

Another act of assembly empowers the committee, if it should see cause, on account of the limited extent of a field to grant less than the full amount of supplement. On this ground the applications from several fields where the work is very light and the amount asked for large, were delayed for fuller consideration until next meeting which will be held during the meeting of Synod in St. John in October.

The visit of Mr. Laing to Miramichi, in connection with the earnest efforts of Presbytery has borne good fruit. Several of the aided congregations have increased their subscriptions by a considerable sum.

Some other Presbyteries have not shewn the anxiety to reduce the grants within their bounds which they might have done, and the committee was obliged in some such cases to delay the grant until fuller information is received. The tendency in some cases is to look upon the Fund as a full treasure house from which the aim is to get all that is possible. If there were as general a disposition to take the promises, "Ask, and it shall be given you," "Open thy mouth wide and I will fill it" in their true sense, as there is in seeking to the Supplementing Fund, there would be a rich and glorious revival all over the church.

One thing necessary to the success of the scheme is that those who give to it shall have confidence that their money is wisely expended. In such a case they will not be backward in contributing. The Committee realizing this, made a rigid scrutiny of all the applications and tried to do what was best, and what could be best justified before the church.

The aided congregations are in most cases making noble efforts in helping themselves, and deserve the sympathy and aid of those who are more highly favored. The prospects for the coming year are good.

In Truro Presbytery good work has been done by the self supporting congregations. Five that were below the minimum have since last year reached that position so

that all the congregations of the Presbytery are self sustaining at the minimum except the two aided ones.

Pictou Presbytery has no aided congregations though there are two or three that do not raise the minimum.

UNIFICATION.

In a recent issue, the *Presbyterian Witness* in speaking of the benefits to arise from the unification of the Foreign Mission work of our church, East and West, says :

"It is likely that there would arise benefits from the consolidation of funds such as we may not readily think of. For example were the funds united, an arrangement proposed by the Trinidad brethren could have been carried out this summer with advantage to the mission and to one at least of our beloved missionaries. Mr. MacLeod's health has failed. He was strong enough to render invaluable service in training teachers. The Trinidad Council recommended that this should be his special work and that a fifth missionary be set out to take charge of his station at Princetown; but owing to financial difficulties our Board were unable to agree to the proposed arrangement, an inability which they profoundly regretted. Had the Boards and funds been united the wishes of our Trinidad Council could have been met without serious difficulty.

There are two points in the above to which we wish to call attention.

I. The general question of our getting aid from the West in the event of Unification.

II. The special case in Trinidad.

I. A feeling very prevalent throughout our Synod is that if the Funds were consolidated our burdens in connection with F. M. work would be lightened, and our fields better wrought, that the Western F. M. Fund is overflowing and we would get aid from it.

Let two or three facts be borne in mind.

1. A few years ago the F. M. Fund, Western Section, was in debt about \$16,000

2. Although owing to two or three large bequests, and Dr. McKay's visit home, their funds came up and overflowed for two