

Since that date there have been added, Tatamagouche, by the demission of the Rev. James Byers, and Barrington, Clyde River, &c., which have been organized as a separate ministerial charge, and Parrsborough by the demission of the Rev. J. McG. McKay. Besides these the congregation of Maitland and Noel has been receiving supply in consequence of the age and infirmity of their present pastor, so that twelve congregations have received supply for shorter or longer periods. Of these, however, three, viz., Economy, Princetown, and Antigonish have, during the year, been successful in obtaining settled pastors, leaving still as last year, nine congregations requiring supply of preaching, for which as already intimated, there are only four probationers at our disposal. The Board are happy to remark that such is the improved financial arrangements of these congregations, that, with the exception of one or two, they pay the probationers in full, a remarkable contrast to what has been in some former years, when large congregations were content to have their supply paid out of the Home Mission fund, or what amounted to the same thing, to have the money borrowed and not repaid. The only exceptions this year were Clyde River, and for the supply of Port Hood, in common with Mabou congregation, both of which deserve aid as weak congregations, and in both of which the field is strictly missionary ground.

#### MISSION STATIONS.

With the regularly organized vacant congregations thus so numerous and the supply so inadequate, it may be supposed that the mission stations have, during the past year, received but a small share of attention. The deficiency has been partly supplied by the labours of members of Presbytery. The stations of Acadia Mines and Folly Mountain, in the Presbytery of Truro, have thus been supplied by members of that Presbytery, and the Rev. James Allan has at great labour and inconvenience supplied Charlottetown in the evenings, after preaching at home generally in two places. This service he has performed for several months, even during the severest weather. These and the other stations, Wallace River, Sheet Harbour, Rawdon and Baddeck have also received some supply from the Probationers. We may add that

the people at Westchester Mountain have been for some time supplied every third Sabbath, by Mr. Robert Grant, according to their own application to the Presbytery of Truro. It must be at once seen, however, that all the supply that can thus be given is entirely inadequate, nay more, it is useless to conceal that these stations not only cannot grow, but must decay and die, under such a system. With preaching only for four or five Sabbaths in the year, how can it be expected that they can ever increase in numbers or in strength. Of only one of these do we feel it necessary to remark, viz., Charlottetown. From the reports presented the Board are happy to understand that the prospects are most favourable. Should the Union take place, and should the adherents of the two bodies in Charlottetown unite as one congregation, the united church will have to congratulate itself on having a place of worship which will be a credit to them, and an efficient congregation. Should however they maintain their separate existence, though both would be feeble for some time, yet we are happy to find that the prospects of increase are most encouraging.

#### SUPPLEMENTING STIPENDS.

During the past year the congregations receiving aid in this form have been Harvey and Annapolis and Bridgetown. The former has received the sum of £20 being the amount due for two years. The latter has received the full sum of £50 it having been duly certified that the congregation had paid the full sum of £100 required of it. We are happy to observe that the congregation has during the past year made gratifying progress. The people of Annapolis have completed, with the aid of friends in other parts of the church, a neat and convenient place of worship, and the people of Bridgetown are actively engaged in measures for erecting one in that place. According to the injunction of synod the Board have agreed to offer the supplement of £25 to the congregation of Clyde River and Barrington, on their raising the sum of £100. But as no minister has yet been settled there, this has not been demanded. An agreement was also made on application of the Presbytery of Truro for the supplementing of the congregation of the Parrsborough, and a grant made to it of £12 10s., afterwards in-