

been inducted to River John, and the stipend settled for the first year is £80. Mr. McWilliam, we understand, is laboring at Barney's River and adjacent places,—in which, should a settlement take place, not more than £100 or £120 could be expected as the maximum. In P. E. Island stations, the Rev. Mr. Cullen is laboring. It is true these stations promised and paid to the Rev. Mr. Grant £150, but then he did an amount of work which it would be unreasonable to expect from any man, inasmuch as no one person could have continued to perform it without serious and permanent injury to his constitution. Should these stations contribute £100 Nova Scotia currency for a year or two, we could not, considering all things, find much fault with them. In Cape Breton, which has been so long neglected, and where, besides, there is more poverty than wealth, we are afraid that for the first year even a permanent missionary would not realize much more than £50.

We do not mention McLennan's Mountain, as we are happy to say that it is now self-supporting.

We have thus gone over the different stations occupied by our new ministers. Taken in the aggregate, they are seven in number—and, according to our moderate computation, may yield a gross annual revenue of £560—viz.: Musquodoboit, £80; Turo, £75; Pugwash, £75; River John, £80; Barney's River, £100; P. E. I., £100; Cape Breton, £50. This we should call the maximum for the first year, and certainly will not exceed, it may be hardly come up to, that figure. This sum has to be divided among seven clergymen, giving an average of £80 a-year to each. Allowing the low standard of £150 currency to each, this will leave the not inconsiderable sum of £490 to be provided from other quarters. This is leaving out of account the congregations of the Rev. Mr. Gunn and the Rev. Mr. McCurdy. It is true that if we do not or are not able to raise the supplement required, the Church at Home may and probably will, for a year or so, make up the deficiency—but that is a contingency which should not be thought of under scarcely any circumstances, and at best can only be expected to afford a temporary relief.

We have now placed before the members of our Church, in very plain and simple lan-

guage, the extent of the requirements to be met in the Home Field; and the next question is naturally the consideration how they are to be met. We trust that it is not necessary to say a word as to the importance, the absolute necessity of putting forth every effort to keep the ground we have taken up. Unless we do so, we, as a Church, and a distinctive religious body in this Province, will be exposed to great danger. Nor can we otherwise see much prospect of being able to keep together. This is a cause, then, we scarcely require to use any argument in pleading. The facts stated above ought to be sufficient for every purpose; if they are not, nothing that we could say is very likely to be more effectual.

A few words, then, as to the manner in which the sum of £490 might be raised. And first of all, we think it would be well for each Presbytery to endeavour, by an organisation within itself, to provide for and be responsible for its own Missionary requirement. We are not afraid but that the rich Presbytery of Halifax could easily find ways and means of realising its deficiency of £150. It consists at present of three rich and long established congregations, and we have little fear that with the stamina, both lay and clerical, within them, that duty will be both an ease and a pleasure to them. To the Presbytery of Pictou the burden would be much heavier, while the means are not so great. £295 is a large sum to be provided by a strictly rural Presbytery; but this includes Cape Breton, and we have little doubt that for a year or two the Church at Home would cheerfully undertake the responsibility of providing for that too long neglected field. Would £200 then, be too much for eight established congregations to raise annually for a time, to uphold their weaker brethren? We can scarcely think so, and if well apportioned and systematically looked after, would neither be felt nor grudged. The comparatively small sum of £50 would remain for the Presbytery of Prince Edward Island, to be met by one congregation with large means, and another with larger numbers.

Such a plan would at once relieve the Church from all anxiety in this direction for the future. The responsibility, if fairly divided and judiciously managed, would be comparatively light upon each congregation, and the result would be most happy. Add to this—we have a right to expect that each coming year would find the claims decreasing in amount, and in half-a-dozen years the greater number of the stations we have mentioned would probably be flourishing and self-supporting congregations—able it may be, in their turn, to spare a little to younger and still rising stations. In conclusion, it is evident that if we wish to maintain our present position, we must do something more than theorise. The time is upon us, when we must devise and execute, and we trust and believe that the