

sense of the responsibility which rests upon the Church to do for the outlying and other destitute districts of Canada, what the people of Scotland out of their comparative poverty, yea and beyond their power, once did for us.

The progress and present position of the Church of Scotland in this Country are largely due to those ministers who, in the year 1854 surrendered, of their own free-will, a part of their share in the Clergy Reserve Fund for the sake of providing for each of their successors in the ministry a small endowment. The sacrifice which these honoured men thus made, yielded the chief outlay which has been incurred by the Synod, since that time, for Church extension. Ministers were the creators of that Fund by which, with inconsiderable contributions from the laity year by year, the Church has been enabled to advance her position to previously unoccupied posts. The growth of the Church has outstripped the wise and worthy provision which this Fund thus supplied. Some years ago its custodians were obliged, practically, to reduce the annual allowance to each minister from \$200 to \$150. At this time they find themselves constrained to withhold from nearly *forty ministers* the help which their older brethren receive. For this emergency it behoves you to provide; the more, that the larger number of these forty ministers are, of all their brethren, in greatest need of help. It is probable, as has been lately foreshadowed, that permanent relief will be sought to be supplied by the creation of a Home Missionary Fund, separate and distinct from the Temporalities' Fund. Whether this change shall be effected, it will be for the Synod of 1870 to determine. This at least is clear, that, in these circumstances, you owe it to the Church and to yourselves, to make provision, first of all, for the pressing wants of your under-paid clergy; secondly, for the extension of Ordinances to those who are destitute. This two-fold obligation we press upon your earnest consideration. We