

rious ways obstructing their work—causing disappointment to congregations, diminishing the amount of their contributions, and occasioning heavier drafts on the Treasury than might have been necessary otherwise. The following extracts from a report by Mr. Darragh, will afford a specimen of the difficulties with which a Home Missionary has sometimes to contend:—

“On the very day I received notice from the Clerk of Presbytery, I started for Country Harbour. I got to Tatamageuche on Wednesday evening, I stopped then for the night with Brother Sedgewick. On Thursday there was a rain storm so severe that no one could travel. On Friday I resolved still to proceed, but in the morning to my great astonishment and disappointment, I found that my horse was crippled and could not travel. I was advised to take him to a horse doctor to see what was the matter—this would take me five miles back. Before I got to the place where the man lived, the horse could proceed no further. I was in a fix—it was no use to stand on the road and look at the poor beast. I took up his lame foot, and found by examination with my knife, that a long rusty nail had penetrated the sole of his foot, near the heel and along side the frog. After much difficulty I got it extracted, and plugged up the wound with wad. I then began a slow and painful journey toward home, which I at length reached. The day after I got home, the horse could not move in the stable. I felt sorry and disappointed, but I could not help it. I at once wrote the Clerk of Presbytery and explained as above to him. It appears since he did not receive it in time—through some delay of the Way Office in forwarding it to Pugwash.

After long waiting I received another note from the Clerk of Presbytery, directing me to proceed if possible to Caledonia, and preach there on the 1st Sabbath of December. This like the former came too late—but I resolved if possible to be there—the mail had gone—my horse was still lame—there was no other mail till Saturday. But I could not brook the idea of another failure. On the very day I received the intimation, I went seven miles and bought another horse. I did not wait to go home with him, but next morning at sunrise started from the place where I was for Caledonia. The western roads were almost impassable. On Friday evening I reached Pictou, my horse was tired out and could go no further; I found out there that even with a fresh horse, it would be in the present state of the roads, impossible to reach Caledonia on Saturday, in time to give notice of preaching on Sabbath. I was therefore compelled by a stern necessity, to remain in Pictou over the Sabbath.”

The following is an abstract of the expenditure of the Board, since giving in their last report:—

Grants and supplements to weak congregations,	£210	0	0
Payments to Home Missionaries,	162	7	2
Paid to eight Catechists in Cape Breton,	48	0	0
Miscellaneous payments, chiefly for travelling expenses of settled ministers on missionary appointments,	23	19	9
	444	6	11

The Board have endeavoured to make some progress towards carrying out a uniform system, in reference to the payment of supplements to weak congregations; but are not yet in possession of sufficient information to enable them to complete the plan. They recommend, however, that £30 be promised to West Cornwallis for one year, on the understanding that the people raise £110, inclusive of land rents; and that the supplement to Lawrence-town and Musquodoboit Harbour be £20, conditional on the congregation raising £90.

The Board beg to submit, for the consideration of Synod, the following set of rules for the guidance of their Missionaries:—

RULES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF HOME MISSIONARIES.

Adopted by Synod of the Lower Provinces, 1862.

I. Missionaries are required to labour in the localities and discharge the duties