

were employed by the H. M. Com., and thirty-five groups of Home Mission stations supplied, while thirty-one ordained missionaries were at work in mission fields or vacant congregations.

The receipts for the year were \$13,486, but not quite enough to do the work, a deficit of \$640 being the legacy to the current year. Each year has its work to do and cannot well bear burdens of the past. On the whole the year has been one of progress and the outlook is hopeful.

In the West, with the growth of the new Northwest, the progress is rapid. At the Union in 1875, there were but twenty-five presbyteries in the Western Section of the church, now there are forty-two, fifteen of them west of Lake Superior. The number of mission fields in the West is 384, with 1,116 preaching stations. There are 146 augmented congregations and a total of 468 missionaries at work. The families connected with missions and augmented congregations in the West, in 1875 was 7,243, now 20,400.

The receipts during the year for these two departments were, Home Missions \$91,683, Augmentation \$25,158.

"This statement, however, gives but a faint idea of the progress made in Home Mission work in the West during these twenty four years. Of the 132 mission fields that were connected with the Church in 1875, 59 have become self-supporting congregations, two have been merged into other fields 34 have been raised to the status of augmented charges, 35 are still on the mission list, and two have ceased to exist.

Since 1885, 590 new mission fields have been organized. Of this number 93 have been merged into others; 297 are still on the mission list; 58 have been raised to the status of augmented congregations; and 142 have become self-supporting congregations; so that there are to-day 201 self-supporting congregations and 92 augmented charges, which in 1875 were either on the mission list or had no existence. In other words, during these twenty-four years the Home Mission Committee has fostered and helped to self-support 201 congregations and raised to the status of augmented charges 92 mission fields,—all of whom are in their turn giving liberal support, not only to the Home Mission work of the Church but to every department of its work."

AUGMENTATION

is but the advanced stage of Home Mission Work. The latter nurses scattered stations into organization and some measure of self-support, the former then takes them up and helps them until they become self-sustaining, and though it

came up at a later stage in the Assembly, may fitly be noted here.

In the Eastern Section, the Maritime Provinces, there was raised for the Fund during the year \$9826, a less amount than was asked by Synod, and the result was that a small sum had to be deducted from the grants to each of the 48 congregations receiving aid. A pity that it should be so, for it usually means that the comparatively small stipend of the minister suffers to that extent. Some true-hearted congregations make an effort and share the loss. Four congregations became self-sustaining during the year.

In the Western Section the revenue was \$25,158, and 154 congregations received aid. There have been 17 congregations passed on to the list of self-supporting charges during the year, and 23 others taken on from the Home Mission Fund.

The amounts asked for this most important Fund for the coming year are \$10,500 East, and \$28,000 West.

COLLEGES.

The second day, Friday, was largely collegiate. The usual order, East to West, was reversed, and Manitoba led, mourning the loss of her beloved principal, Dr. King, who has given his life for the college in a very real sense.

The College Board had been unable to agree upon any nomination to the Assembly for Principal, and a Commission of Assembly was appointed, some fifteen members in Toronto and vicinity, with power to appoint if a nomination is made to them. A new professor, Dr. Kilpatrick of Aberdeen, has been appointed.

Grateful mention was made of the help gratuitously given in the work of the summer session by professors from Eastern Colleges, and for support from the church at large.

The students in the theological classes are 39, 13 in the third year, 12 each in the second and first, and 2 special, the highest numbers ever attained by the college.

Knox College, Toronto, presented its fifty-fifth annual report. The students in theological classes during the year were 71. The graduating class numbered 20. Here too a new professor was reported, Mr. McFadyen, from Scotland.

Queen's College, Kingston, submitted its fifty-eighth annual report showing 42 students in theology, and likewise reporting the appointment of a new professor, Rev Dr. Gordon of Strathroy.

Presbyterian College, Montreal, reported "one of the most satisfactory years" in its history,