

1st. You ask as to the present position of the Fund, will it justify you in continuing the present rate of annuity to future claimants?

Your memorandum represents 6 claimants receiving £30 a-year each, irrespective of the sums allowed for children under 14—at their respective ages a capital sum of £2107 is thus already pledged (this being the tabular value of the Annuities) deducting this from your accumulated fund, the sum of £2,353 remains, the income from which is..... £141 0 0

Your revenue from 93 Ministers at

£2 each 186 0 0

Do. Congregational Collections..... 325 0 0

652 0 0

Deduct Expenses of Management

&c..... 62 10 0

Leaving... 589 10 0

which represents your available income to meet the constantly accruing liabilities from 93 Ministers, of whom 67 are now married.

My only guide by which to estimate the probable number of claims is the experience of the scheme in the Established Church of Scotland which I have before referred to, this would lead us to expect one year with another 2 widows, and, taking the average of the 6 now on the fund in regard to age, £715 13s. 4d. yearly additional charge; showing that the fund is not quite sufficient to meet the widows, annuity, while no provision is made for the children's allowance.

There are, however, circumstances which in judgment may justify a continuance of your present scale; the ages of your Ministers are certainly of a less average than in the scheme. I mention, inducing an expectation of a diminished mortality in the earlier years, and, I presume your Congregational collections may be expected to increase. On the other hand, the ages of your Ministers' wives are also less, while as large a proportion as nearly one-fourth of the whole, are more than 10 years junior to their husbands, thus creating an excess of liability, by the expectation of a lengthened survivorship.

I have not attempted any valuation of the sums allowed for children, the gross charge on this account, will not be very important as it ceases at fourteen, and it would be a very tedious question to value or investigate.

1. You ask would it be safe to give up the annual collection in congregations!

The proceeding remarks will show that to do so would at once destroy the scheme, as these form one-half of the current future income.

3. Would an increase in the rates, payable by Ministers to £3 or £4 be very desirable or important?

A moderate increase of income, from whatever source, would of course tend to render the scheme itself so far, and more reliable in the future, but knowing how small the incomes of the Clergy of this Province generally are, I would rather suggest the propriety of urging greater zeal on the part of the congregations.

I am, yours faithfully,

HUGH C. BAKER.

During the year twelve new Ministers have become contributors, there are still a few of the Ministers in the various Presbyteries, who do not contribute. But the number is small, and is becoming less every year. It is to be regretted, that any should not see it to be a duty to connect themselves with this fund now, it is to be hoped, on a permanent basis.

During the past year, one additional claim has come on the fund, viz., Mrs. Bethune, the widow of the Rev. N. Bethune, for a short time Minister at Thamesford. Mrs. Bethune has one child.

The Committee grateful for the prosperity which has hitherto attended this benevolent scheme, would urge on the Synod the propriety of seeking to keep up the annual collections, and endeavoring to draw forth the interest and liberality of such congregations, as have never yet done justice to this scheme. There are not a few in this position. And it is but fair, that the burden should be divided, and borne by all according to their ability.

The collection has been pretty generally attended to; but, still there are a good many congregations for the various Presbyteries, from which no collection has yet been received. The Committee recommend that the Synod should enjoin such congregations yet to make, and remit a collection, so that there may be no defaulting congregations.

In name of Committee.

W. REID, Sec. and Treasurer.

ABSTRACT

of the Receipts and Expenditures for the various Schemes of the Church,—per statement submitted at late meeting of the Synod by the General Agent for the Schemes.

COLLEGE FUND.

Total amount of Receipts as per statement..... £1176 6 2

Paid to Dr. Willis
Do. Professor Y
1st April
Do. Mr. Smith
Do. Sundry acco
Rent, Insurance
Interests &c
Balance due Mr.
Salary to Mr.
brarian
Printing
Proportion of sal
Office rent and e

Balance due

BUXTON MISSIO

Total amount receiv
Statement

EXP

Paid to Rev. W. King
Mr. Wilson,
Miss Tobias,
Paid for drafts
Printing durin
in Montreal.
Reporting, &c
office.....
Printing Syno
utes
Sundry paym
Montreal.....
Proportion of
Agent
Office rent, e
postage

Balance due T

ECCLESIASTICAL AND

Total of Receipts for y

EXPEN

Printing.....
Sundry expenses.....
Proportion of Agent's Sa
Office Rent and
ses.....

Balance on hand