

count will be found in the proceedings of that Presbytery published on another page.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Foreign Missions it was decided that Messrs. Murray and MacKenzie should go by Britain, and should sail from Halifax about the middle of October. The sailing days being now advertized as October 10th and 24th, it is quite probable that the earlier date will be selected. Only a single month therefore remains for the preparation and despatch to Halifax of Mission goods. These should be sent to C. D. Hunter, Esq., Hollis Street, Halifax, as early as October 1st.

The Board, after the fullest consideration, has decided that as all the spare time of both the Missionaries should be devoted to the study of medicine, during the short time that they will remain in Nova Scotia, no visitation of churches can be attempted.

The Board of the Presbyterian Synod of the Maritime Provinces has appointed a Committee to arrange for a few United Farewell meetings, at which the two Brethren named, and Rev. Hugh A. Robertson, their designated Missionary, shall be present. This proposal has been cordially entertained, and will no doubt be carried out.

Once more the Church of the Lower Provinces has five Missionaries. She owes them a hearty support, and we trust it will be fully and promptly given. We have no fears about the payment of their salaries, for a sense of justice and honour will secure this. It is the higher support of unwavering faith and constant prayer which we would now bespeak for them. Unless sustained by the persevering prayers of the church it is questionable if their going forth will prove a source of any strength to the Mission. They may go in weakness and go to defeat. But if their hands are strengthened by the effectual, fervent prayers of many righteous men, they will go forth in the power of the Spirit, and will doubtless do good service for the Master in the high places of the heathen field.

AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.

It is now more than two years since the Overture in favour of such a fund as is named above was brought before the Synod. The Overture set forth that few ministers in this church had it in their power to make any thing like adequate provision for years of old age and infirmity, and that it was not for the interest of the church that ministers should retain their position as Pastors when disqualified by infirmity for discharging the duties of their office; and as a considerable number of the congregations, from their weakness, were scarcely able to support religious ordinance, they could not be expected to make proper provision to meet the necessities of the case, and therefore that the Synod should institute such a fund without delay.

The Overture was adopted with great unanimity; and for that year it was resolved to invite subscriptions from ministers and donations from the wealthier members of the Church. Various causes have hindered the prosecution of the scheme, but the last Synod directed the Committee to go forward with the work without delay. With this object in view the Rules for its management are published as an appendix to the Synod minutes, and are therefore in the possession of every Minister and of nearly all the Elders.

So far as this scheme has been brought before the Church it has met general approval and cordial support. In the congregations in Pictou town and New Glasgow, not an individual called upon, raised any difficulty or objected to the wisdom or propriety of the measure. A very few did not find it convenient at the time to give, but all said that the movement was called for, and they wished it success. In the Presbyteries where it has been brought forward, the ministers have given good evidence of their interest, by their liberal contributions.

The object of the fund is to provide an allowance of \$200 per annum for every aged or infirm minister, not provided for by his congregation, and who may be recommended by his Presbytery as coming within the proper scope of the fund.

It will be seen that the fund in its appli-