

attention to the subject of the financial position of the Institution, and urging Presbyteries to carry out with promptitude and energy the measures agreed to by the Synod. The subject to which this circular refers should be interesting to every member and adherent of the Church, and we therefore subjoin the principal portions of it :—

“The present financial position of Knox College demands that the earnest attention of the office-bearers and members of the Church should be immediately directed to the subject. For several years there has been a deficiency in the funds. The result has been a constantly increasing debt, which not only embarrasses the Board of Management, but which, if allowed to continue, threatens the stability and usefulness of this vitally important institution.”

“It is evident that it is upon our own College we must hereafter chiefly rely for Ministers to fill the numerous vacancies in the Church, and for Missionaries to carry the Gospel into the wide and destitute mission field of our country. Fully a hundred faithful and laborious pastors and probationers trained in Knox College, and in the Hall of the late United Presbyterian Synod, are already engaged in the service of our Church. It would surely be suicidal folly on the part of the Canada Presbyterian Church to allow an institution to which it owes so much in the past, and from which it hopes so much in the future, to languish for want of adequate support.”

“Experience has shown that wherever the claims of our College have been clearly and lovingly presented to the people, they have not been backward in responding to the call. In order, however, that congregations and individuals may fully understand and intelligently discharge their duty to this institution, two things seem essential: (1.) They must know the amount required from the whole Church. (2.) They must know, as far as possible, what proportion of this amount should be contributed by each congregation and individual. It is only a rough approximation which can be made to this. Every man should give as the Lord hath prospered him, and must for himself decide, in each case, the exact amount. It may, however, greatly assist the congregations and members of the Church in determining the proportion they should bear of what is in reality a burden resting in common on the whole Church, to consider first the average amount necessary from each communicant and then, from what they know of their ability and the way in which the Lord hath prospered them, to judge how much they should in equity to the brotherhood, rise above or sink below this average standard.

“It was, as we believe, with a view of furnishing the information necessary to guide to this practical conclusion, and to enable congregations and members to decide intelligently what they should do, that Synod laid upon the Board of Management, and upon Presbyteries, the work pointed out in the following important resolution, unanimously adopted at the late meeting in Hamilton, viz :—That “with the view of meeting the great deficiency in the income of the ordinary College Fund, the Synod instruct the Board to prepare and transmit to Presbyteries, a statement of the amount which they may be expected to contribute within their respective bounds, in the preparation of such a statement, having regard to the numbers and the circumstances of the congregations concerned; and instruct Presbyteries to transmit a similar statement to Kirk Sessions, and to visit by deputation, any congregation which may not be doing its duty towards the fund. Further, that the last week of February be appointed as the time, on or before which, all contributions shall be remitted; at the same time that congregations who can do so be urged to remit the money as much earlier as possible.”

“In carrying out these instructions, we beg on behalf of the Board of Management for your consideration the following facts and views :—

“1. The amount of debt on the ordinary Fund was on the 30th September, \$3526.51. And we regret to state that more than two-thirds of this large sum