

pectively:—1st, in behalf of a Synod Fund, to defray the expenses incurred by the Annual Meeting of the Synod, such as the printing of Minutes and Circulars, &c., and the travelling expenses of Ministers and Elders—a burden which clearly ought to be borne not by the office bearers alone, but by the Church at large. 2nd, For the current expenses of the College, (see No. 1 Record, page 7.) 3rd, For the Home Mission Fund, to provide the means of sending Missionaries and Catechists to labour among the many destitute settlements of our Presbyterian population. At last Synod, the Conveners of the different Committees appointed in connection with these schemes, gave in reports of what had been done by our congregations for the previous year, and, considering that it was a first effort, and that many of our people were but partially informed as to the nature or necessity of these appeals, the result was very creditable and encouraging. And sure we are that so soon as our people generally come to know that the liberal support of the schemes of the Church is absolutely necessary to her vigorous existence and onward progress, a far more abundant return will respond to her appeals, without the feeling that an effort or sacrifice has been made. We are not as yet in circumstances to compare the collections of the current year with the past, for although two of these have been made, the returns even for the first, viz., the Synod Fund, have not nearly all reached us. Something evidently requires to be done, to secure greater punctuality here. We are aware that some of our congregations lie in remote, and, at certain seasons of the year, inaccessible localities, but these, in the present instance, are not the only defaulters. There are congregations, lying in the immediate vicinity of the public thoroughfares, and with opportunities at least twice a week, for communicating with Halifax, which have made no return even with regard to the Synod Fund.* Nor do we see that there is anything to prevent the collection of the most remote congregation reaching the Treasurer in due time, by an arrangement, on the part of those congregations with some

friend in Halifax. At all events, we would earnestly urge upon those who have the charge of these matters, the necessity of adopting some plan by which their collections may be placed more punctually in the hands of the several committees, and thus be made available towards meeting the current expenses of the Church.

HOME MISSION FUND.

In our last number, attention was directed to the blessedness of having "light in the dwelling"—of having the light of divine truth in the heart. What do our readers know experimentally of this blessedness? We trust there are many of them who have been rendered light in the Lord; who, taught by the Holy Spirit, know something of the preciousness of the Word, perceive it to be sweet unto their taste, and rejoice at it as one that findeth great spoil. What enjoyment in the family circle where this light shines!—where God's word is listened to by its members as the man of their counsel!—where its instructions are followed out by them as the rule of their conduct!—where its truths are the subject of devout meditation, and furnish the rich material for the outpouring of the heart around the family altar! The hope full of immortality which it holds out, cheers the heart in the day of outward trouble; and, notwithstanding the clouds by which their day may be at times overcast, these may truly be said to have always "light in the dwelling."

They who know most of this blessedness are the parties also who will prize most the light, the instruction, the comfort to be enjoyed in God's public ordinances. It is their happiness to feel, to know experimentally, that God blesses with his gracious presence, and cheers with the light of his countenance, the habitation, however humble, of his people; but well also do they know that "the Lord loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob," and they love the gates of Zion too. With David, they are glad when it is said unto them, "Let us go into the house of the Lord"; and with David also, their soul would be cast down within them, were they no longer permitted to associate with the multitude, "to go with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holy day."

We have to remind our readers that, in these Provinces, there are multitudes

* Besides the Collections for the Synod Fund, and the Current Expenses of the College, acknowledged in the two preceding numbers of the Record, some were acknowledged by the Rev. Mr. Forrester, in the *Presbyterian Witness* of the 21st December.