

amount is reduced or entirely withdrawn as soon as the congregation has grown sufficiently to be self-supporting. The regulations as to stipend in aid-receiving congregations adopted at last General Assembly are: (1) \$700 in the case of an unmarried man not requiring a house; (2) \$750 and a manse in the case of a man requiring a house; (3) \$850 and a manse in Manitoba and the Northwest; (4) In cases where the cost of living is exceptionally high the Augmentation Committee shall have power to make a larger grant. In no case does a grant exceed \$300.

The beneficial result of this Scheme cannot be estimated in figures; but judged even by this standard the results are gratifying. Since 1883 there have been in all 345 congregations on the augmented list. Of these 155 have during that time become self-supporting. An average of 14 reach the line of self-support each year, and an equal number are advanced from the status of mission stations and placed on the list of augmented charges with regular pastoral care. There are at present

**Results.** 152 congregations receiving aid from the Augmentation Fund. That this aid does not tend to pauperize is proved by the fact that in augmented charges the average contribution per communicant for ministerial support last year was \$7.02, while in the whole Church the average for the same object was \$4.64.

The wide field covered by the operations of this Scheme extending from the Presbytery of Quebec to the Pacific, including many Roman Catholic communities in the east, and many new and sparsely settled districts in the west, makes the appeal for support

the more emphatic. This Fund is indeed the very life of Protestantism in many localities in Quebec, where if this aid were not granted or were now withdrawn, the light of Protestantism would be speedily extinguished.

The outlook for the Augmentation Scheme is not discouraging. The Presbyterian Church in Canada is not disloyal to her trust, and will not abandon her own children because they are in need. The Church is Presbyterian and regards the weakest member as belonging to the body, and suffering or loss in the remotest member is felt to be the suffering or loss of the whole body. At present there is real need and positive suffering in some parts of the Church. Enforced emigration from English

**Outlook.** Protestant settlements in Quebec has left some congregations permanently weakened. The failure of the harvest and the unusual severity of the present depression in some parts of Manitoba and the Northwest have placed congregations in those sections in straitened circumstances. And the disastrous losses by fire and flood in many districts in British Columbia have left the people face to face with actual want. When these facts are made known and brought home to Christian people more comfortably situated, no stronger argument will be necessary to secure support for the Augmentation Fund.

The appeal is made to all congregations. In the past the burden has been borne chiefly by the larger city congregations. The charges in the country have given little or nothing to this Fund. Were each to do its rightful share there should be no difficulty in raising \$31,000, the amount estimated for the current year. The appeal is

Appeal.