

WIDOWS FUND REPORT.

The report on the Widows Fund presented a favourable account of the Fund, the receipts from all sources being in advance of those of last year, and the total amount invested, being now on account of the general fund nearly \$40,000, while the amount in hand for the special fund is \$5,100, of which there is invested \$3200. The report referred to the large increase during the past year in the number of annuitants, four new names being on the fund, while one annuitant had died.

The report was received. The report on the special fund was also received, and it was agreed to grant one year still for collecting the balance of subscriptions due.

AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS FUND.

The report was given in by the convener, Rev. Dr. Thornton. The report stated that one minister, who had been placed on the fund, had died during the year, while another had been placed on it, and the grant to another had been increased. The amount of \$700 had been invested, while there was still on hand the sum of \$642 for carrying on the operations of the present year. The report was received and adopted. The case of the Rev. D. McLean was remitted by the Synod to the committee, with instructions to grant as liberal a sum as the state of the funds would allow. A petition from Rev. Dr. Cairns for an increase in his allowance was also remitted to the committee.

A memorial from the congregation of Chalmer's Church, Elora, with reference to the state of the Widow's Fund, in consequence of the heavy charges upon it for the Aged and Infirm Ministers Fund, was referred to the Widow's Fund committee that they may consider it and report.

On a division, it was agreed to grant to the Rev. C. Fletcher the privilege of an interest in the Widows Fund on the payment of twenty pounds.

RECEPTION OF MINISTERS AND LICENSING OF STUDENTS.

On the report of a committee appointed in the case, the Synod granted leave to Presbyteries to receive the following ministers, viz.: Rev. Mr. Ferrie, Rev. Mr. Simpson, and the Rev. Mr. McGlashan. Leave was given to license the following students: Messrs. W. Caven, O. Labelle, J.M. Gibson, J. Hubbert, J. Burton, G. McLennan, E. Baald, J. Ferguson, S. Ycang, and W. Reeve.

RETURNS TO OVERTURES &c. REMITTED TO PRESBYTERIES BY LAST SYNOD

A committee was appointed to examine and report on the overtures &c. sent down to Presbyteries and sessions by last Synod. It was found that they were all disapproved of by a majority of Presbyteries, with the exception of the overture on the formation of a General Assembly, which was approved of by a majority. It was on motion, made and seconded, agreed to send down the overture in an amended form for the consideration of Presbyteries, so that a General Assembly may meet in 1866.

CAUSES.

There were several causes which came up by reference, complaint, or appeal viz.: 1. A dissent and complaint from a deliverance of the Presbytery of Stratford with reference to the St. Mary's case, already twice before the Synod; also a memorial connected with the same case. This case was remitted to the committee on causes. On the report of this committee, the Synod agreed to re-affirm its decisions of last two years, in which Mr. Beattie withdrew all claims on the St. Mary's congregation. 2. Two dissents and complaints against findings of the Presbytery of Cobourg, in matters connected with Port Hope. The dissents and complaints in both cases were dismissed, and the findings of the Presbytery confirmed. 3. A reference with several appeals, and a memorial with reference to proceedings of the Presbytery of Hamilton, in the matter of a memorial from Mr. James Walker. This case in some of its aspects was before last meeting of Synod. These several cases were remitted to the com-