

6th. *Parrsboro'*.—This congregation had a promise from the Presbytery of assistance for a few years, provided they would raise £100. Your committee have therefore granted to them £20, on condition that they comply with their engagements to the Presbytery.

7th. *Harvey, N. B.*—This congregation, your Committee believe, is fully able to support their minister without any aid from the general funds of the Church; but for various reasons we have agreed to allow them £10 for another year.

8th. *Buddeck*.—The Committee have agreed that this congregation receive for another year £14, on condition that the congregation raise £100.

9th. *West Bay*.—£20 granted as last year.

10th. *Brown's Creek*.—A supplement of £15, P. E. I. currency, is granted them on condition that they raise £110, which your committee believe they can do without any difficulty. Your Committee have however, felt a difficulty in granting the above, from finding that the congregation have not contributed to the different schemes of the Church. They do expect, however, that this neglect shall be remedied before the grant now specified has been paid over.

11th. *Woodville*.—This congregation is steadily improving. Your Committee have continued for one year more the former supplement of £20, P. E. I. currency.

12th. *Dundas*.—This congregation seems to have exerted itself with considerable energy, and seems to be in a healthy state, though still comparatively weak. Your Committee has granted them £20, P. E. I. currency, provided they raise in addition at least £70.

13th. *Little Harbour*.—This is a new congregation, and as it is made up of people who, it is presumed, have been taught the duty of supporting Gospel ordinances, it is not likely that it will long remain dependent on the H. M. Fund. Your Committee have granted them £15 for this year.

14th. *Plaister Cove and River Inhabitants*.—This, your Committee fear, is one of the congregations that is not sufficiently mindful of the injunction, "Let him that is taught in the Word communicate to Him that teacheth in all things." The congregation is very large, but the sum raised for their minister is miserably small. Your Committee feel that they should not be a burden to the Church, but at the present time they are unwilling to withhold what their minister needs, but has not received from them. They have therefore granted £20 for one year.

15th. *Goose River*.—From information laid before your Committee they conclude that probably a small sum may be ex-

pended with advantage in that congregation. They have therefore agreed to recommend a grant of £10.

Before closing their Report your Committee feel called upon to direct the attention of Synod to some points that have been pressed upon them while engaged in the responsible, difficult, and not very agreeable duties pertaining to the work before them.

1st. They fear that their suggestions for the guidance of Presbyteries, in reference to weak congregations, which were adopted by the Synod last year, have not received sufficient attention. There are, no doubt, reasons for this of which your Committee are not aware. But as respects the Island of Cape Breton one reason may be the smallness and comparative weakness of the Presbyteries. If the three Presbyteries in that part of the Church were all combined they would not be equal to the Pictou or Halifax Presbytery. And your Committee are of opinion that they should be so united.

2nd. Your Committee, looking to the heavy draft upon the funds of the Home Mission Board which must be made in paying the sums specified above, have been led to enquire whether some better arrangement might not be made for meeting such demands.

There are two ways in which the Mission Board might be relieved, viz: either by having a separate fund for this purpose, or by inducing some of our wealthier and stronger congregations to take under their immediate charge one or more of the weak and needy congregations.

Many considerations seem to recommend this last plan as peculiarly commendable. But your Committee refrain from embodying them in their Report.

It appears from the foregoing Report that some congregations that received supplement last year are not again recommended as recipients. Some of these are considered quite able to support their own ministers—and they have failed to comply with the order of Synod in reference to such congregations. Your committee have endeavoured to discharge their duty faithfully and without partiality, and they trust that the congregations receiving such supplement, will accept it as a token of the interest which our Church feels in them, and endeavour to advance in all that pertains to the well-being of a congregation—and particularly to acquire that degree of strength which will enable them to help others instead of being the recipients of such aid.

GEORGE CHRISTIE,
Convener.

THOMAS SEDGEWICK,
Secretary.