

have been made, and they trust that in both these important respects their conduct may meet with the approbation of the Synod.

It being at all times the anxious desire of the Managers to increase the Annuities as frequently as the state of the Fund will permit, they were gratified at being enabled to avail themselves of the first opportunity of doing so which presented itself. At a Meeting of the Board, held on 22nd April, 1852, after a careful consideration of the means at their disposal, it was unanimously Resolved:

"That the Annuity to be paid to Widows shall be increased to £12 10s. from the first Fund, and according to the scale already approved of from the second Fund. That, in the event of a child or children coming on the Fund in consequence of the death of both parents, the same annuity as in the case of a widow shall be payable to him, her, or them, until the youngest daughter shall attain the age of 21 years (unless sooner married, when it shall cease), or the youngest boy shall attain the age of 16 years, unless he is studying with a view to the Ministry in the Church of Scotland, or in this Synod, when it shall continue to be paid until he attains the age of 21 years."

This Resolution will doubtless give satisfaction to the Synod. The provision for an extended education to the sons of Ministers proposing to study with a view to the Sacred Office will, it is hoped, under the Divine blessing, tend greatly to increase the number of those who shall hereafter have to fill the Pulpits of the present incumbents. The extension of the term during which annuities shall be paid to the Orphan Daughters of Ministers is not the least pleasing feature in the above Resolution. Such cases usually require more assistance and sympathy than that of the other sex. It will be the aim of the Managers, whenever they deem it safe to do so, to extend this class of annuities till it covers the lifetime of the Annuitant, or until she is married or otherwise rendered independent of its aid.

The Managers did not deem it prudent during the past year to make any alteration in the scale of Annuities payable from the Congregational Collections. Having deliberately and conscientiously adopted it, as upon the whole the fairest to all parties concerned, and as the one most conducive to the growth of the Fund, they do not desire to interfere with the proportions established by them, and confirmed by the Synod, till they have gained further experience of its practical working. Any alteration that may hereafter be made will probably be to increase the Annuities though the relative proportions will be preserved.

On former occasions the Managers dwelt at so much length on the advantages derived from the graduated scale that they would not have thought it necessary to notice the subject again, had it not become known to them that one of the Presbyteries has overtured or is about to overture the Synod for a change in the Management of this part of the Fund. As it is, the Managers content themselves by referring to their reasons formerly urged, to the deliverance of the Synod itself at its last meeting, and to the statement of their conviction that, if the Annuities from this source be made uniform, an immediate and serious decrease will take place in the collections. While freely acknowledging the duty devolving upon the larger and older-established Churches of assisting in the maintenance of the Widows of Ministers belonging to Congregations more recently formed, or in remote settlements where large contributions cannot be looked for, yet they think a limit ought to be placed somewhere, and the mode that has been adopted is the only one which has occurred to them as at all likely at once to draw out the support of the older and more numerous attended Congregations, and to hold out an inducement to every Congregation except (and this exception should be borne in mind) the few who collect more than £12 annually, the position of whose Widows is not improved by anything over that amount. If, indeed, any selfish feeling prevailed in this matter, it would ob-

viously be more for the advantage, even as matters now stand, for the larger contributors to take up a nominal collection and insure their Ministers lives for £400 each, which they could readily do. Should any attempts be made to equalize the Annuities, the Managers fear that, while the smaller Congregations do not increase their contributions, the larger ones will certainly decrease.

The Managers report that, in addition to the two Lay Members of their number who retire in rotation, another will require to be named in lieu of Mr. Thomas Wilson, who has left the Province, and is now resident in London. They would respectfully suggest that Mr. Thomas Peck would be a useful Member of the Board.

The Managers, in conclusion, congratulate the Synod that no new claimants have come upon the Fund during the financial year that has just closed.

The whole respectfully submitted.

(Signed) ROBERT MCGILL, *Chairman P. T.*  
HEW RAMSAY, *Secretary.*

MONTRÉAL, 1st July, 1852.

It was then moved and seconded, and unanimously agreed to, that the Report now read be received and approved of; and that the grateful thanks of the Synod be given to the Managers of the Fund for the admirable manner in which they have managed the Fund entrusted to them during the past year, and likewise for the able and satisfactory Report which they have presented to the Synod: And, further, the Synod enjoin Ministers to bring before their Congregations, at the season appointed for the Annual Collection in behalf of this Fund, its special claims on the liberality of their people: And the Synod record their disapprobation of the conduct of the Six Ministers who have neglected to make collections from their people in behalf of this Fund, and they are hereby strictly enjoined to a more faithful discharge of their duty in this particular.

A number of the Managers being present, the Moderator tendered to them the thanks of the Synod accordingly.

The Synod then proceeded to the election of three Trustees for the management of the Ministers Widows' and Orphans' Fund, when the Rev. Robert McGill, John Greenshields, Esq., and Andrew Shaw, Esq., were unanimously re-elected, and their names placed at the head of the lists of Ministers and Laymen respectively composing the Board. The Synod also elected Thomas Peck, Esq., in room of Thomas Wilson, Esq.

It was intimated to the Synod, on behalf of the Presbytery of Hamilton, that it was the intention of said Presbytery, with leave of the Synod, to take Mr. William Johnson, A. M., Student of Divinity of Queen's College, and on behalf of the Presbytery of Kingston, to take Mr. Frederick Petrie Sim, Student of Divinity of Queen's College, on trials for license.—When, it having been ascertained that in both cases the circular letters, issued by these Presbyteries respectively, had been received in due time, and that no objections were offered, the Synod directed that said Students appear before the Examining Committee to be held to-morrow morning at Nine o'clock.

There was laid before the Synod a Statement from the Clergy Reserve Commissioners in regard to the state of the Fund, and, the same having been read, the Synod declared their satisfaction therewith, and instructed the Moderator to convey to the Commissioners their cordial thanks for the great diligence and ability with which they have conducted the interests of their trust. Several of the Commissioners being present, the Moderator tendered to them the thanks of the Synod accordingly.

The Synod, understanding that it was desirable that the services of Mr. Blair, appointed by the Colonial Committee as a Missionary to the City of Toronto, should be transferred from the Presbytery of Toronto to the Presbytery of Mon-

tréal, directed the said Presbyteries to meet together for the purpose of effecting such transfer and making the necessary arrangements in connection with the same.

The Synod made the following appointments for the public service of the Sabbath, viz: Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Whyte to preach in Williams-town; Mr. Scott in Lancaster; Mr. Andrew Bell and Professor Williamson in Martintown; and Mr. Moody in Luchiel.

The Synod had transmitted to them a Petition from Mr. Peter Lindsay, Student of Divinity in Queen's College, praying that the Third year of his Theological Course might be remitted, and that he might be taken on trials for license. After lengthened discussion it was moved by Mr. Mann, seconded by Mr. Mylne, "that the prayer of Mr. Lindsay's petition be granted." It was also moved in amendment by Mr. Andrew Bell, seconded by Mr. Simpson, "that the Synod, considering the course of study for the Holy Ministry, to be the minimum necessary, declare that the provisions of that Act must be adhered to, and accordingly decline granting the prayer of Mr. Lindsay's Petition." The Roll having been called and the votes marked, the amendment was carried by a majority of votes.

The Synod had transmitted to them an Overture from Mr. McGill anent remodelling the Constitution of the Commission of Synod.

This Overture appeared in our issue for July.

The Synod after some discussion agreed to transmit the same to Presbyteries for their consideration that they may send up their opinions thereon to next meeting of Synod.

There was transmitted to the Synod a Memorial from the Rev. Robert McGill, accompanying a copy of a Petition intended to be presented to the Legislature on his own behalf and all who may approve of it, in regard to certain annoyances on the part of the Roman Catholics, &c. &c.

The Memorial and Petition appeared in our issue for July.

After some consideration of this matter the Synod agreed that the prayer of the Memorial be granted, and that the whole influence of the Synod be given in support of Petitions to the Legislature for this purpose.

The Synod adjourned, and was closed with prayer.

Friday, 9th July.

The Synod met, and was constituted with prayer.

The Rev. William Bain conducted the devotional exercises in praise, reading the Scriptures, and prayer.

The Synod called for the Report of the Joint Meeting of the Presbyteries of Toronto and Montréal, when the following Minute was given in and, having been read, the Synod approved of the same, and ordered it to be recorded:—

At Williamstown, the Ninth July, 1852.

On which day a Joint Meeting of the Presbyteries of Toronto and Montréal was held, by the junction of Synod, to consider the case of the transferee of Mr. A. Blair, Missionary of Montréal, to the jurisdiction of the Presbytery of Montréal, and was constituted with prayer.

The Presbytery of Toronto expressed their willingness to transfer Mr. Blair to the jurisdiction of the Presbytery of Montréal; and the Presbytery of Montréal agreed to receive Mr. Blair as a Missionary within their bounds, under the Minute of the Synod of yesterday, i. e., to act, not in the Cities only, but generally as the Presbytery may direct, the Presbytery assuming that part of Mr. Blair's salary, payable from Presbytery Mission Funds, of Fifty Pounds currency, from the date of his sequestration, in this arrangement. The Presbytery of Toronto at