

in the Report of the increase of numbers, both of the communicants and of the congregations connected with the chapels on their list.

In connexion with these chapels, the establishment of Sabbath schools has been attended with the most beneficial results.

IV.—*Encouragement to Promising Young Men.*—During the past year, three applications were made to the Committee and sustained. The Report refers in high terms to the laudable auxiliary efforts of the Edinburgh University Missionary Association, and the Directors of the Sabbath School Association, Glasgow.

The ordinary income of the past year has exceeded that of the previous year by about £600.

Important as the services of this Scheme undoubtedly are, these would form but a faint and inadequate satisfaction of the spiritual wants of the neglected masses of our brethren, particularly in our mining and manufacturing districts, and in our populous cities. Obedience to the great law of Christian philanthropy: "Love thy neighbour as thyself," could have found but a meagre exponent in the efforts of the Scheme, however benevolent and extensive. We could scarcely hope for its fulfilment while we looked upon our countrymen with no other regard than we give to the distant nations of heathenism, and attack the vast body of ignorance and degradation which engulfed them, by no other means than we could bring to bear upon those who are aliens in language and manners. They demand of us rather that their platform of privilege be as extended as our own, and that all the blessings we enjoy should, if possible, be meted out to themselves. It is with such an end in view that the Church has brought into operation her

ENDOWMENT SCHEME.

A scheme which, we are happy to state, has hitherto been eminently successful. Its energies are concentrated upon the extension of the Church itself—the spread of her own forms and organization—the erection of parishes—the permanent endowment of ministers. To these efforts Government, in some measure, has afforded facilities; but success depends upon the voluntary contributions of the Church. Deprived of these, or if they be not liberally supplied, not a step in advance can be made in this great undertaking. But with the example of the past, and under the vigorous administration of the present Committee and its able Convener, we have every reason to believe that the laudable spirit of enthusiasm with which the Scheme has been supported, will continue to prevail. The central fund, consisting of subscriptions from the commencement of the Scheme, as reported last year, amounted to £165,907, 15s. 8d.;—of this amount £32,408, 3s. 4d., was subscribed during the year.

The Committee remark with pleasure, that a large increase had taken place in the sums received from church-door collections; and the Report contains a tribute of praise

to various noblemen and others whose munificent liberality has well merited the gratitude of the Church at large. Through the operations of the Scheme, 25 new parishes have already been erected. For 15 additional districts proposed to be erected into parishes, the requisite stationary provision has been made; while partial endowments have been obtained for a still larger number of intended parochial districts, not fewer than 30. The Committee have received the willing sanction of the Assembly to an extension of their operations, by which it is intended to endow no less than 100 chapels in different parts of the country; and in order to do this it is proposed to raise provincial subscriptions, by applications partly to the wealthier friends of the Church, and partly to its congregations. Subscriptions have already been received in this department of the Scheme amounting to £10,000; and other applications have been favourably regarded. We trust that the Report of another year will amply testify that the expectations of the Committee have not been disappointed. Arduous as the undertaking is, the Church is deeply and vitally interested in its success. Around her very walls lie the growing multitudes of the ignorant and vicious,—it may be, with no banner unfurled,—with no semblance of aggression; but let her rest assured that, if despised and overlooked, they may yet rear up a front of terror, and sound a war-note that will shake the foundation of our Zion. It is for us to take the field—to unfurl the banners of salvation—to conquer in peace—to celebrate the victory of reconciliation. May the smiles of Heaven go with our efforts!

REPORT OF TWENTY-ONE YEARS' EXPERIENCE OF THE DICK BEQUEST; for Elevating the Character and Position of the Parochial Schools and Schoolmasters in the Counties of Aberdeen, Banff, and Moray: Embracing an Exposition of the Design and Operation of the Parish School. Presented to the Trustees by ALLAN MENZIES, Writer to the Signet, Professor of Conveyancing in the University of Edinburgh; Clerk to the Trustees. Edinburgh and London. William Blackwood and Sons. 1851.

Our readers are probably familiar with the general facts in relation to the munificent bequest of Mr. Dick; and it will be sufficient to remind them, that Mr. Dick died on the 24th of May 1828, bequeathing nearly his whole fortune "to the maintenance and assistance of the County Parochial Schoolmasters in his native county of Elgin or Moray, and in the neighbouring counties of Banff and Aberdeen." The Bequest amounted, in 1823, to a capital sum of £113,147, 4s. 7d.; which was afterwards increased to £118,787, 11s. The annual income fluctuates with the rise and fall of the rate of interest upon land securities in Scotland, and the free annual revenue, after deducting all expenses of management, has varied, since 1835, from £5489, 6s. 10d., to £3226, 18s. 3d. The Report which has been compiled by Professor Menzies, is not of that meagre analytical character usually printed by the managers of our public charities; but comprises in a goodly octavo of nearly 300 pages.

The volume is divided into two parts. The first is occupied with an account of the manner in which the Trustees have discharged their duty during the last ten years, not only declaring their proceedings in relation to the schools under their care, but combining with their details an exposition of the principles which have uniformly guided them in their management and distribution of the magnificent fund placed at their disposal.

It cannot be doubted that the Trustees have fulfilled their functions in a way which, had the lamented testator been alive, could not fail to have met with his perfect approbation, and which entitles them to the hearty thanks and the warm gratitude, not only of the counties for whose benefit the fund was established, and of that deserving class of the community which are more immediately profited, but of the public at large. This expression of opinion, we have no doubt, will be admitted by our readers to be a tribute justly merited by the Trustees, when we inform them what that principle is by which they are guided in the distribution of their funds. "The view," says the Report, "upon which the Trustees proceeded, was to adopt a system which should affect the school beneficially in all its relations,—that the principle of division, while carrying Mr. Dick's bounty to the deserving teacher, should be such as to advance, at the same time, the reciprocal claim of the Bequest to have the school elevated and improved, and to make this claim be felt, not only by the schoolmaster, but by every one connected with the school, and interested in its well-being and progress. Thus the Bequest would not descend upon the parish as an irresistible fatality, without regard to consequent good or evil, but would be looked upon as a thing to be striven for,—not for the good of the receiver alone, but for the benefit of the whole school, and to obtain which all might, more or less, contribute by their efforts—the electors, by the choice of a well-qualified teacher—the teacher, by his diligence—the minister, by his superintendence—the heritors, by giving ample endowment—the people, by securing regular attendance—and the presbytery, by a wholesome and elevating influence brought to bear upon all parties." Such are the sound and admirable principles on which the Trustees have uniformly acted, and which at once commend themselves as involving the only true ground on which supplemental aid can be granted, or ought to be granted to educational institutions.

The second part of this volume is unquestionably of more interest and value than the first. It may be viewed, if not a complete treatise on the general question of education, yet as a very important and practical contribution to the literature of the subject. Professor Menzies is a man whose views of education are enlarged and comprehensive. There is nothing contracted in his ideas of its aim and end. He belongs not to the class of ignorant and shortsighted empirics who would restrict education to the mere charging of the memory with certain isolated facts, certain unconnected historical, geographical, or grammatical details. These having no principle by which they may become assimilated to the mind, and so retained and made subservient, not only to the purposes and exigencies of daily life, but to the higher purpose of strengthening and disciplining the intellect, and giving culture and equal development to the whole mental powers and capacities, are, instead of being helps to this end, impediments of a most obstructive character, the existence of which is to be deplored,