

vinces should remember that the heaviest responsibilities in connection with the finances of the Church occur towards the close of the year. Professors must be paid, the salaries of missionaries remitted, and heavy disbursements made to the weaker congregations. It is, therefore, desirable that congregations should promptly forward any funds that may be on hand and that all should take their full share in maintaining the honour of the Church and in fulfilling her engagements.

We are happy to be able to state that Dr. McGregor is in a fair way of recovery from the severe illness that has given occasion for the foregoing intimation. ED. RECORD.

### HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

The Committee held its semi-annual meetings during the session of the Synod in St. Matthew's Church, Halifax.

The Chairman informed the committee that Rev. Dr. Cochrane requested assistance from this section towards mission work in Manitoba, the North West, and British Columbia. It was agreed to appropriate to that purpose the portion of the S.S. Memorial offering set apart for H. M. work, and to add to it such other sums as individuals or sessions might spontaneously contribute.

The Rev. D. F. Creelman being present, read a report of his summer's work in Bay of Islands, Newfoundland. Mr. Creelman had been recalled suddenly at the instance of the Foreign Mission Board, which had counted on sending him to Trinidad. After full consideration of all the circumstances, the Home Mission Committee agreed unanimously to earnestly request Mr. Creelman to accept an appointment as missionary to Bay of Islands, Newfoundland, for the winter at least.

At the next meeting the Chairman reported that Mr. Creelman had accepted the call of the Committee, and would proceed forthwith to Newfoundland. The Committee then resolved, understanding that \$500 might be depended on from the people, and \$150 from the Presbytery of St. John's, to fix the salary at the rate of \$800 per annum, hoping, however, that the Presbytery would assume the whole responsibility in this matter of salary.

### MR. CREELMAN'S REPORT.

Having been appointed to labour in Bay of Islands on the west coast of Newfoundland, during the past summer, I left Halifax on May 6th and arrived there on the 14th. The

Bay proper is a sheet of water about fifteen miles square, but divided into three arms, running generally parallel, east and west. The southern arm, known as Humber Sound, is about fifteen miles long and from one to three broad. Into the head of this arm flows the Humber, a large beautiful river flowing near its mouth through mountains of marble, from 200 feet to 800 feet high. About ten miles up that river is a lake, through which the river flows, called Deer Pond, about 20 miles long and from 1 to 3 broad. At the head and foot of this lake along the shores of the Humber Sound, settlements have been formed, but principally on the Sound. The total population is about 1500.

The Presbyterians are scattered over an extent of 40 miles, the only communication being by boats. They are, however, principally, with the exception of a large number of young men, settled in two coves on the south side of the Humber Sound, 2 and 5 miles respectively from its head. In the upper cove, called Corner Brook, a large lumbering establishment is situated. Within the last six months our people with a little help from other denominations have built a school-house in this cove, which is nearly finished, and is open to all Protestants. The Protestants have also a school-house in the other cove, in which our people have settled, and in these two school-houses I conducted service and Sabbath-school regularly on Sabbath mornings and afternoons. The attendance was from 20 to 40. Both Sabbath-schools were encouraging.

Being directed by the Newfoundland Presbytery to organize a congregation and build a church, if possible, I accordingly undertook both. There are about 175 Presbyterians, (60 of whom are children under 12 years of age,) and of them only 9 so far as I could learn are members. A few gave me their names as applicants for membership, and some men, who had not the opportunity after intimation was given, I have reason to believe would do so, and so the prospects of organizing a congregation and appointing a session before the end of the year were very encouraging.

The people, too, entered heartily into church-building. About \$500 have been subscribed for that purpose, two meetings were held, a contract let, site chosen, arrangements completed, and operations commenced, for erecting a church 20 feet by 36 feet, and finishing it for November, on the outside, and, within, ready for the plaster.

Speaking generally, mission work was progressing steadily and surely. I had visited all the people once, and the greater