

*Messinger*

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### PROPOSAL TO RAISE £6000 FOR THE SEMINARY.

THE Synod having at its meeting in January last, appointed an additional teacher, had its attention strongly directed to the necessity of adopting measures to secure a more steady and permanent provision for its support, and also, to provide Library, Apparatus, &c., so as to increase its efficiency. The friends of the Seminary would not underrate the success which has hitherto attended the efforts of the Synod—they see in it great reason for thankfulness to the Great Head of the Church, and much encouragement to go forward in the work which they have commenced. With the limited means at their disposal, what has been accomplished is truly gratifying. Yet, the best friends of the Seminary would not disguise the fact that, much yet remains to be done, to render the Institution what they would desire. The Library and apparatus are both defective. As to the latter, a good commencement has been made. In addition to what had formerly been expended, the Synod, at its meeting in June last, directed the Committee to expend £100 in adding to it. But, to render it in any high degree efficient, a much larger sum would be required. The Library is in a still more deficient state. The Theological Library, which was gathered by the exertions of our fathers, contains,

indeed, a considerable number of religious works; and with the additions made to it lately, of books of more modern date, it may be considered as in a comparatively satisfactory state. The same, however, cannot be said of the other portion of the Library. In the Philosophical department there are no books but what have been received since the Seminary commenced, and these are not many. The Synod have not yet been able to appropriate any sum (except some occasional donations) to it; so that it comprises little more than what were received as donations in Scotland. Some of these are valuable, but on the whole, the Library does not at all meet the wants of the Institution. In History, Philosophy, and General Literature, there is need of large additions. When it is considered, how limited are the opportunities afforded to young men, of having access to works in these branches otherwise, and how important it is that they should have their minds enlarged by an extensive acquaintance with those productions of genius by which English Literature is enriched; we trust that the friends of the Institution will see the propriety of a special effort, to place the Library, in this respect, on a more efficient footing.

Besides this, experience has shown, that support derived from annual and occasional