

it impossible to give all candidates for admission into our ministry the advantage of collegiate preparation for the more adequate performance of its duties. Some counterpoise to this disadvantage will probably be provided by arrangements which are suggested, and may perhaps be confirmed by the Conference of 1861. The New-Kingswood and Woodhouse-Grove Schools have engaged the attention of the Conference with reference to proposals for certain economical arrangements which also await mature consideration.

It cannot be forgotten with what intense anxiety the whole body of Ministers and Trustees were watching, but a few years ago, for some way of escape from the threatening liabilities which fell on many of them, and of deliverance from the burdens of debt which oppressed nearly all. It is gratefully remembered how the Rev. William Kelk devoted himself to a study of the subject, devised methods of relief, and followed up his own suggestions by personal efforts which, under God, issued in the establishment of a system of relief and extension which surpasses the brightest hopes that most of us could have dared to entertain. Nearly £140,000 raised during the past year for the erection or enlargement of places of worship and toward the erection of schools, is a sum very far surpassing the contributions of any previous year, and is a trophy of success that must be unspeakably cheering to the Secretary as he retires from an office which it is no longer possible for him to sustain, and to his successor who enters on its duties with such a prospect as no one before him ever saw.

A gradually strengthening effort on behalf of the British army acquires visible importance beyond what might have been generally anticipated three or four years ago, when one of our ministers began, by his single efforts, to lay the foundation of a structure which now rises into view. We feel that, as yet it would be premature to characterize too specifically an institution which has not yet assumed its full proportions; but we can venture to express an assurance that if the succour of the Most High continues to be afforded for a few years more, it will be acknowledged that no effort could be too strenuous, nor any offering too rich a contribution, toward the recovery of the thousands of our people's children, who constitute no mean proportion of the army, from the evils which surround them. When, in pursuance of the Resolutions adopted by this Conference, Chaplains of our own shall be appointed to the principal military stations, and when the Wesleyan troops in all garrisons shall be brought under the pastoral care of their Ministers, as the District Returns may be expected soon to testify, then the Government will see, and the nation be ready to acknowledge, that, while we pray for peace as earnestly as any, we do not suffer our sons to perish unheeded under the toil of their services, and amidst the wrecks of war.

Topics of some interest were incidentally brought to the attention of the Conference, and gave rise to animated conversation. On merely ecclesiastical subjects there will generally be diversity of opinion; but there is obviously an agreement to regard such subjects as of very inferior importance to the essential matters of