

the support of the Gospel ministry. In this the Scottish churches, as usual, take the lead. Happily they are followed—(at too great a distance!) by the colonial, the Irish, and the United States churches. Let us be thankful that in this as in almost all other respects the movement appears to be in the right direction. An effort is to be made in our own Church to place the Sustentation of the ministry on a more satisfactory basis. We trust that the result will not show us to be exceptionally far in the rear of our parent churches.

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### SUPPLEMENTARY FUND.

The Committee to whom the Synod entrusted the superintendence of the proposed Supplementary Fund, took prompt measures for bringing the subject before the Church. They first decided on a visitation of about one-half of the congregations during the current year, and, secondly, that the Presbyteries to be visited this year should be Halifax, Truro and Prince Edward Island. To accomplish this a number of delegates were named, and the work arranged between them. Three of these have returned, after accomplishing the object either wholly or to a great extent—Rev. Messrs. Christie, McGregor, and McCurdy. Mr. McCurdy visited the Shore congregations from Lunenburg to Yarmouth—Mr. Christie the city of Halifax and the congregations eastward in the Presbytery, and Mr. McGregor the congregations in Prince Edward Island, except those to the East of Charlottetown, the latter being left till the month of June.

There were no specific instructions given to the delegates, and each chose the course that seemed best in the circumstances, after consultation with the Session or minister of the congregation visited.

The subjoined statement by Mr. Christie shews that in general he adopted the course of a personal application to those present at the meetings, and a subscription, which is well known to be the most effectual method of raising money, and in this case we are happy to learn that it was tried with good effect.

Mr. McGregor's report is also before us, but our limits will not admit of its publication in this number, as foreign mission letters, just received, would lose interest by delay, and therefore take precedence. It shews that a different course was pursued in the Island, but with a due consideration of all the circumstances of the case, and with the full approval of the brethren there. The congregations are smaller as a general rule than in Nova Scotia, and a larger proportion new and therefore weak; and it seemed preferable, in the first place, to stimulate to increased effort *at home*, and to urge only such a collection as could be given annually without any new machinery, and without being given at the expense of any of the other objects, to which they had been accustomed to contribute. The collections will be generally taken on or shortly after the first Sabbath of December, and will appear among the acknowledgments in the *Record* for January. We are happy to learn that all those who attended the meetings held in the several congregations, evinced great interest in the movement, which, if judiciously and zealously prosecuted, will certainly prove a success, and become a great blessing alike to those who give and to those who receive:

*To the Editor of the Home and Foreign Record.*

In fulfilment of the duty imposed upon me by the "Supplement Committee," I have held meetings in the following places: Halifax, Dartmouth, Cow Bay, Lawrence-town, Musquodoboit Harbour, Mengher's Grant, Upper and Middle Musquodoboit, Gay's River, Shubenacadie, Lower Stewiacke, Nine Mile River, and Elmsdale. I preached in each of the places above named, and brought before them, first, The larger scheme to which the Synod is committed by their resolution of 1867; and then the obligations under which the Synod is at present to the congregations that are now depending upon the supplement fund.

The results of my visit are not yet known. In most of the places visited, I started a subscription list, and received on the spot such sums as parties were prepared to hand over. The congregations in the City of Halifax and Dartmouth have promised a collection in December—which I have no doubt will be liberal. I cannot state the amount that will be received from the other congregations visited, but I think it will, in all cases, be respectable, and in some very