

(3) The attitude of the community largely corresponds with that of the Church. Where the Church is outspoken in her sympathy with temperance work, the sentiment of the community is more correct. But where the Church shows little of such sympathy, still less exists in the general community; thus greatly emphasizing the responsibility of the Church in this important matter."

It was, therefore, thought best to take more time in the hope of being able to meet this great need more fully and effectively. It was, therefore, stated in the report as follows:—"It was felt that a simple constitution adopted by this Assembly and recommended to congregations would not meet the needs of the case, nor be worthy of the General Assembly, but that something more must be attempted. Letters were accordingly addressed to parties in all the Presbyterian Churches of Great Britain and Ireland, asking about Temperance organizations in those Churches. Replies were received from the Presbyterian Church in England, Church of Scotland, Free and U. P. Churches of Scotland, and the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. In the first four, temperance organizations exist outside the church courts, and are managed by committees more or less independent. They appear, however, to be doing a good work, and especially in the Free Church of Scotland it is carried on with much vigour. In all these the organization seems to be thorough, with supplies of pledge cards, manuals and temperance literature, and takes contributions from branch societies. Until six years ago, the Presbyterian Church in Ireland had a somewhat similar organization, but on the appointment of Rev. J. B. Wylie, Belfast, as Convener of the Assembly's Committee on Temperance, it was superseded by one wholly within the sphere of the Church courts, and under the control of the Assembly's Committee. The Assembly appoints a minister and an elder from each Presbytery on that Committee—the ministerial member in each Presbytery is agent within his bounds to hold meetings in congregations, distribute literature, and do all he can to promote the interests of total abstinence. Each session keeps a roll of total abstaining members, in addition to its other records. The work is annually reported to the General Assembly, and a prominent

place given by Standing Order to its consideration. Mr. Wylie testifies that it has been much more successful than the old method of working, and has greatly stimulated the temperance sentiment of the Church, and deepened the interest of the people, thus enabling the General Assembly to take very advanced ground on the subject, having last year unanimously adopted a resolution declaring it "the duty of all Church members to be entirely separate from the drink traffic, and from the drinking customs of society."

We think it well to attempt organization on these lines, and your Committee ask the Assembly to give the necessary authority."

This authority was granted, and the Committee on Temperance so appointed as to give it a representative in each Presbytery.

I intend to submit a draft constitution, &c., to each member of the Committee in sufficient time to have the full benefit of criticism and suggestions before preparing the report for next Assembly, and I hope the results will be such that the Assembly of 1892 will be able to furnish Congregations and S. Schools with information and suggestions that will be found helpful in their great work for Christ.

D. STILES FRASER, *Convener.*

Springside, Upper Stewiacke, N. S.

HOME MISSION FUND.

WESTERN SECTION.

The following circular has been sent to all the Presbyteries in the western section of the Church.—

The amount asked for the current year from the Presbyteries of the Church for HOME MISSIONS, is \$50,000, and for AUGMENTATION, \$32,000. Last year there was a deficit of \$1,904.98 in the HOME MISSION FUND, and \$4,287.97 in AUGMENTATION. The sum of \$30,000, was asked last year for Augmentation. This year \$2,000 additional is asked in order to pay the above indebtedness, and the claims for the present year.

The sum asked for Home Missions—\$50,000—is PRECISELY THAT OF LAST YEAR, although, in view of the larger grants made last April to the North-west and British Columbia—A LARGER REVENUE WILL BE NEEDED. It is, therefore, earnestly hoped that many congregations will contribute ABOVE THE SUMS ALLOCATED TO THEM by