

had completed his curriculum, and was awaiting license and ordination to return to his native Province. The Board learning this, appointed that he should labour in his native county and Presbytery on his return; but they are now informed that he, having studied latterly at Princeton, has remained hitherto in the United States, though he still expresses his intention to return. He is only doing what others did before him; and, as a young man's sympathies are apt to become identified with the country where he studies, and forms the first friendships of his life, such conduct is not to be much wondered at. But a few such failures, when our supply is, at the best, small, make all the difference between growth and stationariness to so small a church as ours. And even when young men faithfully carry out the letter of their engagements, and return—but unwillingly, or for a term of three or four years, they cannot be of much value to the church. A church must have ministers who cast in their lot with the people, and who are willing to make the country their home, if it is to prosper and strike its roots deep in the soil. (2) As to Divinity Students to act as catechists, we have never had any, because they all study far away from us. The Board has, therefore, ventured to engage two Gaelic-speaking Students in Arts to labour in Cape Breton, and their success and acceptance with the people is sufficient to show the value of such agency.

All these facts and views were considered by the Board at its annual meeting in Charlottetown, in 1872; and, there being then unanimity of sentiment, both as to the evil and as to the best practical remedy, the attention of the Synod was called to the subject. The Synod then declared it to be “expedient that the young men who study in our bounds, with a view to the ministry of our church, should be enabled to prosecute their studies in Divinity also in our midst; instructed their clerk to bring this deliverance before the notice of the Presbyteries of the church, and ascertain, for the information of the Synod at its next meeting, what amount could probably be depended on from each for such a scheme; empowered the H. M. Board to correspond with the Colonial Committee on the same subject, to ascertain if an annual grant could be obtained to carry it out efficiently; and requested the Board to specially consider the whole subject of Theological Education during the ensuing year.” In consequence of this deliverance, the subject was very fully discussed at the semi-annual meeting of the Board last December. The Convener again proposed the plan of co-operating with the P. C. L. P. in carrying on a Hall at Halifax, according to the same principles which have resulted so satisfactorily in the Faculty of Arts in the same city; but the other members of the Board present deemed the project inadvisable in the meantime; and that it would be better to work more energetically the Young Mens’ Scheme. This being the opinion of influential members of the Board, it would have been a waste of time to have taken any other of the steps recommended by the Synod, and so the whole subject dropped, and we are now in the position, understood even by recruits, of “as you were.”

The only Missionary who came to our field during the past year was the Rev. John M. Sutherland, who studied at Dalhousie College in Arts, and at Glasgow University in Divinity. The Board appointed him for the first three months to Halifax Presbytery, with the understanding that he should thereafter proceed to Broad Cove, C. B. Intimation was accordingly sent in February to the Chairman of Trustees of Broad Cove congregation, that Mr. Sutherland would be with them in May; but a letter came in reply that the congregation, not knowing that there was a likelihood of our sending them a minister, had, in December last, engaged half the services of a neighbouring Free Church minister for a twelve month. In the meantime, a request came from Pictou Presbytery for Mr. Sutherland’s services for a few weeks for Pugwash, and also a request from Bathurst, N. B., for a minister. Mr. Sutherland was accordingly sent to Pugwash in May, and to Bathurst in June. He is the sole Missionary at the disposal of the Board; and, as two or three calls are awaiting him, he is not likely to be at our disposal long.

With respect to funds for Home Mission purposes, they come from three sources,—the Colonial Committee, the collection enjoined by the Synod, and Presbytery subscriptions. The Board deals only with the first two, though it reports to the Synod the amount raised in the third way, so that a fair exhibit may be given of what our people do.

As to the sum drawn by us from the Colonial Committee, for the year ending 1st August, 1873, it is \$1,020, or £210 stg. The year previous, it was £319 and five years ago £1308. Any one who glances at the subjoined tables can see that, if all sections of the church obeyed the injunctions of the Synod, and co-operated heartily in the