

thing, in my opinion. Yet some better might, perhaps, be suggested. But before going further, let me beg pardon of the Rev. Synod if I should try to supersede their well-considered scheme, and propound a better. My suggestion is, in few words, "Congregations, pay your ministers as other professional men are paid, and you will get both Students and Ministers." I sympathise with Dr. Guthrie's opinion, that Ministers cannot live on the wind.

As regards the Lowden Fund, it is cheering to see that the Head of the Church never leaves Himself without a witness, but proves the veracity of His promise, "I will be a Father to the fatherless, and a husband to the widow," and this by putting it into the hearts of His people to be the agents of this benevolent work.

Lastly, and not least, let us take a retrospective glance at Canada a quarter of a century back. At that time the United Secession Church had no Church here. We believe, the following Summer, two of its ministers were sent out to cross the deep in a voyage of nine or ten weeks—nothing uncommon in those days for a voyage, and to face all the privations incident to a wilderness. Now the wilderness and the solitary place are glad for them, and the ministers may be said to be comfortable if their people make them so. We might mention rather a singular circumstance as regards our ministers. The obituary list is very small. Only three deaths in nearly twenty-five years.\*

How kind in sparing them!

How are thy servants blest, O Lord!

How sure is their defence!

One of the deaths alluded to, it will be remembered, is that of the Rev. Mr. Proudfoot, who held a prominent place, being Professor of Theology for the U. P. Church. The other minister, who is one of the pioneers, had the gratifying duty to perform, a few months ago, of inducting a Brother into the charge of the Congregation which was nurtured by him in its infancy; and now an energetic, able, and, what is far better, willing people to further the cause. So much so, that, on the day of the induction of their long-anticipated pastor, they paid him his first half-year's salary in advance, being £200. In less than twenty-five years, our ordained ministers number nearly 60. But why only that number, although considerable? See the number of Free Church Ministers and Congregations, in much less time, far more numerous. Some may say, "They (the Frees) have been over-zealous." It is good to be zealously affected in a good cause. Have the U. P.s been doing their duty in spreading forth their influence? There is much land yet to be possessed. Let her "arise and shine, for her light is come."

The U. P. Church here has hitherto been a missionary one, drawing largely from the funds of the Mother Church in Scotland. But are we to remain so? Has Canada got up her name among the nations, as being one of Great Britain's best colonies, as far as regards its wealth, which, in most cases, has been got by industry? They are an independent people. "When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt. I taught Ephraim also to go, taking them by the arms." Has not God in Providence done so with us as a Church, and are we to remain in an infantile state, and not return unto God somewhat according to the benefit received? However, it is so far gratifying to see the Mission Funds are taking a little start last year. We hope they will be doubled this season. Surely it would not be much to expect each of the Presbyteries in our Synod to raise £200—which would make £1600—would be self-sustaining, and send back some to our kind old parent, for what she has done for us. She has plenty of use for her money. Does not the ignorance and the wickedness abounding in the large cities of Great Britain require more missionaries, with the hundreds of millions of degraded beings which cover the earth?

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\* The writer seems to have forgotten the Rev. W. Robertson who was settled at Montreal, and soon died of cholera.