

It was thought best to omit acknowledgments of Contributions to the Temporalities' Fund in last issue of the Presbyterian in order that the whole sum received might be brought more easily under view, and attention be the better directed to the sources whence they were derived.

In November and December the Contributions of 23 Congregations were given; in the present list, those of 59 others appear. The total amount received since the first of October is \$3304.53, and the number of Congregations, having Ministers, who have not yet contributed is 40. A certain number of these are under promise to forward contributions at an early date, but it is feared that some have elected to stand aloof and content themselves with the expression of hearty approval of the noble efforts of others, efforts so far crowned with success, inasmuch as every Minister on the roll received his accustomed allowance from the Temporalities Board on the 31st December, and by which, for aught we know the wolf may have been kept from the door of one or more families; or, in other cases, the removal of perplexing doubts and forebodings rejoiced the hearts of the household and enabled them to reciprocate the kind and neighbourly salutation: "We wish you a Happy New Year."!

While very thankful that a serious difficulty has been got over, and very unpleasant fears for the present dissipated, we could have wished that the sum contributed had been more equally distributed over the Church, that this end had been gained rather as the result of well directed systematic benevolence, than by recourse to special appeals and spasmodic efforts.

The intimate knowledge which we have of the position and capabilities of each Congregation enables us to say that there is not in the whole Church a Congregation so poor as to be *unable* to contribute some-

thing to so important a scheme as the Synod's Home Mission. In point of fact, some of the poorest and smallest Congregations *have* given sums that may well put older and wealthier Congregations to the blush. Take for example, \$100 from Owen Sound; \$34 from Richmond, \$18 from Sherbrooke; \$25 from Mount Forest; \$10 from Laprairie; and \$3,10 from the French Mission Church, Montreal! Why, the very largest sums received from others sink into insignificance by comparison.

The City of Montreal gave fully one fourth of the whole amount—more, surely, than the City's fair proportion, yet it was given by only a few of the City members. Another peculiarity about this list is noteworthy. One third of the money was received in response to private appeals made to individuals, most of whom had already contributed in their several Congregations. It is not wise to overburden the willing horse. Business men look at things in a business-like and practical manner. Satisfy them that every Congregation has contributed according to its means in support of this or that Church scheme, and, *whatever be the amount* of the deficiency exhibited, the rich members of the Church will cheerfully supply it, but they do not see the particular obligation resting upon them to give for those who will do nothing for themselves.

How is it to be with the July payments? Some are already asking the question, and it will not do to reply "sufficient to the day is the evil thereof." A deficiency like that now provided for, must be met and provided for again. The Congregations that did not contribute at this time will still have an opportunity of doing so, and those who at this time threw themselves into the breach are the same whom we shall be sure to find at the head of the forlorn hope then.