

summed; it would be necessary to close a church or remove a minister." In like manner, a sub-Committee of the Union Committee, appointed to consider this very subject, reported that, in their judgment, not only would all the men now in the work be required, but more. I do not know on what data their conclusion was based, and am inclined to think that, like the minister above referred to, they took a too favourable view; but yet if the work of readjustment is carefully and conscientiously performed, and the rapidly-growing needs of the North-West are fairly met, the entire force now in the active work of the Uniting Churches will be quickly absorbed. At the time of the former Union there was the same outcry about "surplus men," and yet, after the Union, not one of the Conferences paused, even for a single year, in taking out new men; and even then the entries in the lists of stations of "one wanted," were neither few nor far between.

*Economy in Working.*

Suppose it to be true that, after Union, a certain number of men will not be needed on fields where they are now labouring, this difficulty will be met by a corresponding advantage in another direction. Let us suppose a case—a real one—where ministers of three Methodist Churches occupy nearly the same ground, each receiving aid from the Missionary Fund of his Church. In the re-arrangement of the work two men are found to be sufficient. But two men can be supported on the ground, and the whole missionary grant thus saved will be sufficient to support the third man on a new field. This may be called an extreme case, or an extreme way of putting it, but it illustrates a state of things that will be found in varying degrees on not a few circuits. That the rivalries of the past have caused an unnecessary multiplication of men in the same fields, no one conversant with the facts will attempt to deny. How often in Stationing Committees have we heard the appointment of additional men urged solely on the ground that "we *must* give the people a preaching service every Sunday;" and when the question was asked, "Why must we do this?" the answer was sure to be, "If we don't, the ———s will come in and take