

some Presbyteries and many congregations have not given the subject that attention which its importance demands, yet, upon the whole, the progress already made is such as to encourage and stimulate the Committee to further exertions, and to indicate what the happy result would be if all did their duty faithfully and vigorously in the matter."

The following recommendations of the Committee were approved by the Synod, and the Committee directed to carry them out:

1. That Presbyteries be required by this Synod to see that every Kirk Session within their bounds bring this subject of systematic and proportionate giving before their congregations; that special Presbyterial deputations be sent to congregations whose Kirk Sessions may be remiss in the matter; and that at Presbyterial visitations members of Presbytery be directed to inquire diligently into the efforts put forth by the minister and other office-bearers in reference to this matter.

2. That the Committee be authorized to procure and distribute 1,500 copies of a pamphlet issued by the Systematic Benevolence Society of Great Britain, being a lecture by Principal Candlish on 2 Cor., 8th and 9th chap., and a paper by Dr. Cather on the principles and history of that Society,

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUPPLEMEN S.

The Committee of Synod on the supplementing of weak congregations beg to offer the following Report:

It has been their object, in the first place, to obtain as accurate information as possible of the strength of the congregations applying for supplement. This course was deemed necessary to prevent any from so abusing the liberality of the Synod as to cause dissatisfaction among the other congregations. At the same time your Committee cannot recommend with the same cordiality all that are put forward as congregations needing supplement. In some cases there would be no need of such assistance, were the liberality of the congrega-

tion equal to its ability. To these, therefore, it is granted more as an acknowledgment of the claims of the minister to support than of the congregation's right to receive such assistance. It is also hoped that the grant may be accepted as an intimation of the Synod's unwillingness that faithful devoted servants of Christ should suffer want while engaged in the service of their Divine Master, who has said, "the labourer is worthy of his hire," and "they that preach the Gospel should live by the Gospel."

Most of the congregations that were supplemented last year are still on the list. A few have been dropped; but as many others have been added. Some of the congregations obtained the grant for last year under certain conditions. These conditions we find have in general been fulfilled; and it is hoped that these, finding they were able to do more than they had done before, will still aim at higher attainments—thus eventually relieving the Synod from the necessity of continuing to grant to them any portion of the general funds of the Church.

The following congregations are still recommended as needing supplement:

1st. *Annapolis*.—That congregation is very small, and seems to be making considerable effort. Hitherto they have received £50, on condition of their raising £100. The grant is still continued under the same conditions as before.

2d. *Clyde River and Barrington*.—The supplement promised to this congregation has been £25. It is still continued on condition of their raising £100.

3d. *Laurencetown*.—£20 was granted to this congregation for last year, coupled with a recommendation to the Halifax Presbytery to use their best efforts to secure a competent salary for the minister, independent of the supplement. Your Committee do not find, however, that any very decided effort has been made by the Presbytery. At least there is not such improvement as would warrant the withdrawal of the usual grant. It has therefore been allowed for another year. The sum is £20.

4th. *Sheet Harbour*.—Your Committee recommend that this congregation receive as last year a grant of £30.

5th. *Bridgewater*.—Your Committee for various reasons recommend the continuance of the supplement—£12 10s.—for another year.