

withdrawal of the Students, at the beginning of September, our available Home Missionaries were only eight, a number barely sufficient, then and now, to meet the wants of two Presbyteries. Since that time we have had but little increase, until quite recently, so that the Board has for some time past the year been periodically attempting to solve the question, how to make six or eight Probationers do the work for which 12 or 16 are required.

LICENTIATES.

Within the year past only one Preacher has been licensed within our limits, Mr. John Murray, who having completed his studies in Edinburgh was licensed by the Presbytery of Prince Edward Island and has been auspiciously settled in the congregation of New London South, and Granville. Mr. Rosborough, however, has been licensed by the Presbytery of New Brunswick, in New Jersey, and having been welcomed home by the Presbytery of St. John, is now employed in the interesting mission field on the Tobique, the claims of which have at different times been laid fully before the Church. In a very short time too we expect that Messrs. E. D. Miller and John Wallace, young Nova Scotians and Dalhousie Students, will probably be among us as Licentiates.

Messrs. John Gillis and Isaac Baird, also from the Lower Provinces, completed their theological studies at New York, and were licensed, but having accepted of appointments from the Presbyterian Church of the United States, to labour among the Aboriginal tribes of America, they were ordained and proceeded at once to their post of duty.

GAELIC PREACHERS.

We have again to record gratefully our obligations to the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, for another accession to our Gaelic speaking Preachers. Messrs. Peter Clarke and John Sutherland arrived in August and September of last year, and have ever since been employed in Cape Breton with the exception of some six weeks spent by Mr. Sutherland at Woodville and Little Sands in P. E. Island, vacant by the resignation of its late Pastor, Rev. Donald McNeill. Mr. Sutherland has been settled at West Bay over a united people, and Mr. Clarke, after labouring for the fall and greater part of the winter, in the Presbytery of Victoria and Richmond, has for the last few months been supplying destitute places in Cape Breton Presbytery, and will soon be engaged in ministering to the spiritual wants of the long vacant congregation of Cape North. The Board acknowledges promptly the cooperation of Mr. Peter Hope, and the liberality of the

Colonial Committee in paying the passages of these two brethren to Halifax.

OTHER ACCESSIONS.

The Board have also to note the return among us of Rev. J. A. F. Sutherland, after nearly a year's absence; and aid for eight months from Rev. John Gauld of Maitland, Ontario, who spent the winter among us, and faithfully fulfilled the appointments given him in New Brunswick, P. E. Island, and Nova Scotia. In this connection we may notice that Rev. Samuel Archibald is at present on the Home field, and that the services of Rev. W. C. Young of Ontario, and of Rev. Mr. Gillies of the Province of Quebec, have been offered and accepted for portions at least of the present season.

OUR WANTS.

Early in the season the Board gave earnest consideration to the state of the Church as respects the demand for Preachers and the probable supply. The result was as follows:—

In St. John Presbytery, 4 vacancies and 5 or 6 stations.
 " Pictou Presbytery, 4 vacancies.
 " Truro " 2 "
 " Halifax " 7 " and 5 stations.
 " Lunenburg & Yarmouth Presbytery, 1 vacancy.
 " Cape Breton Presbytery, 2 vacancies.
 " Victoria & Richmond Presbytery, 2 vacancies.
 " P. E. Island Presbytery, 4 vacancies.
 " Miramichi " 0 " and 1 station.

Making twenty-six congregations ready to call Pastors, and probably fifteen Mission Stations, able to provide on an average half of the means needful for supply at least for the summer season.

The Board immediately and unanimously resolved:—

1st. That the Secretary be authorized to request our own young men abroad prosecuting their theological studies, to return, and to ascertain how many of the young men attending our own Hall will accept of Home Mission work during the summer.

2nd. To write and and invite six young men from Princeton and Union Theological Seminaries, New York to come over and help us.

3rd. To request Mr. E. D. Miller, in Edinburgh, to make inquiry, and authorize Rev. Mr. Sedgwick and him to engage five Preachers from the Free and United Presbyterian Churches, if suitable men can be obtained, our agents to act in concert with the Rev. Peter Hope and Rev. Dr. Scott, the Agents of these Scottish Churches.