

ten students viz., Messrs. R. H. Warden, A. J. Traver, R. Knowles, Geo. Sutherland, Alex. McLennan, Archibald McLean, D. J. McInnes, J. Little, A. Thompson, W. H. Simpson, and J. Hastie. Leave was subsequently given to Presbyteries to receive the following ministers into the church, viz., Mr. Bates, a probationer of the Presbyterian Church, O. S., in the United States, Mr. S. Jones an ordained minister of the Baptist Church, Mr. Leutzenger a probationer of the O. S. Church, speaking the German language and Mr. C. Lafontaine, a converted priest of the Roman Catholic Church.

SUSTENTATION OF THE MINISTRY.

On the afternoon of Wednesday 6th, the Synod took up two overtures, one from the Presbytery of Toronto, and the other from the Presbytery of Brockville on the important subject of the sustentation of the ministry. These were on motion, referred to a special committee, with instructions to take into consideration the best means of securing a suitable support for the pastors of the church, and to report at an early diet. The Committee at a subsequent diet, presented a report which was adopted by the Synod. It is as follows :

The committee appointed to consider the best means of securing an adequate support for the pastors of the Church, to which also were referred the overtures of the Presbyteries of Brockville and Toronto, anent the sustentation of the gospel ministry, beg to report,—That in the opinion of the committee, the present very inadequate support of many of the ministers of the Church is largely due to the very defective organization in their congregations for raising the contributions of the people for this purpose. That it is not deemed advisable at present to recommend the constitution of a Sustentation Fund. That the Home Mission Fund, as at present constituted, affords a suitable channel through which the liberality of the church may augment inadequate salaries. That a very small increase in the liberality of the church would enable the Home Mission Committee to grant such supplements as would insure that no minister of the church shall receive less than \$500 per annum, \$15,000 being at present sufficient for that purpose, and for all the other work of the committee, while the amount actually raised during the past year as reported, is about \$12,200. That your committee submit to the Synod for adoption, the following recommendations :—

1. That Presbyteries be enjoined to visit by deputation or otherwise, all the congregations within their bounds, which they have reason to think are not doing their duty towards the support of their pastor, and to see that an efficient system of raising funds for this purpose, is brought into operation.
2. That the Synod strongly recommend, first, that in cities and towns, weekly or monthly offerings be introduced, and the contributions thus given for the salary of the minister, be taken up along with the usual Sabbath collection. Second, that in country districts, collectors be appointed to call upon the people at their homes, monthly or quarterly, as may be deemed most suitable for the locality, and that great care be taken that these calls are made with punctuality. Third, that in congregations where it is still deemed necessary to continue the system of pew rents, care be taken that they are collected regularly, and that arrears are not suffered to accumulate.
3. That Presby-