

your Institutions, and the fact, that they have been largely blessed, we cannot believe, Brethren, that you will allow them to struggle with difficulties, or your Professors to feel, that they are laboring for, and yet are a burden upon, an unappreciating Church; much less, that by failing in time of need, you will throw upon the Synod the painful duty of saying to any of them, *We can do without your services, as a lower standard of Ministerial qualification will suit our purposes, and meet the wishes of the Church.* If so, where is excision to begin? But, Brethren, we are persuaded better things of you, though we thus write; and let us bear in mind, that there is no going back in the Church of Christ. Those who entertain such an idea will not find it confirmed by either divine teaching, or apostolic example. "Speak unto the people that they go forward." Safety and success lie in progress. Difficult as is our present situation, it loses none of its difficulty by concealment; and hence, as Stewards for you, in your work for God, we consider it dutiful, and right, to submit the whole case to you, *as it is.*

We now appeal to you with strong confidence, and all the stronger from the fact, that to sustain the operations of the Church of your, and our, Master, we are entirely dependent upon your conscientious, Christian, liberality. We feel that this state of dependence upon the faith, and faithfulness, of the Body, is to both you, and your Institutions, a high privilege, and trust that the day is not far distant when it will be so regarded by all. It would not be for the advantage of either yourselves, or your Institutions, that they should be entirely independent of your sympathies and prayers. By contributing to their support, you have a vested interest in them, and with just pride, can point to them, and say,—*Our Institutions.*—Not so, were you debarred the privilege of supporting them. In doing so, you are conferring a benefit on yourselves, by meeting God's demands on your affection, and property; and who of you can estimate the value of the blessing which you will confer on the Church now, and through all her future.

It is true, that, as other Bodies have done, we might do,—ask aid of the Legislature. But we fear to excite divided affections, and interests, by placing your Institutions above the necessity of your aid, thus losing an element essential to success,—your deep personal interest in, and sympathy with a work, confessedly, your own. Occupying, at present, vantage ground so high, and where you have been so signally blessed, we would be very reluctant to advise you to abandon it for any prospective good, assured, that you are quite competent to do your own work. We would rather counsel steady, and thorough, development of your own energies, and means. In this view, we feel assured, you will agree with us. But while you require your managers to hold their position, you must provide the means of so doing, by a generous, and hearty, co-operation, and liberality.

We have stated that during the past year contributions amounted to £281. But let this statement be clearly understood. If spread over 35,000 adherents, (but half the Church) it would give 1½d. each. Our 85 Congregations £3 6s. 1d. each; and if over 9617 Communicants 7d. each. But what are the facts? Out of 85 Congregations 44 contributed the above sum of £281—41 Congregations giving nothing. Of the 44, only 16 gave £5 and upwards, and some of this Special Effort. On a cursory glance at the Statistics, 2600 Communicants, (nearly one third,) and 19,634 adherents, out of 35,000, gave nothing to the cause of Education. Again, some of the largest and ablest Congregations gave nothing, and others far below their acknowledged wealth, and position in the Church. The same holds true, in too many cases, regarding all the schemes of the Church. To what this is ow-