

The results of the returns of the "occupations" of the natives show that in the case of the Hindoos the largest proportions are, as might be expected from the habits of the people, engaged in agriculture; while, in the case of the Mahomedans, those engaged in non-agricultural occupations are in the majority. The numbers are Hindoos, agricultural, 17,699,000; non-agricultural, 8,024,—total 25,724,000. Mahomedans, agricultural, 1,894,000; non-agricultural, 2,653,000—total 4,547,000. The ratio of population to territory in the north-west province is about 420 inhabitants to each square mile, being considerably greater than that of England, which has but 335 to the square mile. As compared with English counties there are but Middlesex, Surrey, Lancashire, the West Riding, Warwick, and Cheshire, which have a denser population than these provinces, now the seat of the revolt in India. The seat of Government for these north-west provinces is at Agra, and not at Delhi, as is erroneously supposed by many.

At Cornwall, and within St John's Church, the 20th day of May, 1857—Which day the Presbytery of Glengarry met, and was duly constituted.

Inter alia.—Applications from Cote St. George, Dalhousie Mills and Indian Lands for ministerial supervision in Gaelic were made to the Presbytery; whereupon it was moved and unanimously agreed to, that the Presbytery, persuaded of the urgency of these applications, and the evils that would follow the disappointment of them, present a respectful and earnest application to the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland for two Gaelic missionaries to labour within the bounds of the Presbytery on the same principle and terms as, the Presbytery understood, the Committee adopt in the Lower Provinces; with the assurance that the Presbytery will use every endeavour to realise the expectations of the Committee in return. The Moderator and Clerk are instructed to forward an extract of the above minute with a detailed explanation of the necessities of the vacancies now within the bounds.

Extracted from the Records of the Presbytery of Glengarry by

PETER MACVICAR, Presbytery Clerk.

MANSE, MARTINTOWN,
July 29, 1857.

DEAR SIR,—Before fulfilling the instructions of the Presbytery respecting the vacancies within the bounds, we have thought it due to the probationers of the Church to obtain a statement of the capabilities of the said vacancies; because, however devoted to their Master's work they may be, it seems to us unreasonable to ask them to leave their native land, and come to labour among a people, of whose willingness or ability to afford a reasonable support to a minister they are altogether ignorant. We know they are sure of this while they continue as missionaries. But they cannot long act in that capacity. They will be urged, we might almost say compelled, by the wants of the people, to accept of fixed charges. Knowing this, we send you such information as we have been able to gather from the ruling elders of the vacant churches, and which may help licentiates to form some idea of the congregations which so earnestly desire their services. It is due to the vacancies also to premise, that they are not, in point of numbers, what they would be in a year or two, were active ministers placed in them—for the services which the Presbytery have been able to render, and the labours of a zealous missionary employed from time to time, owing to the wide field of his operations, have only served to keep the congregations from falling off. But we are persuaded, judging from congregations which have been similarly situated,

that a large increase will attend the labours of settled ministers in our vacant churches.

The following are the vacancies, and the information acquired regarding them:—

Cote St. George.—Has 52 subscribers (mainly heads of families) for the support of a minister. Amount subscribed £59, which, they say, they will raise to about £80. There is an excellent glebe of 50 acres. A manse will be built.

Dalhousie Mills.—Has 71 subscribers (mainly heads of families). Amount subscribed £47. A manse will be built. It is the opinion of the Presbytery, that it would be for the interests of the Church, and the good of both of the above congregations, if they would unite. The churches are not more than three miles apart; and the congregations remain separate mainly on account of the position of the glebe acquired by the Cote St. George people. But we believe that an active conciliatory minister, appearing among them, would unite and render them one of the largest congregations in Canada. For it is to be observed that the number of subscribers in vacant charges does not indicate their whole strength. Many will not subscribe for a minister till they see him, and some never subscribe at all, but pay as though they did.

INDIAN LANDS.—This church is situated in the middle of a large tract of country which had once been reserved as a hunting-ground for the Indians; but it never was used as such, owing to its rapid settlement by a large number of Highlanders. It is now a very populous district, with congregations connected with different branches of the Christian Church. About 30 to 40 families are firmly attached to the Church of Scotland; and there are many more, having no nominal connexion with any communion, who occasionally attend when there is service in the church, who might by pastoral supervision be made good members. The congregation do not wish a minister settled among them for the present, in case they might not be able to satisfy his just expectations; but they earnestly desire the services of a missionary almost exclusively for themselves for a year, in the hope that, by the end of that time, they will be in such a position as to induce him to choose theirs as his permanent field of labour.

VANKLEEK HILL.—The church reclaimed a few months ago from the Free Church. The people are not so destitute, however, as those of the other vacancies, as they are situate 7 and 8 miles respectively from Lochiel and L'Orignal, where they may hear the Word regularly preached by ministers of their own Church.

These are the principal vacancies in this Presbytery. But the first three are the most destitute. Cote St. George and Dalhousie Mills are about 24 and 21 miles east of Lochiel. The Indian Lands Church, again, is about 20 miles west of Lochiel, and 14 north of Martintown, and many of the people belonging to these churches reside at a still greater distance from these places, so that it is physically impossible for them to steadily join their brethren in the neighbourhood in observing the ordinances of God's House. But this is not all. In both districts the Gaelic is almost the only language used, and, therefore, the Presbyterial supply devolves altogether on three Gaelic-speaking members, who have very extensive fields and overgrown congregations to attend to, which already overtax their time and strength; and even the supply they are able to render can only be given in September and the winter months, owing to the communion seasons in summer, and the periodic rains in spring and the fall.

There may be some other things which might be mentioned, but the foregoing are, we believe, sufficient to show the necessities of the vacant charges within the bounds: wherefore we

beg respectfully to solicit the attention of the Colonial Committee to the accompanying minute of Presbytery, with the earnest hope that two Gaelic labourers may be found ready to "come over and help us."—We remain, &c.,

DONALD MACDONALD, Moderator of the
Presbytery of Glengarry.
PETER MACVICAR, Presbytery Clerk.

We insert in this No. a Circular from the Treasurer of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, addressed to Ministers, with a Statement to be read from their Pulpits. We trust that they will have the effect of eliciting an increased liberality in behalf of this excellent Fund.

MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA, IN CON-
NECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

MONTREAL, December 15, 1857.

DEAR SIR,

I beg leave to enclose the reports connected with this Fund which were submitted to the Synod and approved at its last meeting.

I take the present opportunity of reminding you that the time appointed by the Synod to take up a collection in aid of this Fund is the first Sabbath in January, and it is most desirable that the time should be adhered to as closely as possible, keeping in view the interests of the Fund.

The Board of Managers think that the very gratifying increase of the Congregational collections proves that the people are more alive to the importance of the Scheme than they have hitherto been. Nevertheless some Congregations give but little, and might be induced to give more if Ministers would advocate the claims of the Fund, and urge upon their people the duty of aiding it.

There are now 18 widows receiving annuities from the Board—a large number out of so small a body. I would take the liberty of suggesting to you to state this to your Congregation, and also to read the enclosed Statement, and any portions of the Reports that would, in your judgment, tend to call forth their liberality; also to give due notice of the time when the collection is to be taken up.

I am, dear Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

JOHN GREENSHIELDS,

Treasurer.

*Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund.—State-
ment to be read to Congregations.*

By the appointment of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, the Annual Collection in behalf of the "Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund" will be made on the first Sabbath of January, or as soon after as may be convenient.

The Board of Managers deem it their duty to remind Congregations of this appointment, and to press upon their attention the claims which this Scheme has on their liberality.

Many who took a deep interest in the prosperity of our Church, early perceived that a scheme of this nature was indispensable to its progress and efficiency, and, when the Widows' and Orphans' Fund was at length organised, several Congregations hailed its establishment with satisfaction, as it afforded them an opportunity of discharging a duty which they felt to be of sacred obligation. The increase of congregational collections for the past year tends to show that their conviction of the importance of this Scheme, and of their duty in respect to it, is more generally felt by Congregations. Yet the Managers of the Fund would fail in discharging their duty were they to allow the impression to go abroad that this conviction