

character at various central points ; the discovery of localities in old settlements which had been left without spiritual culture ; and the throwing off by growing congregations portions of the pastoral charge, occasion new openings for missionary effort. When the present bounds of the Presbytery were appointed by the Synod in 1861, the number of ministerial members was 23, and at the Synod of June last the roll of the Presbytery contained 28 names of ministers, or omitting the name of Mr. Duff, who is a missionary in a foreign field, 27 ; and yet the number of vacancies and stations at present depending on mission services for a supply of the means of grace, is greater than it was in 1861.

But it may be proper to mention here, that two pastoral charges and some mission field lie outside of the country which has been described as forming the Presbytery of London. These are in the United States.

We shall not attempt a description of every vacancy and station, as this would make the present statement longer than would be suitable, but mention such particulars as may be of general interest, and fitted to give an idea of the general nature and condition of the mission field, and of the work conducted in it.

The entire number of vacancies and stations may be put down at 19 ; though three other localities have a claim on the attention of the Presbytery, and have received some amount of mission service, and but for the paucity of labourers and funds would share in the ordinary supply.

Ten of the 19 are vacancies, being congregations which have enjoyed the labours of settled pastors, all of which are now in a condition to maintain ministers, with the exception of three, which in the event of their becoming again settled charges, would require assistance, perhaps to the amount of \$100 annually, from the mission fund. In two of these ten vacancies, there is such a proportion of Gaelic-speaking people as would render a pastor who could preach in their language very desirable, and as makes it very improbable that any other would be chosen ; and yet, considering the large proportion that can profit under preaching in the English language, and especially considering the many young persons who are left without a spiritual instructor and guide, the general good of these congregations would be much more promoted by the labours of a suitable English pastor, than by their continuing in their present vacant and destitute condition. The other eight vacancies require services only in the English language.

All these vacant congregations possess churches, except one, where a place of worship is now being erected, and a section of a second, where a site has been purchased, but a church has not yet been built. Four of them also have each a small manse.

The average attendance on public worship connected with these vacancies is very varied. In five of them it may be said to range from sixty to two hundred, and in the other five from two hundred to four hundred. The number of communicants in six of them ranges from one hundred to one hundred and eighty, and in the remaining four from forty to sixty.

Of the nine mission stations three require service in Gaelic ; and the remarks made in connection with the Gaelic vacancies, in respect to the relative importance of this language, are also applicable to the stations, though not to the same extent. The stations have a larger proportion of persons recently from Scotland, and who are not yet sufficiently acquainted with the English, to enable them to profit under preaching in that language. One of them is the station of Elmira, in the state of Illinois. A member of Presbytery, the Rev. Arch. McDiarmid, lately visited it, and laboured for four weeks among the people there. During his visit a congregation was organised, by the admission of persons to membership, and the formation of a session and committee of manage-