

The Church had been growing steadily up till this time, and as the funds in the hands of the 'Temporalities' Board were limited, the new ministers added to the roll had no prospect of any assistance from that source. It being found that the new and outlying settlements, which it was the duty of the Church to occupy, were suffering from the want of Gospel ordinances, the people being necessarily poor and requiring help for a time, it was resolved to raise a permanent "Home Mission Fund." Deputations visited many of the congregations in the eastern part of Upper Canada (now Ontario), and settled charges in Lower Canada (now Quebec). The result was most encouraging. In the partial returns presented in the report to the Synod of 1860, it was shown that in a comparatively small number of congregations nearly \$22,000 had been subscribed, and that that sum would be very greatly increased when the year's returns had been received; that local committees had been formed, and that a very large amount would be raised for planting new churches. In addition to this, the collections for the "Contingent Account," the fund for meeting current charges, had not only not fallen off, but had, on the contrary, never before been nearly so liberal. The report for 1861 showed a still further and very considerable addition to the permanent fund. But all these hopes, which were to a great extent realities, for the hearts of the people had been stirred, were dashed to the ground. Under the plea that the annual revenue did not meet the annual expenditure, the permanent fund for missionary work was encroached upon; the subscriptions for St. Andrew's Church, in the City of Quebec, amounting to upwards of \$10,000, were frittered away; the collections for the "Contingent Account" were not made by many of the friends of union; the local agencies, which had been well organized, and were effective, were discouraged, and a damp thrown over the adherents of the Church. The reiterated demands on the part of a small fraction of the ministers of the Church to put an end to her existence were telling with most disastrous effect, for the people, uncertain of the future, which but a short time before looked so bright, had become chilled in their efforts, not knowing to what they would lead.