replenish the treasury of the Lord. It has been said: “He gives twice who gives quickly.” Come into the courts of the Lord, and “bring an offering” with you. And may He bless you in your basket and in your store, bless you with temporal blessings; and with spiritual blessings; and may He abundantly bless our Home Mission Work, so that “the wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose.”

In name and by authority of the General Assembly.

WILLIAM REID, *Moderator.*

TORONTO, 1st September, 1879.

ALONG WITH THIS CIRCULAR there has been sent to each Kirk-Session and Presbytery an estimate prepared by Mr. J. McMurrich, chairman of the Assembly's Finance committee, of the amounts required for all the schemes of the Church, and the average amount per communicant required to make up the whole.

The total amount required during the current year is estimated as follows:—

Assembly Fund.....	\$5,150 00
French Evangelization.....	23,500 00
Home Mission (West).....	46,000 00
Foreign Mission (West).....	25,000 00
Montreal College.....	4,000 00
Knox and Queen's Colleges.....	12,000 00
Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund (West).....	5,500 00
Halifax College, Home Mission and Foreign Mission (East).....	25,320 00
Total.....	\$146,470 00

The average amounts required per communicant, in the several districts are found to be in the following proportions.—

In the Maritime Provinces.....	\$1.28 each
Western Section (for territory assigned to Queen's and Knox Colleges)	1.43 “
Eastern Section (for territory assigned to Montreal College).....	1.58 “

“But,” Mr. McMurrich says, “it must be borne in mind that many members and many congregations will not come up to the average amount, and every one who can possibly do so, will require to give much more than the average stated, otherwise the funds absolutely necessary for carrying on the great Schemes of the Church will fall lamentably short, and thus the work of the Lord be hindered. It is pressed, therefore, on the attention of Presbyteries and congregations that, in dependence on the blessing of God from whom alone the willing mind and the ready heart can come, means be taken to raise the standard of Christian liberality, so that each may give “as God hath prospered him,” and that every congregation may contribute to the several Schemes of the Church. The Committee lay great stress on the organization of Missionary Associations where there are no Deacons' Courts. At all events, there should be something beyond a mere collection on a Sabbath day for an important Scheme of the Church, as many things may occur to make such a collection altogether below what the congregation should give. The Supreme Court of the Church has repeatedly recommended the formation of Missionary Associations, and it is hoped that soon in every congregation such organizations will be formed.”

Editorial Correspondence *

EDINBURGH.

THE HIGH STREET of Edinburgh is not easily described. There is nothing to which one can liken it. Whatever you may think of it and its extraordinary environments as they now appear, must be qualified by recollecting what it was two hundred and fifty years ago, and by taking into account the many strange and stirring events which have transpired on its pavement. High street runs nearly in a straight line from the Castle to Holyroodhouse—a good Scottish mile. On a map it looks like the spinal column of some huge megatherium, with streets and lanes, closes and vennels branching from it to right and left like so many ribs. It is well called “Auld Reekie,” for it is lined on either side by soot-be-grimed houses of uncommon height and antique appearance—tenements rising upon tenements till eight and ten stories are piled on top of each other and finally vanish

*The first General Assembly was held in the Magdalen Chapel in the Cowgate, not in St. Giles' as inadvertently stated last month. C.