

that our students are almost required to attend to duties for which they have not been qualified. Again students may not suit the field. This is no fault of the man nor the field. According to present arrangements it cannot well be avoided. No committee of Presbytery can locate men satisfactorily unless it can give especial attention to both men and fields. In new fields much work must be done which the student cannot very well do. It is difficult for him to act with authority as the qualified representative of our church in organizing and consolidating the work. The short time in the field, the peculiarities of the men, give variety and novelty rather than continuity. We cannot estimate the feelings and desires of the people according to the standards in our old organized congregations; hence many things which appear small in the eyes of an old congregation mean very much in a Mission field. The people have not had the advantages of continuous moral and spiritual training, consequently do not fully appreciate the meaning of our work. A visit from a member of Presbytery is remembered with manifest satisfaction and inspires new hopes and determination. It seems likely that a Superintendent of Missions would do much to solve these difficulties. He cannot do everything; possibly will fail in some things, but must be successful in awakening and stimulating an interest in our great work. The student under his ripe judgment can do better work, the people will be cheered and encouraged by his visits, the destitute places supplied during the winter, scattered fields organized, new fields opened. He would call forth the best efforts of the people and carry on our work in keeping with the spirit of our church, and we shall be disappointed if the experiment does not justify the wisdom of the action now indicated.

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#### *SOME VACANT CONGREGATIONS.*

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IT would appear that the need for workers has always pressed heavily upon the masters of the Harvest in the field our church has had to reap in the Maritime Provinces. The result has been that in many places we have suffered loss because others were found to reap where they had not sown, in fields that were being neglected by the proper owners. It was but right that