

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BURSARY SCHEME.

The Committee on the Bursary Scheme again respectfully submit their report. During the past year the income of the Scheme has been as follows:—

Church Collections.

17 Congregations.....	\$324.75
Subscriptions and donations from 6 individuals	305.00
Colonial Committee £50 Sterling.....	243.33
Glasgow Union Miss. Assoc. £10 Sterling....	48.00
Aberdeen do. do. £7 Sterling.....	34.07
St. Andrew's Sabbath School, Quebec, 5th and 6th annual donations.....	\$100.00
Toronto Ladies' endowment.....	56.00
Kingston do.	40.00
Synod of New Brunswick specially appropriated	80.00
St. Andrew's Church, Perth, Miss. Assoc....	20.00

\$1251.15

The amount expended during the same period has been \$1601.80, leaving the Committee \$118.73 in debt.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Synod, the Committee addressed a circular, of which a copy is appended, to all ministers of the church, earnestly appealing for aid. By several congregations this appeal was most liberally met, but the Committee regret to add that the number of Congregations which responded is only 17—surely a small proportion when the increasing number and wealth of our church are considered.

The number of participants in the benefits of the Scheme during the past year has been 33. Of these nearly all are studying for the church, the only exception to this rule being when the Bursary is specially contributed for competition among all students. The disposal of the Bursary Fund is left entirely to the Principal and Professors, and the Committee can confidently add their own testimony to that of the Senatus, in assuring the Synod and the church that the scheme is of vital importance to many who are passing through their college course. But for the aid thus afforded not a few of our best and most promising students would have to abandon their studies for the ministry, and would be compelled to employ in secular pursuits those talents and energies which the church can ill afford to lose.

During the past year two other endowments have been completed. The Kingston ladies have transferred ten shares of Commercial Bank stock to the College for this purpose. It is earnestly hoped that the good example thus shown will be followed. The executors of the late John Mowat, Esq., have also paid over to the College the sum of \$300, being the amount left by that generous friend of the College to found a competition bursary.

The Committee would also express their sense of the liberality and benevolent spirit manifested by the St. Andrew's Church Sabbath School at Quebec, which annually contributes \$50 in addition to aiding other objects.

The Committee feel that it is scarcely necessary again to attempt to prove the usefulness of this scheme. Many members of Synod can speak from experience of its benefits, and the effects of the timely aid given to students for the ministry are yearly seen in the annual accessions to the Church. To provide for the annually increasing population of Canada, among whom are numbered so many adherents of the venerable Church of our fathers, is a constant aim of our Church Courts, and foremost among the difficulties in the way of this has been the want of ministers for vacant stations. This want cannot be better met than by fostering Queen's College as our training Institution, and by affording aid to those who cannot obtain their college training without this assistance. The Committee respectfully commend this important scheme to the Synod and ask for an annual collection to be made on the second Sabbath of February, or some other convenient day.

A full statement of the accounts will be found appended to the annual Report of the Trustees of Queen's College.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN MACHAR, D.D.,
Convener.

REPORT OF THE INDIAN ORPHANAGE AND JUVENILE MISSION SCHEME.

During the past year the income of this scheme has been as follows:

For the support of Orphans.....	\$283 30
" Canadian School at Calcutta.....	218 82
" Memorial Church at Sealkote.....	2 50

\$505 22

being an increase of \$77.47 over that of last year.

At the Orphanages of Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras, there are now 18 orphans supported in connection with this scheme, and at the Cana-

dian school, Calcutta, nearly 50 girls are receiving a Christian education, provided for them by our Sabbath Schools. In addition to his duties during the day, the teacher of the Canadian school is constantly engaged in preaching to his Hindoo neighbours during the evenings.

The above facts convey briefly the visible results of the 6th year's operations of this scheme, and a few explanations may be permitted in regard to the plan pursued.

The Orphanages are maintained by the Scottish Ladies' Association for Female Education in India, a Society which has the countenance and aid of the General Assembly's Committee on Foreign Missions. In all heathen countries the condition of the female population is one of utter degradation and misery. Hindostan forms a striking illustration of this fact, and it has long been felt that to elevate woman there, to infuse the sacred influences of Christianity into the families and houses of the people, would more effectually advance the interests of religion than any other mode of missionary operations. With this view Orphanages have been successfully maintained in the capital cities of each Presidency, and from these, young women are now annually sent forth who have received all the advantages of Christian training and education, and many of whom are imbued with Christian zeal and love. As teachers, and as the wives of native catechists, these converts penetrate into the harems and the Zenanas where no Missionary can ever enter, and exert an influence over multitudes of their countrywomen, who, in their seclusion, could never otherwise have heard of a Saviour. In this Christian land how often are many of our best and strongest influences associated with the teaching and example of a mother or a sister. That our fellow-subjects in India may in this way be raised to like privileges, is the humble yet earnest effort of this scheme.

Very satisfactory accounts are received from the Orphanages of the conduct and progress of the girls, and most touching are the letters and tokens of affection which pass between them and their Canadian supporters. But lately the sudden death of a Canadian sabbath scholar, when communicated to the orphans, was received with tears and every expression of grief, and in Canada intelligence regarding the Orphanages is eagerly sought for and read with avidity. The orphans are of all ages, from two years upwards. Some of them are girls of great promise, and one, Ruth Iona, having been admitted to the communion of the Church, is now most usefully engaged in teaching.

In addition to the establishments above mentioned, a further opening has been recently heard of at Sealkote, the station where the Rev. Mr. Hunter and his family were cruelly murdered during the mutiny. Over the spot a memorial Church is about to be erected, and an Orphanage has been organized under a most efficient teacher. Five boys in this Institution are about to be maintained in connection with our own Juvenile Mission.

At a time when it was difficult to procure orphans, the Canadian school was commenced, and has now been nearly four years in successful operation. The teacher is a young man of ability and zeal, and is aided by his wife. In the evenings he is able to preach to large audiences, and a little knowledge of the healing art is of service in gaining the attention of his fellow-countrymen. There are about 50 girls in attendance at this school, which could be increased to any extent did the funds permit.

Northern India is now suffering under a famine of almost unprecedented severity, several months of heat and drought having burnt up the crops which form the sole means of subsistence of the population. Great numbers of the poorer classes have, it is feared, already perished, and many orphans are left unprovided for. But a few months since great difficulty was experienced in keeping up the limited number of inmates in the Institutions, and many of our schools had waited years before orphans could be appropriated to them. The fatal ravages of famine have effected a sad change, and surely such an appeal cannot be listened to without a response from Christian hearts. It comes from a land to which Great Britain is indebted for much of her wealth, and without which she could not now fill her proud position in the world. It comes from those who are now our fellow-subjects, and whose spiritual welfare was too long sacrificed to wealth and power by a mercenary company. With greater force than ever therefore does this scheme commend itself to the youth of our Church. By their contributions much good has already been done in India, and the way is now open under God's blessing to accomplish even greater things. The influence of such an effort cannot fail to react with beneficial effects upon our rising generation, training them to liberality and self-denial before the love of the world or the pursuit of gain can have hardened their young hearts, and preparing them for the generous support in after life of our own church and her various schemes. Such an effort as this, humble in itself, may therefore be of vast importance in its future results, and in reliance on the Divine blessing it is again commended to the countenance and support of the Synod.

A full financial statement is appended, and the whole respectfully submitted.

JOHN PATON,
Treasurer to the Synod.

Kingston, 20th March, 1861.