

its Home Mission Committee an interest which, considered numerically or otherwise, is not less important than that of all its settled congregations. Surely it is of the utmost consequence that the rulers and members of our Church fully realize and duly consider this fact. Unless they do so, our Missionary counsels and efforts cannot but fail of that expansiveness and vigour, which the position we occupy demands of us—and without which, our Church, instead of keeping pace with the country, and rapidly attaining that large and healthy development—of which she is so capable in herself—and to which many outward circumstances are so favourable—will inevitably settle down into a dwarfish and stunted sect—feeble in its own spiritual life—and possessing little power to leaven the community with evangelical principles.

A survey of the extent and necessities of the field thus open to us—and indeed rightfully exclaiming our services—may well draw forth the exclamation—"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few." It is, moreover, apt enough to superinduce a feeling somewhat akin to despondency. This we must vigorously shut out and resist—with all its anti-evangelistic tendencies. And why should it have place even for a moment in our breasts? Have we not, in the midst of our difficulties, the all-sufficient resource pointed out by the Master himself—"Pray ye the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into his harvest"? Have we not, in our organized congregations, and in very many of the destitute localities, a body of members and adherents, of ample worldly means, and comparatively, at least, high in christian intelligence, principle, and worth—whose liberal gifts will not be withheld from the Lord's treasury, if we only shew them a good and practicable cause—and whose moral influence and standing in the community, constitutes in itself a missionary force, which, under proper organizations and guidance, would prove of mighty efficiency for the advancement of our work? And then, are there not numbers of the choice young men of the land pressing forward to our help—or rather, to the help of the Lord, in the great enterprise of the thorough evangelisation of our land? In place of despondency, there is much ground, we apprehend, for encouragement and hopeful effort on all hands. Let us only estimate aright the magnitude of the undertaking—in which the Lord has called us to engage—and then apply ourselves vigorously to the work, upon a well-considered plan of operations, and in a spirit of humble believing reliance on the promises, and with a single eye to the glory of God—and, beyond all question, much will be accomplished for the extension and establishment of the Redeemer's kingdom in this land.

We would only add, that "the suggest-

ions" to which we referred at the outset, were originally offered to our Presbyteries—immediately after the disruption—when most of them were too much reduced in the number of their ministers, to be able to carry out the proposed arrangements with effect. A happy change has been brought about in this respect—during the five intervening years—through the good hand of the Lord; and now, in Western Canada at least, we have not a Presbytery that may not, with good heart, enter upon the work in all its details.

Here follows the document in question—as sanctioned by the Synod at Kingston in 1847, with the omission of clauses III., VII., VIII., IX., X., for which see Minutes, pp. 33, 34, 35:—

1. That the Synod adopt the following regulations, formerly issued by the Home Mission Committee, and recommend Presbyteries of the Church to use their best efforts, in conjunction with the Home Mission Committee of the Synod, to carry the same into effect within their several bounds.

1. *The Arrangement of the Missionary Field.*—The whole field of religious destitution, especially those Townships or Parishes which contain a considerable number of Presbyterians within their bounds, ought to be carefully considered by each Presbytery—and, according to the information derived from the several members or others, suitable localities ought to be deliberately chosen and fixed upon as preaching Stations—these stations, including organized congregations that may be vacant, ought to be grouped together as Missionary Districts—and each of the districts thus formed ought to be placed under the superintendence of a Minister, and have a Missionary assigned to it as soon as the Presbytery's supply will admit. The arrangement made by the Presbytery in this respect should, of course, be fully recorded, and it would be advantageous to procure a separate record for all such details.

2. *The Organization of Missionary Stations and Districts.*—It is recommended that each Presbytery, after having divided and arranged their Missionary Ground according to the foregoing suggestions, take immediate steps for the visitation of the several Preaching Stations within each of the Missionary Districts, by the Ministers under whose superintendence they have been placed for the following purposes:—1st,—To explain to the people connected with each station the division and arrangement which the Presbytery has made, as above—the exertions which the Presbytery is making to procure an adequate supply of Missionaries—and the necessity of fixed and regular contributions by the people, to procure a suitable provision for Missionaries. 2nd,—To organize the people connected with such stations, by superintending the election and appointment of a committee of