

its influence to heathen lands. The remedy is in the hands of our ministers and people. Our ministers must do more than has been done in the past to seek out suitable young men, to encourage, train, and otherwise assist them; and our people must be willing to dedicate their choicest sons, and to bring them up with a view to the work of the ministry of Christ.

"Though the number of ministers has not increased, the Board has been not only successful in putting our Church in a more satisfactory financial position than it was in before, but it has also called into existence a class of labourers that other Churches in the Colonies have found most useful, whose labours tend greatly to the formation of new congregations, and who in part are prepared by these labours for the work of the ministry. Three years ago, the Colonial Committee being unable to send us Gaelic speaking ministers, sent us a Catechist, who was to be employed in Cape Breton during the Summer months, and to study for the ministry in Winter. The Board employed him, and the year following sent a student to the same field. These proving successful, we employed four last year; and this Summer we have eight at work, namely, Messrs. McLean, McEachern, Gordon, and Doherty in Cape Breton; Mr. Stewart in Pictou; Mr. McLeod in Prince Edward Island; and Messrs. Fitzpatrick and Carruthers in New Brunswick. Four of these are men sent out by the Colonial Committee. Partly to meet their salaries we have to draw more from the Colonial Committee this year than we did last year. But these men are doing good work, and we are greatly indebted to the Colonial Committee for sending them, and for granting money so liberally for their support.

"Having succeeded to so great an extent in making the Church self-sustaining, the Board last year turned its attention to what it had always considered to be its next work, namely, to call the attention of the Church to the duty of increasing the stipends of ministers. The minimum stipend, and it was generally the maximum also, had been indirectly settled for us by the Colonial Committee long ago at £150 stg., or \$730. In the report of year before last, it was pointed out that in common justice the minimum now should be not less than \$1000, and in last year's Report suggestions were made as to how this sum could be made up. The principle was laid down that when part of the increase had to come from the Synod's Home Mission or the Colonial Committee, in no case should it be larger than the increase by the congregation, and that after two years the moiety from the Board should diminish annually by at least \$20. The Revd. R. J. Cameron, Ex-Convener, being in Scotland last year, called the attention of the Colonial Committee to this proposal, and received assurances that if pressed by us it would receive their favourable consideration. No definite action, however, was taken with reference to the proposal, at either meeting of Synod in 1874; and consequently at our first meeting this year the Board took the responsibility on itself. A circular was prepared, published in the RECORD, and also sent to every congregation interested in the subject. As the result, three requests have been made on behalf of congregations in three different Presbyteries, for the benefit of the scheme, and these requests have all been entertained by the Board. The congregations are, Campbelton in Restigouche, Georgetown in P. E. I., and Truro in Halifax Presbytery. To show the practical operation of the scheme, it is enough to point out that the salaries in those congregations will be raised *permanently* from \$730, \$700, and \$800 respectively, to \$870, \$960, and \$1000, at a cost to the Board of, at the most, \$325 for two years, the Board's moiety to diminish regularly thereafter, and to cease in five years. The Board in placing these congregations on the new scheme and in asking for the assistance of the Colonial Committee in the matter is sorry that all three have not put forth effort sufficient to make the salaries \$1000, and that more of our congregations have not responded to the circular, but they trust that the effort thus commenced will be taken up by the United Church, and pressed again on the people until every regularly ordained and inducted minister can depend on a stipend of at least \$1000.

"In the two last annual reports, the necessity of securing a training for our students, in Divinity as well as Arts, within our own borders, was explained; and last June the Synod took definite action in the matter, authorized the Board to negotiate with the Sister Church respecting adding a Professor to the staff in their Theological Hall, and to communicate with the Colonial Committee on the subject. The Sister Church heartily accepted the proposed co-operation, and satisfactory correspondence was held with the Colonial Committee. The Synod last October instructed the Board to press the matter on the Colonial Committee, and recommended the Rev. Allan Pollok to the Committee as a suitable person to fill the chair of Church History and