

many who will not do their part, there is little hope that, with our present number of churches, our general Home Mission Fund will be largely increased. It is suggested to Synod that Presbyteries should be enjoined to visit those congregations in which the salary is below \$1000, and urge them, if possible, to make up this sum. Where they cannot do so, there should be a grant from the Synod's Home Mission or the Colonial Committee. In connection with this grant, it is the opinion of the Board that it should be in no case a sum larger than the increase by the congregation, and that even then after two years it should diminish at least \$20 annually."

At the last meeting of the Home Mission Board, held in Fredericton, N. B., in January, 1875, the attention of the members present was drawn to the foregoing extract; and it was deeply felt that some effort must be made to bring prominently before our people the facts and suggestions contained in its statements. Accordingly, the undersigned members of the committee were appointed to submit the views and resolution of the Board to our congregations, in the hope that, action being taken upon them, the condition of our Church may, with the Divine blessing, speedily assume a more healthful appearance.

1. In the opinion of the Board, \$1000 should henceforth be regarded as the minimum stipend.

2. Some congregations, now paying less than that amount, are able, it is believed, without aid, to increase their payments, so as to offer that stipend to their ministers, and it is earnestly hoped that, for the sake of the Church's interests, they will, without delay, endeavor to do so.

3. There are cases in which this cannot be looked for, or, at any rate, will not be done; and these are of two kinds. (a) Congregations paying the minimum hitherto recognized of \$730 or upwards, (but less than \$1000) without aid from the Board. (b) Congregations now receiving aid to enable them to pay the present minimum. With regard to both of these classes, the H. M. Board propose to give assistance towards raising the stipend to the minimum of \$1000 in the manner which the following examples will explain.

(a) A congregation is now paying, suppose, the present minimum stipend of

\$730. Let that congregation add to its payments any amount, according to ability, up to \$135; the Board will give dollar for dollar, up to that amount of \$135, towards increasing the stipend. Should the congregation add only \$50 to its present payment, the Board will also give \$50, and so on in all cases, up to \$135; that being the amount which, with \$135 from the Board, will raise the stipend from the present minimum of \$730, or £150 sterling, to \$1000, (about £200 sterling.)

(b) Congregations now in receipt of aid to enable them to pay the present minimum of \$730. Suppose a congregation now paying \$500, and receiving, accordingly, a supplement of \$230. Let such a congregation increase its payments to any figure up to \$635 of stipend. The Board will correspondingly add to its present supplement dollar for dollar, till the supplement (on the foregoing supposition of the congregation raising its payment from \$500 to \$635) will amount to \$365, thus making the stipend of its minister \$1000.

In no case will the Board supplement so as to raise a stipend to an amount greater than \$1000. Subject to this condition, they will, in every instance in which application is made, act upon the rule of giving dollar for dollar in aid of congregations now paying a stipend less than \$1000.

The Board have enjoined us to say that they are constrained to insist upon the condition at the close of the foregoing extract from the Report adopted in June, 1874.

D. MACRAE,  
ROBERT J. CAMERON.

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### CHRISTIAN GIVING.

A writer has very clearly illustrated the effectiveness of Christian giving in this way:—

"We must not forget that there is such an element in all Christian working as spiritual force. It costs millions to lay the pipes and build the reservoirs for the water-works of such a city as Boston. But experience has taught the people of Boston that capacious reservoirs and a network of mains and services will not alone give them water. The clouds, God's clouds, are most essential to the effectiveness of the whole