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## COLLECTION FOR WIDOWS' FUND, &c.

As in former years, the collection for the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, and the Fund for Aged and Infirm Ministers, will be taken up on the third sabbath of this month, October. The terms employed to designate these funds explain the objects for which the collection is asked. Sixteen widows of ministers, in several cases with families depending on them, now receive annuities from the widows' fund, not sufficient to support them, but still of great use as a help. The number of annuitants increases from year to year, three of the sixteen mentioned having come on the fund during the past year. While a considerable amount is now received from investments, and from the yearly contributions of ministers, it is still necessary to appeal to the congregations of the church for their aid towards this most important object.

Of the congregational contributions one half is appropriated to the assistance of aged and infirm ministers. In their case, too, the annuities given are not by any means sufficient for their support, the highest amount being only \$160 per annum. And it would be most desirable that the state of the fund should be such as to warrant an increase of the annuity. But at present this is not practicable. The number of annuitants in the fund for aged and infirm ministers is four, two having been removed by death. But the number may be reasonably expected to increase rapidly.

These important objects are earnestly commended to the sympathy and liberality of the congregations of the church. Whatever is for the comfort of the ministers, and for the relief of their minds from anxiety and care, is for the good of the people themselves. We trust that, as in former years, there will be a prompt and liberal response to this appeal, and that many will cheerfully give as God hath prospered them.

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## OUR SHARE IN THE FULFILMENT OF PROPHECY.

With many excellent christians, some still living, others gone to their rest, it has been a subject of earnest desire and frequent prayer that they might be spared to see the year 1866. To this year a large number of the students of prophecy have pointed as the completion of a great prophetic epoch, and the birth hour of a golden age of gospel light and glory. About this time, either the advent of Christ, as triumphant monarch of the redeemed world, or, at all events, momentous and marvellous events preparatory to his advent, were expected to occur. This much talked of year has arrived and is now half gone, without being thus far signalized by anything that can be said really to correspond with the anticipations of these interpreters, unless we except the matter of Romanism. It is true