

it tendeth to poverty." How much, now, will *you*—how much ought *you* to give?

ATTENTION!

The arrangements for the coming Missionary meetings in Western and Central Ontario will be found in our "Official" pages. The anniversary services are to be held somewhat earlier than usual, for the reason that the treasury of our Society is *empty and overdrawn*, and that unless our churches are a little more prompt than usual in collecting and remitting their contributions, some of our missionaries, never over-paid at the best, will suffer serious inconvenience. The winter is just upon us, and there are many little necessities to provide at such a time in a rigorous climate like ours, and we are sure that a hint on this point is all that is needed to secure a ready and early response from all our churches. Let those who "are not afraid of the snow for their households, because their households are clothed with scarlet," think of those who, for the sake of Christ and the Gospel, are enduring many privations, and suffering many hardships in our back-woods.

THE PASTORS' RETIRING FUND.

The amount of capital necessary to warrant its going into operation (\$2,000) having been secured before the late meeting of the Provident Fund, in June last, the first appropriations were made in Montreal, and the Treasurer says, were most gratefully received. There was not sufficient time, however, in the hurry of the annual meetings, to complete the details of the organization, and

it is to be hoped that those most interested in its success will think matters over, and, if possible, connect themselves with this Branch of the Fund, by the payment of the necessary premium, so as to be prepared to act intelligently in regard to it next year.

The obliging and indefatigable Treasurer of the Fund, Mr. Barton, writing to us on the subject of the change in the constitution proposed by the Rev. Mr. Sanders, says:—"It may be desirable that the life members should be communicated with, and their views and wishes ascertained in the premises.

"The fund is only small, and not likely soon to assume any large proportions; but it is submitted as worthy of their consideration, whether it may not be desirable in the interval for Ministers to become members, and then form a constituency qualified to act. The late apportionment was made by those who had not contributed to the fund—a somewhat anomalous state of things, and one that is open to question.

"It is essentially 'a ministers' question,' and one that should deeply interest them; and if the Rev. Henry Sanders, who has given notice for changing the officers, &c., will charge himself with maturely considering the whole matter, and, by circular or otherwise, gather the views and opinions of the brethren, (both lay and ministerial,) some tangible scheme may be prepared and proposed for adoption at the Annual Meeting at Guelph, next June.

"If some such action is not previously taken, the matter will come up in a crude and unsatisfactory shape, no result will be arrived at, and another year will be lost.

"In the several Association meetings, this would be a legitimate subject to be brought under consideration, and if freely and fully discussed, good must result.

"The Trustees are open to receive suggestions from any quarter, and will doubtless give the subject their best consideration. They will be happy to afford any information in their power,