

# The Presbyterian Record.

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JAMES CROIL,  
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Remittances and correspondence of every kind should be addressed to "THE PRESBYTERIAN RECORD," Box 415, Post Office, Montreal.

We are indebted to many friends for their successful efforts to extend the circulation of the RECORD, which, we are glad to announce, will be greater than last year. As we have often said, the RECORD should be in every family connected with our church. This can only be accomplished by the Kirk-Sessions, or some of the other church organizations, taking up the matter energetically. We trust the day is not far distant when this will be done in every congregation. Those desiring to have a complete set for the current year, and who have not yet given their orders, should send them immediately. The supply of the January number will soon be exhausted, and orders will be filled as they are received.

## Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund.

(WESTERN SECTION.)

CONGREGATIONS that have no Missionary Association are reminded of the appointment, by the General Assembly, of the THIRD Sabbath of February, as the day on which they are expected to make a special collection for the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund.

The Committee having recently issued the sub-joined circular, ministers are requested, when announcing the collection, to use their best endeavours to interest their congregations in the Fund, by presenting its claims as they are exhibited in the circular and in the Minutes of the Assembly.

JAMES MIDDLEMISS, D.D., } Joint Conveners.  
J. K. MACDONALD, }

The following is the circular above referred to:—

In view of the approach of the season when congregations make allocation of their contributions to the schemes of the Church, the Committee on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund would call attention to the action of the late General Assembly, in reference to an immediate increase of the annuities of fathers and brethren who have little or no income except what they receive from the Fund.

The proposals to discriminate against those who derive income from other sources, though strongly pressed by some of our people, are, it is ascertained, so largely disapproved of as to forbid their adoption. The Assembly, however, has instructed the Committee not to exceed the present maximum (\$220) in the indiscriminate granting of annuities, and, if possible, to use the interest of the capital (of \$14,600) in making an addition to the annuities of those whose circumstances are such as render such additions very desirable. That the Committee may carry out this instruction, it is necessary that congregations should, far more generally hitherto, follow the good example of those whose contributions indicate a genuine interest in the Fund.

The Committee would respectfully urge all, in accordance with the solemn entreaty of the Assembly, to take to their hearts the many aged and infirm ministers of Christ, who are almost entirely dependent on the Fund for their support, and not to allow their Christian liberality to be restrained by the fact that there are two or three who, they have reason to think, might well refrain from taking advantage of a Fund especially designed for those who cannot dispense with its aid. Our people may be well assured that such cases as are apt to operate injuriously, in weakening their interest in the Fund, are *exceptional*, and that their contributions go *very largely* to the support and comfort of those who would otherwise be in straits. And they may be equally well assured that there is an earnest desire, and will be a sustained endeavour, to bring the administration of the Fund into harmony with the general mind of the Church.

The Committee fervently hope that there will be a general and cordial response to the call of the Assembly, and that no congregation will content itself with a merely nominal contribution. Let congregations bear in mind that nearly \$10,000 is required to pay annuities up to the same figure as last year, and that their contributions must average *eleven* cents per member, if the wishes of the Assembly are to be carried out. With this amount from Congregational contributions, the committee will be able to report the wiping out of a reproach, by giving to those who need it an annuity worthy of the Church.

JAMES MIDDLEMISS, D.D., } Joint Conveners.  
J. K. MACDONALD, }  
TORONTO, December 9th, 1886.