

taining a suitable supply of Ministers for the Church, on account of the inadequacy of the temporal support that is attainable. This evil, which in present circumstances it may be impossible materially to alleviate, would in some degree be counteracted, if Ministers had any sure prospect that the Church would manifest a benevolent concern for their families after their decease.

The Synod, therefore, with these principles declared, and with the statements contained in the Report before them, indicating the want of a proper sense of duty in this particular on the part of many of the Congregations, enjoin upon Presbyteries to take order that all Ministers and Sessions do use diligence that every Congregation may be brought to contribute a sum at least equal to that contributed by their Minister; and also, that all vacant Congregations within their bounds have an opportunity afforded them of devising liberal things in this matter.

The Synod enjoin all ministers (July 7, 1851,) and congregations to be punctual in making the collection at the proper time, and remitting the same immediately to the Treasurer. And Presbyteries are directed to see that in appointments of supply of sermon to vacant congregations, arrangements be made for taking up collections in aid of the Fund. Ministers are to urge its (July 8, 1852,) special claims on the liberality of their people.

The Synod resolved :—(June 4, 1856.)

1. That Presbyteries be enjoined to send, with all convenient speed, to the Board of Managers of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, a statement of the date of the ordination or induction of all Ministers now on the Roll of the Synod.

2. That Presbyteries report to the Managers of the Widows' Fund the date of every ordination or induction of Ministers that may hereafter be admitted, within one month thereafter.

3. That the Rule now in force respecting the taking up of collections for said Fund, on the first Sabbath of January each year, be strictly observed, as far as practicable: and, provided there be good cause, from inclemency of weather, or otherwise, for deferring it on the first Sabbath, then it shall be taken up on the earliest day afterwards that is convenient.

4. That all collections be remitted to the Treasurer before the first day of April each year, in order that the accounts for the year be made up, and a fair statement of the condition and operations of the Trust be given to the Synod at their Annual Meeting.

5. That the Rule now in force, (see Printed Minutes, 1851, page 20, near foot,) respecting Presbyteries taking care that collections be taken up in vacant Congregations, shall be observed strictly.

6. That united Congregations shall be considered as one, and their collections conjoined, so long as they are under the pastoral charge of one Minister.

7. That the Synod pledge themselves to carry into faithful operation, in so far as may be in their power, the By-Laws of the Board of Managers, now in operation, in respect to every Minister or Congregation, who contribute to the Fund under the existence of these By-Laws, which, in respect to all such, are declared to be unalterable without the full consent of all parties,—and the Synod do hereby homologate and confirm the same.

The Synod enjoin Presbyteries to see (June 1, 1857,) that Ministers make a return to the Board of the number of families in their several congregations:—to make diligent inquiry whether congregations have made their collections, and to deal with defaulters as may seem meet: