

degree, on the full and regular attendance of families on public ordinances. It is proposed, moreover, that congregations or their proper office-bearers shall reserve so much of the proceeds of seat rents and collections as may be necessary for the repair of Churches and manes, and other local incidental expenses. For gathering in the terms contributions, associations are to be formed in each congregation, and a body of collectors appointed, under the superintendence of the Deacons or managers—with a treasurer, who will report the progress of the scheme, and remit the contributions collected to the treasurer of the Sustentation Fund Board, from time to time, due publicity being given in the Record to the periodical remittances of each congregation. As to the Distribution Department, the arrangement proposed—which will come up for final adjustment on the 13th proximo—appears to us admirably contrived for the accomplishment of the objects sought to be attained by the introduction of this system, which are mainly the raising of the stipends in the poorer congregations by drawing in some measure on the funds contributed by the wealthier—the apportionment of the salaries of ministers according to the importance of their congregations, and the expense of living in different localities, in regard to which, it is obvious that an absolute equality of provision would be utter injustice; and the prevention, at the same time, of invidious inequalities in the stipends of ministers. The plan proposed is simply this: An hundred pounds per annum is assumed as a minimum salary. A number, such as 10, is then fixed upon to represent the minimum proportion of the Sustentation Fund for each congregation. This number is to be increased by 1 for every £20 over one hundred pounds contributed by any congregation, 11 representing the proportion of the Sustentation Fund to be allotted to the congregation contributing £120; 12, that allotted when £140 is contributed, and so on; those numbers representing the various congregations, being added together, the whole Sustentation Fund is to be divided by the sum of them, and the quotient arising from this division being multiplied by the number representing each congregation, gives the amount of stipend, or the proportion of the Sustentation Fund belonging to each congregation. The following statement will make the working of the proposed arrangement plain:—

Congregations.	Am't of contributions to the Sustentation Fund.	Proportion-ate Numbers.	Amount of Stipend.
A.....	£100.....	10 × 13 =	£130
B.....	100.....	10 × 13 =	130
C.....	120.....	11 × 12 =	143
D.....	140.....	12 × 13 =	156
E.....	200.....	15 × 13 =	194
F.....	240.....	17 × 13 =	221
G.....	400.....	25 × 13 =	325

7 Congregations contributing £1300 divided by 100 gives 13 as quotient, which is the multiplier to be used as above mentioned.

The relative amount of the quota of each congregation may of course be altered by simply altering the proportionate numbers—i. e., by making the minimum more or less than 10. The number of classes may also be altered by fixing a greater or smaller amount than £20, as the common difference. But our only object at present is to explain the principle of the proposed plan, so that the Commission may have the advantage of the previous reflection of parties in regard to it in their final determination. It is proper to add that it is proposed to invest the Distribution Committee with a discretionary power, as to the admission of existing congregations to the benefits of the scheme, altho' they may fall below the minimum of £100 in their contributions, the Committee being satisfied that there is an actual inability, for the time, to come up to it, while other circumstances may require the maintenance of a stated ministry in such cases. We can only farther point out for the consideration of all concerned, that by the adoption of some

such scheme as the above the maintenance of the Divine Ordinance of the ministry in the Church will no longer be left to local uncertainties and irregularities, but be cast as one great duty on the whole Church, and on each congregation and member, as for the whole Church, by which means the object will be presented to all in its real magnitude, and a due interest in each other and in the whole body will be fostered among the congregations—binding us together as a Church—one body. At the same time ample scope will remain, under such a scheme, for the manifestation of those feelings of special attachment and regard which will always prevail more or less in every congregation towards their own minister, and which prompt to special efforts for the advancement of his comfort.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER CHURCHES.—The only other business of much interest taken up by the Commission was the Correspondence with other Churches, the instructions of the Synod respecting which were considered, and drafts of letters to the Free and Established Church of Scotland, the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, England, and Nova Scotia, were ordered to be prepared, in accordance with these instructions, to be submitted at the adjourned meeting.

TREOLOGICAL SEMINARY.—The Committee appointed by the Synod to make arrangements for the commencement of this Institution, met on the 30th inst. On the report of a sub-committee in regard to obtaining a suitable edifice for the accommodation of the Professors and Students, it was after much deliberation agreed to place the Students, for the present, in certain private families, who had offered to receive them on favourable terms, and to apply such means as may be placed at the disposal of the Committee by the Church for that purpose, to the reduction of the charge for board and lodging, so as that it shall not exceed the probable expense in the general boarding establishment, to be provided ultimately by the Committee, according to the instructions of the Synod. This interim arrangement was adopted in consequence of the difficulty of finding a house adapted for the purposes in view, and a person of suitable qualifications for the duties of housekeeper. Both these difficulties will, it is hoped, be speedily removed, and in the meantime the arrangements for the Students will be found of the most satisfactory nature. Mr. J. P. Westland, King Street, will give the necessary information to students on their arrival in Toronto. Mr. Esson's acceptance of office has not yet been intimated, but there is reason to believe that he will accept and enter on his duties at an early date. The Institution, however, will be opened by the Rev. Mr. King on the 5th Nov., and due provision will be made for the instruction of Students in the preparatory branches.

HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.—This Committee also met on the 30th instant, and had under consideration a draft of a scheme of general operations, in this great department of the Church's duty. This draft proposes that each of the Missionary stations within the bounds of the several Presbyteries shall be placed under the charge of a Minister of the Presbytery, for the purpose of being visited, organized and superintended by him; it being required that he shall devote a certain number of Sabbaths and week days in the course of the year to this duty. It also points out the various means to be adopted for supplying the destitution of religious ordinances in such stations, and the keeping up of public worship at each of them regularly on the Lord's day, by Missionaries, Catechists, and Elders, under the direction of the Ministers on whom the superintendance of the several stations is devolved by the Presbytery. And it finally provides for the establishment and maintenance of a Home Mission Fund by each Presbytery—such fund to be sustained by stated contributions at the Mission stations, and such annual collections in congregations as the Synod or Presbytery may appoint.

The draft was approved of, and ordered to be

filled up, with such alterations as had been suggested, in order to be submitted to a meeting of Committee, to be held at Hamilton on the 13th proximo, at noon. Among other arrangements in regard to Missionaries the Committee agreed to recommend Montreal as the most suitable field of labour for the Rev. Mr. Miller of Dundee, one of the deputation from the Free Church of Scotland, who is to spend the winter in this country; and that the Rev. Mr. McMillan of Carlross should devote himself to a general visitation of the Gaelic settlements and congregations in various parts of the Province. These gentlemen may be expected in Montreal about the end of November.

Home Missions.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—CORRESPONDENCE OF MISSIONARIES.

We have pleasure in commencing the insertion of a series of Extracts from the correspondence of our Missionaries. The first is from the correspondence of the Rev. W. Graham who commenced his labours as a missionary under the direction of the Presbytery of Hamilton, in October of last year, when he proceeded to visit the missionary stations on the Grand River. The district referred to is composed of the townships and settlements from Tuschrom village to the mouth of the river, a distance of thirty or forty miles in length, including a number of thriving villages,—such as Caledonia, Seneca, York, Indiana, Cayuga, and Dunnville. No minister of the Presbyterian Church has yet been settled in this extensive and most necessitous field; and as the Presbytery of Hamilton have now only two missionaries at their disposal, this district, as well as others, will receive much less frequent visits than during last year. It is important to observe, at the same time, that the population has been, and is, rapidly increasing, by immigration, on both sides of the river; the Indian Reserve land having been recently thrown open to settlers. What need is there for earnest prayer to the Lord of the harvest in behalf of such cases of religious destitution which still abound in this land.

"After leaving Hamilton, I proceeded to Caledonia, and was warmly received at the residence of R. McKinnon, Esq.

"Next day being sabbath, (the 22) I preached a sermon in the same place, to a congregation of about fifty, who were considerably attentive. The present place for preaching is not so suitable as could be wished; but this will very shortly be remedied, if the Lord wills, through the kindness of Mr. McKinnon, who intends to fit up a room in his store house for the purpose. I next proceeded to Cayuga in Mr. McKinnon's gig,—the number who attended was great, all things considered; and I understood more were present than on former occasions: God grant that the seed of the word sown there and in Caledonia, may bring forth the fruits of vital godliness. I understood that it would suit Cayuga better if the Presbytery were to arrange in such a way as that our missionary would preach there on the day when Mr. Hill would be elsewhere, as he preaches there only once in two sabbaths. Some of the Presbyterians lingered about the church after Mr. Hill's services were closed, till I reached; and a considerable time must have elapsed between the services; but Scotch and Irish there, as in the mother country, cling to Presbyterianism. Having heard, when at Cayuga, of a large settlement of Scotch people in the backwoods, and it being judged expedient that a sermon should be preached there, it accordingly was done on the 26th; and though the number, owing to various causes, was less than could have been wished, yet the Lord was present, I have reason to trust, in a way of grace to a considerable degree. On the previous day (25th) I preached at Mr. Windeker's. The attendance at Mr. Windeker's was very limited; and I doubt there was but lit-