

at present.

With reference to the first of these regulations which is that "The list of Supplemented congregations shall embrace only such charges as have pastors duly called by the people, and inducted by the Presbytery; and as in the judgment of the Presbytery are entitled to assistance in the support of the ministry," there will probably be not much difference of opinion.

There will likely be more diversity of view with respect to the conditions imposed in the prescribed rates of contribution per congregation and per communicant or per family. Some may regard these conditions as imposing too severe demands upon weak congregations, while others may look upon them as too easy to be fulfilled. These conditions, as already indicated, are the provision of at least \$400.00 and a manse by the congregation as a whole, and an average contribution of \$100.50 per communicant, or the same rate per family, in congregations where the families exceed in number the communicant.

Perhaps the difficulty of those who who think that the prescribed conditions are too severe may be removed by the following considerations;

First: That there are only some ten congregations in the Synod which at the present time are contributing for the support of their own pastors less than \$400. per annum and a manse, of which eight are already so near that amount that the Committee believe that they can readily and at once be induced to make the requisite increase. If necessary the others could be dealt with under the rules as special cases.

Secondly: That there are only four of the congregations which are receiving Supplement at the present time that are contributing at a lower rate than an average of \$4.50 per communicant, while some of them are already paying at the rate of \$7.00 \$8.00, and \$9.00, and a few of them at the rate of \$11.00, \$12.00 and even \$14.00. On the other hand the difficulty of those who are of opinion that the prescribed conditions are too easy of fulfilment, will at least be partially met by the facts, that the rate required per communicant from the very weakest congregations is within twelve cents of the average rate contributed last year for ministerial support all over the church, that while the general rate including the supplemented congregations was \$4.62 per communicant the rate given by the supplemented congregations alone in the

Maritime Province, was no less than \$6.92. In other words the congregations which the Church is asked to assist contributed one and a half times as much as the average rate per communicant for the support of their own pastors.

These facts, therefore show very clearly both that the effort which weak congregations are asked to make is not beyond their strength, and that in contributing to aid them, the Church is not requested to exert herself on behalf of those who are not putting forth vigorous efforts to help themselves.

E. A. M.

We have received Dr. Burns pamphlet containing his sermon on confession and absolution together with the "C" correspondence and have read it with great pleasure. We might mention some of the things in it which are specially noticeable.

1. The courtesy which characterizes the discussion, more especially Dr. Burns part of it.

2. The fitness with which his well known happy command of Scripture is brought into use in proving his own position or disproving that of his opponent.

3. The clear and masterly statement of Protestant principles and the equally clear confutation of the doctrines of Rome on the subject.

4. The unvarying attempt of "C" when "cornered" to divert attention from the point at issue.

5. That "C" failing proof, is reduced to assertion without proof and toward the close of his correspondence he merely repeats statement after statement which has been previously disproved.

The pamphlet is most interesting and instructive. Price 15 cents.

—The Universalists have at last succeeded in building a church in Washington City. It is in the north-eastern section of the city, and when complete will cost \$40,000.