

ise the necessary agency. That a small committee be appointed to superintend details, and an annual report printed and circulated either in the pages of the "Presbyterian" or in a separate form, for the satisfaction of the churches and the furtherance of the common object". In support of this motion Mr. Bain addressed the Presbytery at some length.* The motion was seconded by the Rev. Mr. McMurchy, and after a long and animated discussion, in which all the members took part, was adopted unanimously, and Deputations appointed with strict injunctions to report at next meeting of Presbytery.

THE MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS FUND.

We would remind the Ministers of the Synod and our readers that the annual collection for this important Fund is appointed to be made on the 1st Sabbath of January, provided always that, when the celebration of the Lord's Supper happens to fall on that Sabbath, or it be deemed unsuitable or inconvenient for making the collection, it shall be made within the four weeks thereafter. The Synod in its standing law on the subject enjoins Ministers to explain and advocate upon a previous Sabbath the object for which the collection is to be made. There are now a very large number of annuitants upon this Fund, and it should be liberally and cheerfully sustained by our people. It has very strong claims upon their Christian sympathy, its support is a plain Christian duty. There were at the meeting of Synod 14 annuitants upon it, and another has just been added to the List.

It may be well to remind our readers of the mode in which the Fund is worked and the claims upon it apportioned. The more liberal the contributions of the congregations, the larger will in general the annuity be, though the scale is very properly so framed as to place the smaller congregations on the best footing, and a maximum annuity is fixed. The Board in their annual Report to the Synod complained of the irregularity with which collections were made for the Fund, and it was further stated that they contemplated increasing the annuities in proportion to the collections. An interesting debate took place in that Court on the whole subject and the matter was referred to a Committee who reported the following resolutions which were unanimously adopted.

1. That Presbyteries be enjoined to send, with all convenient speed, to the Board of Managers of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, a statement of the date of the ordination or induction of all Ministers now on the Roll of the Synod.

* A report of his remarks is in type, and will appear in next number.

2. That Presbyteries report to the Managers of the Widows' Fund the date of every ordination or induction of Ministers, that may hereafter be admitted, within one month thereafter.

3. That the Rule now in force respecting the taking-up of collections for said Fund, on the first Sabbath of January each year, be strictly observed, as far as practicable: and, provided there be good cause, from inclemency of weather, or otherwise, for deterring it on the first Sabbath, then it shall be taken-up on the earliest day afterwards that is convenient.

4. That all collections be remitted to the Treasurer before the first day of April each year, in order that the accounts for the year be made up, and a fair statement of the condition and operations of the Trust be given to the Synod at their Annual Meeting.

5. That the Rule now in force, * (see Printed Minutes, 1851, page 20, near foot,) respecting Presbyteries taking care that collections be taken up in vacant congregations, shall be observed strictly.

6. That united Congregations shall be considered as one, and their collections conjoined, so long as they are under the pastoral charge of one Minister.

7. That the Synod pledge themselves to carry into faithful operation, in so far as may be in their power, the By-laws of the Board of Managers, now in operation, in respect to every Minister or Congregation, who contribute to the Fund under the existence of these By-laws, which, in respect to all such, are declared to be unalterable without the full consent of all parties,—and the Synod do hereby homologate and confirm the same.

We trust that the forthcoming collection will be large. It is the duty of the Christian people to provide for the wants of those who minister to them in spiritual things, and there are few ways of more cordially testifying the affection of the people to their Pastor than by liberally contributing to this Fund, and so securing to the partner of his joys and cares and his helpless children, should Providence first remove him, some provision for the future. There should be no delicacy on the part of ministers in urging the matter. The people have a duty to perform, and that duty should be faithfully and plainly pointed out. For our part, laymen writing in a lay-journal, we have no hesitation in earnestly entreating our readers seriously to consider this matter and under the dictates of an enlightened conscience to give to this Fund out of their abundance as God hath prospered them. If under the legal Jewish Dispensation the people were called to give a tenth of their income to the Lord's service, surely in this Gospel Dispensation the Christian duty of contributing to the support of the preached Word is very manifest.

UNIVERSITY OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE, KINGSTON.

The Classes in the Faculty of Arts were opened on the 1st of October at Kingston, C. W., and those in the Faculty of Divinity on the 5th of November. The

* * And Presbyteries are directed to see that in appointments of supplies to vacant congregations arrangements be made for affording to such congregations as far as possible an opportunity of contributing to the Fund."

introductory address was delivered by the Rev. Professor George. In consequence of changes, which have been made in the Queen's College Building, we learn that the amount of accommodation it affords has been greatly increased, so that it is now ample for all purposes. We are glad to learn, as will all the friends of this School of our Prophets, that the attendance upon the classes is very good, larger in fact than in any previous session.

The number of Students in Arts, of whom a large proportion are looking eventually to study for the Ministry, is 39; that of Divinity Students proper is 7; in all, 46.

We now turn to the Medical Classes, which have proved a most successful feature in the history of the College. These are entirely supported by fees, no portion of the revenues of the College being, by a Resolution of the Board of Trustees, permitted to be appropriated to them. The session was opened by an address from Dr. Yates. Last year the attendance of students was 47, this year the attendance will be nearly 60. The classes are comfortably accommodated, and the prospects of this Medical School are exceedingly good. The total number of Students in the College proper is then, say, 106. There is also the Queen's College School. This feeder to the College is still maintained and is successfully conducted under the management of Mr. R. Campbell, the Head Master, a graduate of the College. We trust yet to see Presbyterian Exhibitions to this School instituted; they would add much to its usefulness.

Another interesting feature in the progress of the College is the commencement of a Museum. The very valuable cabinet of Canadian Antiquities, and of specimens relating to Geology and Natural History, belonging to the late Rev. A. Bell, has been made over to the College by the wish of Mr. Bell, and thus forms an excellent nucleus for a Museum. On the whole, the prospects of our College are very good. Our country is advancing rapidly, and our people are in duty bound to place this Institution in a position of comparative prosperity, and relieve it from financial embarrassment. The Faculties of the College have sustained a very severe loss in the afflictive removal of the late Professor Smith, but we learn with much pleasure that every exertion will be made to supply the loss. We understand that at a general meeting of Trustees recently held it was decided to receive applications for the vacant Professorship until the 1st of May next, and in the meantime to let the vacancy be known by means of the Canadian press, and also in the newspapers of the four University towns of Scotland. In this way it is expected that a first-rate Professor will be found. Arrangements are now being made for carrying on the duties of the vacant chair as usual, and it is anticipated that the classes in Hebrew, Biblical Criticism and