

large membership, and in old and well-settled districts, this Board is strongly of opinion that grants to such Missions should either be greatly modified or absolutely cease; and appeals to the devotedness and loyalty of the members of the Church on such Missions generously to relinquish Missionary aid, and thus enable the Board to meet its responsibilities in making more equitable appropriations for the more destitute portions of its extending work."

A very interesting memorial was read to the Board from the Methodist Church in the Islands of Bermuda, where there is a mixed Society of 480 members and 4 Missionaries, two of whom also act as Chaplains to the Army and Navy. With the expression of the views of the Board, and a grant of \$950, the subjects embodied in the document were referred to the Committee of Consultation and Finance, and the decision that, in future, the Islands should be considered under the head of Missionary Districts.

After making appropriations on the most economical scale, commensurate with the demands of the Work, the Board found themselves embarrassed by the aggregate amount greatly exceeding the anticipated income for the current year; ultimately, the following resolutions were adopted:—

"That in order to meet in a more equitable manner the needs of the Domestic Missions, a deduction of 5 per cent. be made from all the grants already passed; and that the Treasurers be authorized, on behalf of the Society, to assume an additional sum sufficient to meet two-thirds of the amount recommended by the Committee for the support of the Domestic Missions, which will add a sum of \$10,000 to the debt of the Society, unless the same is paid from increased contributions; and it is agreed that the deduction of 5 per cent. shall also apply to the amounts recommended by the Committee for rents and removals in the several Conferences, and to the amount voted to the Newfoundland Conference."

"That in view of the embarrassed state of the funds, the Missionary Committee of each Conference be requested to appoint the best available deputation to go through the entire work, for the purpose of securing from every subscriber of last year an increase in his subscription, and from each Conference an increase sufficient to raise the average to not less than two dollars per member."

Confiding in the good Providence of God, to whom belongeth the "gold and silver, and the cattle upon a thousand hills," and in the pious liberality of a generous people attached to Methodism throughout the Dominion, the Central Board have shown both their sympathy and faith by their appropriations reaching the sum of \$167,955 43, for 1876-7; being an increase of \$13,239 88 beyond the expenditure of 1875-6. Very systematic and zealous efforts will have to be made to enlarge the present year's income, if the Society is to be saved from an embarrassment which will cripple future operations.

For the purpose of making a final adjudication of the balance in favour of the Home Mission Fund at the time of the Union of the two bodies, and in accordance with the principles agreed upon by both contracting parties when they met under Dr. Punshon's Presidency in Montreal, a Committee was appointed by the Board, who, after thoughtful and deliberate exchange of views, agreed upon a report, which was heartily and unanimously accepted by the Central Board without any debate. From peculiar circumstances affecting the interests of Missions in Eastern British America, special grants were made to the extent of \$5,000, not included in the sum already reported as appropriated.