

A suggestion was thrown out by a member, that in the event of the Bursary Scheme proving successful, a "Home Mission Scheme" might, in the course of a year or two; be added to the other efforts of the Society, for the purpose of employing the young men in missionary work in destitute parts of the country, for a year or two after they were licensed.

Some remarks were then made with regard to the state of the Finances, and it was understood, that the Finance Committee, would at once take steps to collect the subscriptions for the current year, in order to enable the Treasurer to pay the sums, which had been voted to various objects by the Office-bearers of the Association.

The proceedings of the evening were then closed with prayer by the Rev. R. M'GILL, one of the Chaplains of the Association.

ALEXANDER MORRIS.  
Rec. Sec.

Montreal, January 10th, 1849.

THE BURSARY SCHEME.

At the Annual Meeting of the Lay Association, it was decided, that a Fund should be raised for the purpose of assisting deserving young men in pursuing their studies, preparatory to their admission to the office of the Ministry. This year, £30 have been set apart for distribution in Bursaries of £10 each to young men, now pursuing their studies at Queen's College and who may be recommended by the Professors as suitable parties to receive them. The importance of the Scheme is such, that we are convinced it will meet with the approbation of all the members of our Church. The necessity of training up a native Ministry daily becomes more apparent and urgent, and the Bursary Scheme presents an easy and effectual method of doing something in that direction. We trust, that the members of our Church will contribute to the Fund it is proposed to raise, and which will be distributed in accordance with the following regulations, which were adopted at a monthly meeting of the Board of Office-bearers.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE LAY ASSOCIATION OF MONTREAL.

The Bursary Committee of the Board, beg leave to report, that having considered the subject referred to them, they recommend the adoption of the following rules for the regulation of the Bursaries given by this Association. The whole respectfully submitted,

JOHN SMITH.  
H. E. MONTGOMERIE.  
HUGH ALLAN.  
HEW RAMSAY.  
A. DAVIDSON PARKER.

Montreal, 5th Dec., 1848.

RULES.

I. That, in the first instance, the Principal and Professors of Queen's College, Kingston, be requested to nominate such qualified students as they may consider most deserving thereof, to receive the three Bursaries of £10 each, granted by the Lay Association:—one of such Bursaries to be given only for

the present year, another for two years, and the remaining one for three years—each to be subject to the third and fourth of the regulations given below.

II. One Bursary falling vacant in each year hereafter—such vacant Bursary shall forthwith be granted by the Association, or by the Board of Managers, under the following regulations:—

1. No person shall be considered eligible to receive any of said Bursaries, unless recommended thereto by the Principal and Professors of Queen's College, or by the Presbytery of the bounds within which he may have resided, nor unless he be a British subject.

2. All monies applied in payment of Bursaries shall be transmitted through the Principal and Professors of Queen's College.

3. Each Student, before receiving any payment on account of Bursaries granted, shall sign, in duplicate, a pledge in the following form:—

"I, the undersigned \_\_\_\_\_  
Student at Queen's College, Kingston, do declare that I am now studying at Queen's College aforesaid, with the intention of entering the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, and, in consideration of a Bursary granted me by the Lay Association of Montreal, I do hereby bind and oblige myself to repay to the President of the said Lay Association, all sums of money received by me on account of such Bursary, should I not apply for admission to the Ministry aforesaid, within the space of \_\_\_\_\_ years from this date.

"Signed in duplicate at Kingston, this \_\_\_\_\_  
day of \_\_\_\_\_ 18 \_\_\_\_\_"

\_\_\_\_\_ Witness.

\_\_\_\_\_ Witness.

4. One of such duplicate copies shall be transmitted to the Lay Association, and the other retained in the possession of the Principal and Professors of Queen's College, with the following Schedule thereto annexed:—

PAYMENTS ON ACCOUNT OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED BURSARY.

Date.	Amount.	From whom Received.	Signature.

LOCAL BOARDS OF THE LAY ASSOCIATION.

We would invite the attention of the members of our Church to the proceedings of the Quarterly Meeting of the Lay Association, and particularly to the Resolutions that were adopted, with the view of inviting the members of the Church to co-operate, with the Association, in its efforts to promote the religious interests of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland. In conformity with the Resolutions, the subjoined Circular has been prepared, and will be forthwith sent to the Kirk Sessions of all the Congregations. We trust that the plan will be generally taken up, as we think it would work better than either separate Associations or a Provincial one. The want of combination of efforts in the former case, and the difficulty of obtaining a Working Board of Management in the other, would prove very material objections, to either of these. The plan now proposed, is liable to none of these objections—the agency is in existence and all that is required is assistance to extend its operations.

It should not be forgotten, that the Lay Association has struggled on unassisted for three years, and has been in fact the Provincial Association. Its schemes comprehend the whole extent of the Church, and we therefore trust that the members of the Church will come forward to lend it a helping hand, in the manner proposed for their consideration.

When "the Lay Association in support of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland" was instituted upwards of three years ago, it was confidently believed, that societies of a similar nature would have been formed in at least every District of the Province.

After some time had elapsed, the office-bearers, finding that their anticipations had not been realized, and being very desirous to extend the sphere of their operations as well as their ability to cope with the requirements of their situation as the only Lay Association, in Canada endeavoured to organize a Society, which should comprehend in its membership and management every part of the Province.

It was, however, found impracticable to attain this object, owing to, amongst other obstacles, the difficulty of arranging any system of representation, to suit the views of individuals treating with a Society already formed, and the design was consequently abandoned in the beginning of 1847. Since that period the Association has continued its humble labours to advance the interests of our Church, but with the exception of a few parties to whom the Association gratefully tender their acknowledgments without receiving any assistance or contributions to its funds, from any part of the country beyond the city of Montreal; while on the other hand assistance has been cheerfully extended, in so far as the limited means of the Association would permit, to Congregations soliciting aid without regard to local position. Many of the members have latterly been of opinion, that the operations of the Society should, in consequence, be in some measure limited to the District of Montreal; but before yielding to the necessity of curtailing the outlay, which has arisen from the fact, that the Association has since its institution virtually been a Provincial one, while its means are entirely raised in one particular locality, it has been determined to make a renewed effort to enlist the sympathies and secure the co-operation of the members of our Church throughout the Province in furthering the objects of the Association.

These are the relief of Congregations struggling with pecuniary difficulties, the publication of missionary and religious intelligence, and the support of young men desirous of qualifying themselves for the Ministry. The funds appropriated for these purposes are raised by subscriptions or donations.

With regard to the Relief and Publication Schemes, sums varying in amount have been granted to a considerable number of Congregations, and the Presbyterian, a Missionary and Religious Periodical, has been published during the last year, under the direction of a Committee, at a price that will barely cover the expense, but it is hoped, that if exertions are made to extend its circulation, the amount required to be contributed to its support, will for the future be but small. With regard to the last Scheme, the education of young men for the Ministry, it is believed, that much good may in this way be done, and a commencement has been made, as three Bursaries of £10 each have been awarded to three young men recommended by the Professors of Queen's College.

The Managers of the Association, having now stated the objects which they have in view, and believing that the attainment of these objects would be greatly facilitated, if their labours were shared in by efficient co-adjutors in the various Congregations, in accordance with a vote of the Association, requesting parties approving of its schemes to act as members of Local Boards in connection with this Society. These boards they are desirous of seeing established in every Congregation, to be composed of three or five members according to circumstances, and they now invite all Congregations who approve of the plan, to