

"to them through the Committee." Of the intention of this resolution there can be no doubt. The Presbytery of London, at the time referred to, had a number of *desirable vacancies*; and so anxious were some Probationers for settlement that Mr. Proudfoot's time was unduly occupied in writing and receiving letters so as to secure to the numerous applicants a hearing in these vacancies. Meanwhile, lest engagements in other quarters should prevent their being heard, many Probationers declined the appointments made by the Committee, and the less desirable vacancies throughout the Church were neglected. These probationers at the same time either were unoccupied part of their time, or were giving supply at no great distance, waiting for a hearing in the good vacancies, as that could be obtained by private arrangement made with the congregations with consent of Messrs. Proudfoot and Clarke. The resolution was designed to stop this unhappy state of affairs; to secure to all Probationers alike, and on equal terms, a hearing in order in all the vacancies; and to secure to all vacancies, the less as well as the more desirable, a hearing of all Probationers in order. For this end it is necessary that all Probationers should take appointments from the Committee; otherwise we shall still have some seeking by private arrangement access to the better vacancies, to the manifest prejudice of those who are prepared in a self-denied spirit to visit all vacancies in order.

The Synod never intended to shut vacancies against *Ministers in charge*. Any Kirk Session of a vacant congregation can at any time, with the consent of the Presbytery of the bounds, invite Ministers in charge to supply the pulpit. In like manner the Committee have regarded all Ministers or Probationers *regularly employed* in the Mission field, or as assistants, as on the same footing, having an unquestioned right to supply any vacancy when requested by a Presbytery to do so; and further, any Probationer having appointments from the Committee, may, with consent of the Presbytery to which he is appointed, preach in any vacancy when requested to do so by the Presbytery of the bounds. It may also be of use to note that the Committee distributes the Probationers among the Presbyteries according to the number of vacancies in each. *It never appoints any individual man to a particular congregation.* The patronage, if any there be, lies with the Presbyteries, who supply vacancies in any way they see fit, with the single limitation, that if any man is unwilling to visit the vacancies in order, the Presbytery is forbidden to employ him in good vacancies to the prejudice of other Probationers. They may, however, employ such a man in the Mission field, or in a vacancy for a lengthened time as constant supply.

It is hoped that these remarks may tend to remove misconception, and allay any unpleasant feelings which may have arisen in the minds of some who are, amidst discouragements, self-denial, and discomfort, trying faithfully to serve the Church, and build up the languishing places of our Zion.

J. L.

### THE WEEK OF PRAYER AND WORK OF REVIVAL.

The week of prayer was generally observed throughout this continent as throughout the Christian world, and the meetings were in many cases interesting and refreshing. In most instances, the meetings partook of the union character, being addressed by ministers of different denominations, and held, when circumstances permitted, in different churches, on the