

cies—their local situation—their present state, with their prospects, and this was embodied in a communication which was sent off as soon as it could be got ready, to the Rev. Mr. Somerville. All the members of Synod have, we presume, seen the document as published in the *Missionary Record* for the month of October, 1853. An answer was received stating that the request had been laid before the Board at their meeting in that month, and that they had resolved to comply with it so far as in their power. When this answer was read in your Committee, they cordially and unanimously resolved to record their satisfaction with it, and instructed their Convener to convey their thanks to the Board in Scotland for the kind and Christian spirit in which the application had been received and considered. Efforts have been made, and are continuing to be made at home, to procure for the Church here the number of missionaries named, but they have been only partially successful. Five have been engaged, one of whom have already arrived. Let it be hoped, however, that those who are on the list of Probationers or completing their studies in the Hall, may be induced seriously to ponder the invitation that has been addressed to them, and to choose Canada as a field for the forth-putting of those energies which they have professedly dedicated to God, to serve Him in the Gospel of his Son.

We are happy in being able to inform the Synod of there being evidence that the care which they exercise over the weaker congregations has not been in vain, and that their kindness has not been unappreciated. A letter was addressed to the Committee, through their Convener, in the early part of the year, from the congregation of Chatham, which was one of those under the necessity of applying for supplement when they first obtained a pastor, conveying their thanks for the assistance that had been afforded them in their weakness, and stating that, in the present year they were in hopes of being able to raise £125 as stipend for their pastor, and £50 for building purposes. They remark, "As the day on which we were wont to receive pecuniary assistance from you is approaching, and as we are met to-day to transact the business of the congregation, we cannot allow so favorable an opportunity to pass without conveying to you this assurance of our heartfelt gratitude for the favors already mentioned—favours the more valuable because by means of them, under God, we have been enabled to go to the fold of Christ, and find pasture, and can say not only that we have a minister of our own, but also that we support him by our voluntary offerings."

Your Committee think it would serve a useful purpose were means taken to publish the reports, or a digest of them, which are presented by preachers to the respective Presbyteries within whose bounds they have been laboring. This would supply information as to the number and state of the vacancies which exist, and of the extent of mission field which the operations of the Church embrace: it would afford a better understanding of the position which the Church occupies in the Province—awaken a greater interest throughout all the congregations, and might lead to greater prayerfulness and liberality for the welfare of those who are without a shepherd. Were these reports forwarded by Presbyteries to the Mission Committee, they could embody as many of the facts narrated as they deemed advisable in a statement like the present—which would give it greater variety and interest to such a meeting as this—and we are certain that the Editors of both magazines would be willing to insert it in their periodicals, so that it would be diffused throughout our congregations for their instruction.

The Rev. Andrew Kennedy has written to the Committee informing them that, having succeeded in obtaining a situation which affords him the opportunity of laboring for the advancement of that cause to which his life has been hitherto devoted, he will not, in the meantime, draw upon the fund for any money in the way of salary.

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