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*To the KIRK-SESSIONS and CONGREGATIONS of the Presbyterian
Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland:*

BELOVED BRETHREN,

I have it in charge from the Synod, to offer you a few words of counsel on the Christian duty of adequately providing for the support of Ordinances. It may be inferred from this direction to their Moderator, that, in the judgment of the members of the Synod, there is need throughout the Church for a more intelligent appreciation of this subject than now exists. For some years the opinion has been gaining ground in the Synod, until it has at length grown into conviction, that to whatever causes it may be traced, the Church is not fulfilling her duty in this regard. It is felt that, whether measured by their ability, or compared with other Christians, or tested by the Gospel standard, our people have not reached that degree of liberality which is due to their Christian profession, to their position in the Country, and to the necessities of their Church.

The Moderator shrinks from the task which the Synod has thus imposed. He might find it comparatively easy to explain and enforce the duty in question to his own congregation; but to issue counsels suited to the variety of opinion and practice which prevail in our Congregations generally in respect of supporting Ordinances,—this is a work from which he would gladly be relieved. In attempting it, he unaffectedly casts himself upon the indulgence of those whom, in the discharge of official responsibility, he is called upon to address.

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