

of the mission will be frustrated, namely, the training of young men of piety and talents, for further usefulness in the Church. Never was there more need for such young men as at present. Already "the fields are white to harvest,"—the light is breaking in on the dark continent of Africa, from almost every direction. There is no portion of the heathen world that has yielded richer fruit, in proportion to the amount of missionary labour bestowed, or where there is a more urgent call for the extension of the work.

The Slave Trade is still carried on along the coast, notwithstanding the vigilance of the British navy. Nothing but the preaching of the everlasting Gospel will put an end to that inhuman traffic.

From the coast, and from the interior, the Macedonian cry is wafted to our ears, "Come over and help us!" We trust the cry will not be heard in vain, that means will be forthcoming to provide the men to carry the Gospel to their benighted countrymen.

In reviewing our past labors we have great reason to thank God for the measure of success which has already attended our efforts, encouraged by the past we would look for greater triumphs in future, but above all we would look for the Divine blessing upon all our labors.

WILLIAM KING.

#### REPORT OF WIDOWS' FUND COMMITTEE FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MAY, 1857.

The principal items which the Committee have to report, are the following. During the past year the congregational collections have been £306 9s. 3½d., the amount arising from the payment of Minister's rates, £164, and from interest £229 9s. 10d. The total accumulated fund is now £5358 13s.

The number of annuitants is the same as last year, viz. 7. Of the ministers who have been newly settled since last Synod, almost all have become contributors to the Fund. The fund is not to be regarded as having reached a position which renders far the efforts on the part of the Church unnecessary, but still it may be regarded as on the whole satisfactory, especially when compared with some similar schemes.

The committee regret to report that in consequence of the removal of John Fisher, Esq., Convener of the Committee from this Province,

it will be necessary for the Synod to nominate another in his stead. Mr. Fisher has, from the commencement of the scheme, taken a deep personal interest in it, and is most justly entitled to the warmest thanks of the Synod.

There are two or three points on which it has occurred to the Committee that some full and explicit regulations may be necessary.—One of these points has reference to the qualification necessary to entitle a minister to the benefits of the Fund. Some misunderstanding has occurred as to whether a minister resigning his charge and accepting another situation, doing at the same time occasional missionary work, should still be entitled to the privileges of the Fund. It would be desirable to have a rule which could not be misunderstood. Another point has reference to those ministers who have been settled, perhaps shortly after 1st November. It is desirable to have it decided, whether in order to enable them to the privileges of the fund, they should pay their rate for the past year or not. According to the constitution of the scheme, no charge can be made in the regulations unless notice has been for at least two months. The Synod may either decide the points referred to or remit them, and any other points which may require consideration, to the Committee, in order that they may maturely consider them and give the requisite notice, in case it should be considered necessary or desirable to make any alteration in the regulations.

W. REID, *Secretary and Treasurer.*

#### COLLEGE REPORT.

The late Session, commencing on October 1st, was closed on April 1st, according to the alteration of times, agreed on at last Synod.

The Committee have to Report the attendance, in all, of about 60 students, including a few enrolled as prospective Theological students, though attending the University classes in the meantime. Both Professors and Students, favored by a kind Providence, were enabled to prosecute the labors and studies of the Session with generally, uninterrupted health,—one case only occurred of a Student being obliged to withdraw his attendance, during the latter portion of the winter, from bodily debility.

The increased accommodation afforded within the College premises was fully taken advantage of by the students, and no more than sufficed for those who prefer this central Boarding house, to living apart in other

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