

contributions of the church, nearly \$6000 are contributed by five congregations, or considerably more than the third of the whole. But we trust that taking into consideration the natural wealth of the country, we will soon see a great improvement in this respect. In the meantime we cannot do better than lay before our readers a quotation from the appropriate address delivered by the present Moderator, and which is as applicable to ourselves as to Canada.

"The responsibility of the Synod and and Presbyteries is peculiarly great. No delicacy of feeling should hinder them from devising and carrying into prompt operation an economy that would set the minds of Ministers free from the absorbing, racking, cares of life, an economy liberal, yet prudent, that would check avarice, repress selfishness and be a sure token that Christian charity and benevolence (the genuine fruits of Christianity) were prevailing more largely in every congregation. Unless something of this sort be done, you may legislate as you may for the spiritual welfare of the people under your superintendence. You may put forth the most assiduous efforts for the extension of the Church. You may be zealous for the conversion of the heathen to the faith of Christ. But your laws will stand inoperative on your records, evidences of a pretentious zeal and monuments of folly; your College Halls will be deserted; your churches will be empty; your pulpits supplied from the very refuse of corrupted humanity.

The hardships and privations incident to new settlements have hitherto prevented and will for some time continue to prevent the formation of an efficient ecclesiastical organization. Inability at first becomes indifference in better circumstances, and the Minister, who contentedly toiled with his flock in poverty, is left to toil on without sharing the fruits of their prosperity. Inadequately and irregularly paid, he is too often driven from a field where his affections centred, and they are left without the regular administration of Divine ordinance, or to find a successor whose qualifications seldom rise above the miserable pittance they bestow. It is the natural effect of the voluntary system that the ability of the labourer is generally in proportion to the price paid for his work. In a worldly-minded age such as this, and where men are so indifferent to their true interests, that they must be pressed into the Kingdom of Heaven, there can be little expectation that under such a system Religion will flourish, or the knowledge of the Gospel be greatly extended.

"They that serve at the altar shall live by the altar. That they may wholly devote themselves to their work, their maintenance must be adequate, and steadily and regularly paid."

MISSIONARY REPORT OF THE REV. G. W. STEWART.

The subjoined Report though in every way excellent, and affording the most pleasing proof that progress continues to be made at Musquodoboit and Truro, is, taking into consideration the fact that the same ground has been travelled over now for the fourth time, in the pages of the Record, by our laborious and devoted missionary, Mr. Stewart, much too lengthy for our pages. It ought to be kept in mind that the space at our disposal is limited, that it is desirable to have as much variety as possible in order to sustain the interest of our Periodical and that it is impossible to avoid a certain amount of sameness and repetition in giving repeated accounts of the performance of ministerial labour between two settlements. Mr. Stewart, we may almost say is *de facto* minister of Musquodoboit and Truro, and the relation of his services, though in every respect important, and most satisfactory, do not perhaps so far differ from the ordinary round of clerical labour to afford general interest to our readers in other parts of the country. Wherever new ground is broken by the missionary we shall of course most readily give detailed publicity to all such Reports, because they cannot but be interesting to all our people. But when the ground has once been gone over, we would suggest that our missionaries rest satisfied with a column or a column and a half of our Journal. However we merely throw out this as a suggestion. When a Presbytery orders, the publication of a Report, of course it must appear, if there is room for it at all; but it would be well if Presbyteries, looking at our limited space, would take the matter into consideration.

Let it not be thought for one moment that we undervalue Mr. Stewart's labours. He has placed the Church under a deep debt of gratitude to him, by building up two thriving and promising congregations, where missionary work had been carried on for many years previously without much sensible progress. All honour to this devoted and successful workman.

In consequence of the change to take place in our mode of publication next year, our articles must necessarily be of a moderate length, and we bespeak for the Record the sympathy and aid of all friends of our beloved Zion in all parts of our scattered field.