

stone, but I will worship Him who made the stone. I worship the Lord Jesus, who died for me, and Him only will I serve."—*Church Missionary Instructor*

Report of Com. on Supplements.

(MARITIME PROVINCES, 1880-1881.)

During the year covered by this report, the number of congregations on the list was forty; but as four of these had no pastor, the number receiving aid was thirty-six, being more than one-fourth of the contributing congregations for the year.

The subjoined figures will shew increase in the number of congregations contributing, as compared with last year, of ten, and of receipts of \$99.71, but it will be seen that congregational receipts do not come within a thousand dollars of meeting the payments to congregations, without any reference to other outlay.

NAME OF PRESBYTERY.	Carga Contributing.		Paid In.		Received Out.	
	1880.	1881.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1880-81.	
			\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	
Pictou.....	12	16	846 49	490 58	50 00	
Halifax.....	22	21	803 94	724 77	672 50	
Truro.....	15	15	521 27	482 57	242 50	
St. John.....	16	18	261 24	343 41	1530 10	
Miramichi.....	11	22	207 73	212 60	440 41	
Wallace.....	5	3	79 90	59 60	145 83	
P. E. Island.....	16	18	350 38	287 30	216 10	
Sydney.....	7	8	41 00	69 59	260 09	
Richmond.....	5	7	36 58	57 31	70 00	
Victoria and Richmond.....	7	7	62 50	87 70	330 09	
Lunenburg and Yarmouth.....	2	1	104 00	100 00	
Newfoundland.....						
Total.....	117	127	2816 03	2914 74	3057 44	

REVIEW

It seems, therefore, necessary to review the last few years, so that the existing financial condition of the fund may be fully understood.

During the last four years this fund has been in a state of financial difficulty. In May, 1877, the Treasurer's report shewed that \$2,600 was required to meet payments maturing on the first of July; and to meet the emergency, the members of Committee agreed to write to the wealthier congregations, and to apply personally to liberal donors for special contributions. Temporary relief was thus obtained, but next year at the same season, the situation was unchanged. The same course could not well be pursued again, but something had to be done; and it was agreed, 1st, to send to Presbyteries the names of congregations which had given nothing and ask an early collection; 2nd, to place the situation before all the churches by circular; 3rd, to borrow money to meet the deficiency. In December of the same year, rather than disappoint expectations, the Treasurer was directed to pay by loan.

This mode of procedure was not satisfactory to the Committee, was noticed by the auditors in their annual report, and the General Assembly gave directions that in the future administration of the fund, expenditure and income should be equalized.

The Committee having repeatedly tried to bring up the income to meet the whole expenditure, without success, found themselves now under orders to reduce expenditure, and did so to a small extent, not by any arbitrary decision of their own, but by a gradual application of the existing regulation of the General Assembly, which up to that date in the Lower Provinces had not been fully acted on, but not till the fullest notice had been given to every Presbytery, minister and congregation affected. It is known that this step was not acceptable, but the Committee has never been informed of any other, involving reduction, which would have been more welcome.

Last year, viz., 1879-80 the debt, previously incurred, being allowed to remain, the Committee with the sanction of the Assembly made temporary loans to secure punctuality of payment, and the receipts met the expenditure, and reduced the debt from \$1,084.28 to \$1,017.33, a reduction of \$66.95—small, but very welcome. Precisely the same course has been followed during the year which has just terminated, but with a very different result. The receipts from congregations have increased as already shewn