

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS.

MARITIME PROVINCES, 1883-4.

During the year past, 13 Ordained Ministers and 10 Licentiates have been engaged under the direction of the Committee; besides four Ministers during a portion of the term, aiding Presbyteries by mutual arrangement in the supply of vacant charges. As most of the Licentiates, were soon called and settled, a good proportion within the first half of the year, the 27 agents would not average more than six months each, in what is regarded as strictly home mission work; but the other six months were devoted by a good number to congregations in which they were settled, and of the supply of which the Committee was relieved.

Besides the Preachers, whether licensed or ordained, 38 young men have been employed during the summer months some in organized Congregations, but the greater number in Mission Stations; so that the whole number of agents in the work has amounted to 65. The Student Missionaries, have given some four, some five and some six months of work, while four have continued during the year.

The main facts connected with this work are given in tabular form. The Statistics of the special fields in which missionaries have been located; Bedford, and Waverly, Riversdale, New Kincardine and Tobique, and Little Bay, Newfoundland, will be found in the general returns, and will shew respectable progress. The corresponding returns from Mission Stations will be found in the accompanying appendix, number iii.

Following the totals, will be found the corresponding figures for 1883, shewing a decided superiority in last year's work, an advance in numbers, in attendance, in families visited, in Sabbath Schools, in Communicants, and very decidedly in liberality, the amount raised being much larger and the sum drawn from Home Missions funds greatly reduced. In this last respect special honour belongs to the Presbytery of St. John.

As the report of last year presented no extracts from, or outline of, written reports by the Student Missionaries, and might therefore be regarded as somewhat bald, and perhaps deficient, the Committee consider it desirable that a few brief sketches should be presented to keep the Church informed respecting the different districts in which her young evangelists are doing her work.

IN ST. JOHN PRESBYTERY.

Twelve mission fields have been wrought, of which the following are specimens:—

HAMMOND RIVER AND HAMPTON VILLAGE.

18 Sabbaths. Received \$144.00.

Hammond River branch is a congregation 40 years old, but it is now reviving, has a good church edifice in good repair, had an accession of twenty to its membership this summer, is in good heart and every prospect for continued prosperity.

Hampton Village is a new field, but a good one, in a growing place and the capital of Kings Co. The first Presbyterian Communion was held here Sept. 2nd, 1883. No place of worship yet but have had the use of a Baptist Building.

Friendly feeling, bright prospect. Had accession of 14 this summer. Whole field well located, all the circumstances favourable, should be helped substantially now and encouraged.

J. S. ALAN.

KIRKLAND, OAK MOUNTAIN, ETC.

26 Sabbaths. Received \$271.35, of which \$70.00 were for board.

Kirkland, Oak Mountain etc., is at present in a flourishing condition, and when they build a church at Oak Mt. and a manse, which will be done under proper management within four or at most five years, they will be able to call.

Sixteen added the Church this summer. Elected four trustees in October. Much need of Elders. These should be elected and ordained as early as possible next summer. The field should be supplied at least once each month during winter. Instead of prayer-meeting I taught Bible class twice each week in Kirkland and Oak Mountain.

JAS. F. BLAIR.

WESTFORD, NEREPEIS, AND CLARENDON.

26 Sabbaths. Received \$61.00 besides board.

Westford, Nerepis. We have just 8 families in those two places, but others who attend our services very regularly and who also assist in raising money. As for *Clarendon* it is hard to decide just how many we can claim, they have been so much neglected that they scarcely know themselves what they do or would like to be doing to, however if they are attended to we can I think call there our