

up to the meeting of Synod, the former signed by their respective Moderators and Clerks, and the latter by the Chairman or Secretary.

5. Congregations receiving aid from the Supplementary fund are required to make collections for the different schemes of the Church, as well as to answer the questions in the Statistical Schedule. Presbyteries are directed by Synod to require evidence that the congregational payments have been made before the supplement due July 1st is applied for.

6. All Boards and Standing Committees are expected to have their reports ready when called for, after the first sederunt.

7. Presbyteries are directed at least one month before the meeting of Synod, to nominate one to fill the office of Moderator of Synod, and to forward his name to the Synod Clerk, and the names thus forwarded shall form a list from which the Moderator shall be selected by a vote of Synod at its first sederunt.

8. Presbyteries are also to consider whether any and if so, what changes are necessary in the mode of appointing Committees, and to report to Synod.

THE MOST NEEDY FUND!

We are sometimes asked, Which of the funds is in the greatest need of being replenished? Whatever difficulty we may have had in times past in answering this question, we have none now. The Supplementary Fund is the most needy. It is in debt, and unless great liberality is displayed by a large proportion of our congregations, it will remain insolvent for some time to come. We are within a month of the date of a semi-annual payment, and less than nothing to meet it. True, a considerable sum will be forthcoming at Synod, but making all allowance that can be made for coming contributions, the deficiency will be not merely serious but alarming.

Even if contributions should come in at Synod to meet the semi-annual payment, which is scarcely probable, a debt of some \$500 will remain.

Of this state of matters due notice has been given. The *Record* for Nov. informed the Church that there was then on hand only a sum of \$224 to meet claims for \$1500. In the January No. an exhibit was given of the state of all the Funds, which was responded to by an inflow of a goodly

sum to meet the wants of the Mission Boards. The Supplementary fund was also replenished, yet the grants in aid were paid chiefly by a Loan from a generous friend. That loan was soon repaid, but not from funds connected with the supplementary scheme.

It was our duty next to give prominence to the *Dayspring* fund, and still more lately to the Education and Synod funds, by resolution of the Synod itself.

Now however that the meeting of Synod is so near, now that the time of making payments is at hand, and people are inquiring what funds are deficient, we must reply that the first claim is in our opinion, the claim of Brethren in the ministry in weaker charges to their promised salaries. These Brethren have done their duty, and have a *just claim* to an honourable support. We do not appeal for any gratuity to them, but we ask large congregations in central portions of the Church to act out the Scripture principle, so fully and so clearly stated by the apostle Paul in his second epistle to the Corinthians, chapters viii. and ix., and if we would name any part in particular of these chapters, we would specify Ch. viii. verses 12-15.

If there be any congregation which God has blessed with numbers and strength, which has not yet contributed within the year, it should be done yet, before the approaching meeting of Synod; and in smaller charges where there is a sum on hand to be divided between different funds, let it be remembered which is the most needy. Our wealthy men would honour themselves in this emergency by sending up a special gift, so that the funds being forwarded voluntarily before the date of payment arrives, the receivers may feel that the aid is furnished cordially by cheerful givers.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ELDERSHIP.

The very name of Elder implies grave responsibility; it is a title of honour akin in origin to the titles with which we salute lords and kings and the leaders of men;—