

They are happy to say that the brethren of the several Presbyteries have shown the utmost forbearance, as sensible of the delicacy of their duty and the difficulties of their position. Only one collision has taken place between the arrangements of the Board and a Presbytery, which as involving a principle, which the Board had thought long since settled, and which the Board regard as essential to the harmonious working of the Home Mission operations of the Church, they have resolved to bring under the notice of the Synod.

VACANT CONGREGATIONS.

The following vacant congregations have received supply, Cascumpeque and West Point, West Branch East River, Mabou, Harvey, Parrsboro and Maccan, and Gays River. The first of these was supplied, up till the first of May, by Messrs. Mc Cully, Ross, Fraser and Keir, receiving in all 29 days. Since that date Mr Grant has supplied them for a few Sabbaths and Mr Fraser has been ordained as their settled minister. From the reports laid before them, the Board have reason to believe that the state of the congregation has been rapidly improving, and that Mr Fraser enters upon his labors with the most encouraging prospects. In the Pictou Presbytery, the congregations supplied have been Mabou, and Hopewell. The former was supplied for two Sabbaths only, as the Rev. Jas. McLean had been ordained as their settled pastor. The congregation of West Branch received in all — days supply. In both these congregations the probationers have been fully remunerated. In the Halifax Presbytery the congregation of Gays River and Shubenacadie has been supplied by Messrs Mc Kay, Mc Lean, Grant and Mc Kenzie, and received in all 19 sabbaths. In the Truro Presbytery, Harvey has received almost constant supply from Messrs Mc Lean, Mc Kenzie, Mc Cully and Fraser, having received in all 26 sabbaths. The Board are happy to observe from the reports of these brethren that the prospects of the congregation here, notwithstanding the difficulties with which they have had to contend,

are highly encouraging. They have erected a new church in place of the one of which they have been so unrightly deprived.— It was ready for occupancy before winter set in and the congregation have been enabled to meet in comfort during the winter. They are extremely anxious to obtain a minister to labor steadily among them, and are somewhat discouraged that they have been so long suffering the miseries of hope deferred. The Board earnestly hope that the Great Head of the Church may soon send to them one to break the bread of life among them, and that through his kindness their “teachers may not be removed into a corner any more.” The congregation of Parrsboro and Maccan, vacant since the demission of Rev. A. Kerr in 1848, has at length been supplied with a settled pastor by the ordination of Mr James Mc G. Mc Kay among them. They were supplied previously by him and the Rev. Daniel McCurdy, receiving in all, till the 1st of May, 6 sabbaths supply. For the supply of these three congregations, demands have been made upon the Board to aid from one section of Shubenacadie to the extent of £2 13s 5d, Harvey £9, and Parrsboro & Maccan £5 16s 0d. While the supply given to these vacancies has been far from what it ought to be, yet the Board cannot help contrasting it with the amount in former years when vacant congregations were sometimes months without supply, or receiving only a solitary day's preaching from a neighboring minister.

MISSION STATIONS.

The number of Mission stations to which supply has been given during the past year and which have received aid from the funds of the Board is 19, viz: in Halifax Presbytery—Annapolis, Digby, Cape Sable Island, Locke's Island, Kempt, and Sheet Harbor. In Truro Presbytery—West Chester Mountain, Wallace River, Folly Mountain, Acadia Mines, Brookfield, Joggins, and Salmon River. In Pictou Presbytery—Baddeck, and Margarce River in Cape Breton. In P. E. Island—Tignish and East Point, with adjacent settlements, St Peter's Road, and