

AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.

The Committee, through the Convener, Rev. G. Patterson, reported as follows :—

The Committee on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund beg leave to report that, owing to a variety of causes, the work of collecting for the fund has not made the progress during the past year which they desire, and which, at last meeting of Synod, they had expected. They then contemplated that, by one vigorous effort over the whole church, a sum might be raised which would provide for all the claims likely to be made upon us for a number of years to come. The Committee, as soon after the last meeting of Synod as in their power, called the attention of Presbyteries to the subject, and requested ministers to act as delegates, in visiting congregations throughout the church on behalf of the scheme. According to the resolution of Synod last year, they also requested the Agent of the schemes of the church to give his assistance in the work. The subject has been before most of the Presbyteries, and, so far as heard from, has been taken up by them cordially. The Presbyteries of Halifax and Pictou have made arrangements for appealing to the congregations under their care, and have commenced carrying them into effect; and the Presbyteries of Lunenburg and Yarmouth, St. John and P. E. Island are taking up the matter. Various providential occurrences, however, have prevented them from taking action at so early a day, as to enable us to report results at this meeting of Synod. The same causes have prevented the work of visiting congregations and appealing for subscriptions, being carried out to the extent contemplated. Some progress, however, has been made, and the Committee are happy to say that some very liberal responses have been made to their appeals. There has been received during the past year, by collections and donations, the sum of \$1,755.11, and from interest \$92, which, with the amount on hand since last year, makes the total amount in fund \$2,729.63, of which the sum of \$2,100.00 is now invested. The Committee can only ask the Synod to renew its injunction of last year to those congregations which have not yet made collections, to do so at an early day, and to authorize the agent of the schemes of the church to give as much of his time to the work of collecting for this fund as circumstances will permit. The Committee should regret, if this would interfere with any other effort of the church. But they must observe that during the past season several special appeals have hindered their

work; and as the contributions to this fund will not be annual, and the appeal will probably not be repeated, we hope that this Synod will encourage the Committee to prosecute the work, and to have it completed at as early a day as possible.

The Committee have had an application from a Presbytery to have a father placed upon the fund, so far as to receive half annuity of one hundred dollars per annum, in accordance with the terms of Rule 9, with the understanding that he be raised to full annuity should his infirmities increase. The application has been approved.

All which is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE PATTERSON, *Convener*.

The Report was approved and the following resolution adopted unanimously :—

"That the Synod renew their injunction to those congregations which have not contributed to this scheme to do so as early as possible, authorize the agent of the schemes of the church to give his aid as far as convenient, direct the attention of Presbyteries to the subject, and remit the matter to the Committee to prosecute the work of collecting."

Board of Education.

The Report of the Incorporated Board of Education was read by the Secretary, showing that the Investments for the Professorial Fund, and for the Crerar Mission Fund, were the same as last year, only nominally less through change of Currency; that the Fund for Ministerial Education had been increased by \$2,000, N. S. Currency, being a Gift from C. D. Hunter, Esq., for Bursaries; less by \$902, Dominion Currency, withdrawn to meet the deficiencies of the last two years. The Report noticed that for the past year the deficiency of income from all sources, to meet expenditure for Education, was only \$53.47.

The Board sought advice concerning a sum of money due by Trustees of Queen's Square, now Zion Church, Charlottetown, on which no interest had been paid for more than two years. It was agreed that a Committee of Synod be appointed "to confer with the Congregation on the whole subject, so as to bring the Congregation in the meantime to provide for the payment of Interest and Insurance on the Building."

Rev. Dr. Bayne, Rev. Messrs. Blair and McGregor, were appointed a Committee to confer with the Congregation of Zion Church in terms of the foregoing minute.