

Sunday-School, with others, it was as representative as it well could be. It is no more than due to the members of that Committee to state, that they attended the fortnightly and special meetings that were held, with much regularity, and manifested an interest in the welfare of the Church that was very gratifying and encouraging.

The Committee were of the opinion that it would not be expedient to look to the mother-country for a successor to the Pastorate, from a conviction that the sort of man we wanted here was in greater demand there; and that, therefore, it would be useless for us to attempt to compete with the inducements held out there. Accordingly their attention was directed to this side of the Atlantic, and correspondence was had with men of position in the colleges, societies and churches of the United States, with the object of learning the names and positions of ministers who might prove suitable as candidates for the vacant pulpit. Among those that were heard during the first two months, the Rev. Smith Baker, of Lowell, Mass., made such a widespread and profoundly favourable impression, that the Committee felt it to be their duty to call a special meeting of the Church, in accordance with §§ VIII. and X. of the By-laws, to take action in the matter of extending a call to him. The meeting was duly held and a unanimous invitation was extended to Mr. Baker, Messrs. Hague and Wilson being deputed to present the same to him in person. For a time expectation ran high that it would be accepted; but the associations of a long and successful pastorate, with other powerful considerations, led Mr. Baker to the conclusion that it was his duty to stay among his own people, and the call was with high Christian courtesy declined. Disappointment was, of course, felt at this result, but it was accepted with acquiescence and with a determination not to lose heart, and to stand to ether.

Meantime, weeks and months sped onward, and the month of May found the Pastorate still vacant, and many were becoming anxious thereat, in view of our customary break-up for the summer. But the end was nearer than was imagined, for even from the beginning of the vacancy, there had been a strong conviction in the minds of not a few members of the Church and of the Congregation, and of many outside of both, that he who is now our Pastor was, because of his own personal character and qualifications, and because of his past services and successes in the pastorate and among our own churches, the man to fill the Pastorate of this Church. As time went on, this conviction had been gathering strength and finding voice, until