

and in procedure itself, is owing to the fact that, latterly the Church has been enabled to pursue a policy more actively aggressive than could be expected or realised, by the occasional missionary labors of settled pastors. From sources both external and internal, considerable and cheering accessions have been made to the missionary ranks; and the necessity for employing means in possession naturally led to more minute and searching enquiry into existing destitution; and hence attention to known wants, for which no provision could previously have been made, has led to the knowledge of localities, where Presbyterians had lived for years unknown and uncared for; and hence also the influence of awakened activity on the Church herself. One position occupied has led to others, until the missionary work of the Church embraces an extent, and requires an amount of labor cheering in itself, and its bearings upon the future; and yet the Board believe only in its infancy. New life has, as it were, been infused into the Church, manifested in a depth of interest, and in an awakened activity destined never again to slumber; and may we not cherish the hope that we shall "see greater things than these."

Through these instrumentalities, the principles and objects of the Church are becoming more extensively known, have been met by corresponding interest and appreciation, and that desire for religious instruction is strongly manifesting itself, wherever the directions of Synod have been observed by the agents of the Church.

To give efficiency and perpetuity to Home Mission work, there is an element in the operations of the Board requiring anxious and watchful attention. The Board refer to the organization of stations and the erection of churches. This portion of the work is becoming annually more enlarged, affording ample scope for a judicious appropriation of funds, and presenting the means of at once uniting and giving stability to the scattered and disjointed elements of Presbyterianism in the Synod's connection, by giving to the people something around which both their

feelings and interests may concentrate themselves. During the year offers of aid have been made and accepted by different localities, and there is a probability that similar assistance will be required, by others, since this part of the Board's operations began, and has been extended to Rawdon, Parsboro, Wallace River, Folly Mountain, and offered to Maccan, Harvey, Cape Sable Island, Annapolis and Baddeck, while from some other places applications are expected. To the case of Harvey, the Board would call the special attention of the Synod. Its importance in relation to surrounding localities, the firm adherence of the congregation to the Synod, notwithstanding the extraordinary efforts made to alienate their affections, even after a declared organization and formal connection with, and recognition of our Church—the difficulties to which they have been perseveringly exposed, and the loss sustained in the unjustifiable conveyance of their church to a different body, with whom they had, as a congregation, no ecclesiastical connection. All these things which have come under the special supervision of the Presbytery of Truro, and which can be ascertained through the regular channel, call loudly for a special effort not merely for aid to enable them to build anew, but for such an expression of sentiment, as will mark the Synod's sympathy with the congregation, and their views of the treatment which they have received.

With reference to aid in the erection of churches, the Board would observe, that latterly it has been granted only on satisfactory evidence, that the church was held by Trustees in the name and for the use of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia. Of the justice and propriety of this step, it is conceived that there can be no doubt. Experience has fully proved the bad consequences of insecurity of title, as well as the evils arising from diversity of rights, held by different denominations in the same house. This portion of their work the Board design to prosecute as fully as possible, satisfied that in so doing they will be sustained by the Church.