

pect upon a more satisfactory footing. Three ministers have lately been sent out to this important field. The Report of the Commissioners, sent out by the General Assembly, which appeared in a former number of the *Record*, will have a most salutary effect both at Home and in the Colony, and it may be reasonably expected that a country, possessing a healthy climate, for the European constitution, if the laws of health are attended to, with an ample provision for the clergyman, and a vast field of inviting labor, will henceforth command readily the services of young men of talent and character. British Guiana is about four times the size of Nova Scotia. Chinese Coolies are largely employed in field labor, and their religious wants have hitherto we believe been much neglected. Here surely is a field which would well repay the earnest cultivator.

In Jamaica, we have two ministers and several preaching stations. There is at present a contest going on for possession of a church at Falmouth, in Montego Bay. The church was built by and for the behoof of adherents of the Church of Scotland. As it remained empty for some time, the United Presbyterians assumed possession of the unoccupied building. The rightful owners have since demanded it for their own use, but the intruders persist in keeping it on the ground that the deed conveying it to the Church of Scotland wanted the *Corporation Seal*. On the strength of this wretched quibble, these people seek to retain a property to which in common justice or honesty they have not the shadow of a right.

A very considerable space is devoted to the Church in Australia, to which we have formerly referred.

In New Zealand we have as yet only one minister, whose salary has hitherto been partially supplemented from home, but will cease with the present year.

In Ceylon we have now two ministers, with important and flourishing charges, and there is every prospect of a third being speedily added to this portion of our Lord's vineyard.

In Grenada and Mauritius there are two ministers in connection with the Church of Scotland, while in St. Vincent, the Bermudas and the Cape of Good Hope, there are churches belonging to us which, being left unoccupied for some time, in consequence of the inability of the Church at Home to supply them with ministers, have been taken possession of by other bodies, who now refuse to give them up. The Committee, while expressing a strong opinion upon the character of such conduct, while not seeing its way for any immediate steps in either of the three cases, will take advantage of any opportunity for restoring these properties to their rightful owners. One would imagine that in such case there could not be room for two opinions; but in the different Colonies Churches, and especially Dissenting Church-

es, are so mixed up with local politics, that the verdict of a jury is as often determined by feeling as by evidence or law. In the Presbytery of Halifax we have allowed at least three churches to slip out of our hands in the very same manner.

Buenos Ayres, though not a British Colony, has two ministers and two fine congregations in connection with the Church of Scotland.

It would thus appear that, during the last year, the Colonial Committee has supported, either altogether or partially, 39 ministers or missionaries, in the various Colonies, at an expense of £2,376. For outfits and passage money they have paid about £800. In the form of grants for educational purposes they have given upwards of £400. They have expended about £700 in a special mission to Guiana, making, with other incidental expenses, a total of £4,540. We are informed that the total income for the past year was £3,348, so that that there is an apparent deficiency, or inroad upon the Reserve Fund, to the extent £1,300. This is a rather discouraging state of matters, but we rejoice that a strenuous effort is about to be made at home to bring up the collections to the requirements of the scheme; and we have little doubt that in the various Colonies a corresponding effort will be made to lighten as much as possible the drain upon the finances of the Committee. The kindness of the Church to her colonial children and brethren has been beyond all praise, and merits, and we are sure receives at their hand the deepest gratitude. The most acceptable return we can offer is strenuously to endeavor to do for ourselves what she has hitherto been doing for us, so that her efforts may be extended to other and more necessitous fields. This feeling we are glad to find is rapidly growing in all the Colonies, and especially in Nova Scotia. For example—from the Synoptical Table at the beginning of the Committee's Report, it would appear that their engagements in regard to the Province for the present year amount to £1,140 sterling, though of course the whole of this will not be required. From present prospects during next year, should the number of stations not be increased, the sum required will not probably exceed £200 or £250. Indeed, at this moment, considerably more than the half of the £1,140 has been assumed by the people, which we consider an omen of much future good.

Perhaps it may interest our readers should we note the respective amounts received by the separate colonies from the Home Church last year. They are as follows:

Canada, - - - -	£1,437	0	sterling.
Nova Scotia, - - -	645	0	
New Brunswick, - -	507	0	
New Zealand, - - -	80	0	
Guiana and West Indies,	55	0	