

lax in doctrine every year. It has also lost its affection for the voluntary societies which it once prized so highly. It seems very probable at present that the old breach will be healed this year or the next.

The "Old School" bore with slavery too long and too patiently, and the consequences were very disastrous. The "New School" endured too great a laxity in doctrine and discipline, and it too has suffered. But in spite of all drawbacks these churches are noble branches of the Reformed family. Their exertions in the foreign Mission field have been very great, and their success is commensurate. In China, Japan, India, Persia, Turkey, Brazil, Chili, and many other dark places their messengers have laboured long. Their exertions to overtake the vast Home Mission work have been prodigious. Hundreds of new churches are organized every year. Their zeal, liberality and prompt recognition of the wants of the time furnish a valuable lesson to our own churches. Their wealthier congregations give collections for Home Mission work, ranging from One Thousand to Twenty Thousand Dollars! They have a systematic way of helping weak congregations to build churches, and of planting churches where none now exist. They support their colleges, and aid students with the greatest liberality. Living religion seems to flourish among them,—the additions to the churches being very large. When the disruption of 1838 is healed, we shall see a body of more than Four Thousand ministers belonging to the same ecclesiastical connection. The smaller Presbyterian Churches in the United States number more than another Thousand. Lord, hasten the day when all the breaches in Thy Zion will be healed!

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### THE SUPPLEMENTARY FUND.

The agents of this fund, in addressing congregations, besides showing that the measure was just and wise, and founded directly on the teachings of divine truth, appealed with much propriety and force to the stimulating examples of the parent churches. And as the larger number of

our churches in Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, and we may include Newfoundland and Bermuda, will not be called upon by any agent or delegate before the meeting of Synod, prior to which all the congregations are expected to contribute, we shall lay before them the leading facts, by which the Parent churches loudly call on us to imitate their example.

The Free Church Sustentation fund, has made itself known throughout the world, and all we deem necessary now, is to republish a few figures, shewing how, the people of that church suddenly thrown on their own resources, met the occasion; and how their revenues from the free contributions of their liberal members have steadily risen, till every minister in the body, no matter how remote or how poor his charge, receives his £150 sterling, (\$750) per annum, and nearly every one has besides a comfortable manse. It is well known, of course that, in the cities the salaries are twice and thrice that amount; but yet those cities furnish the chief source of supply by which the satisfactory results have been attained which appear in the following statement:—

"In the first year of the Free Church, the Sustentation Fund equal dividend, was £105 stg; in the five years from 1849 to 1854, the equal dividend was £122; in the next five years it was £133; in the next five years £137; in the next five years £143; and last year £150. Within this period, too, the number of Ministers and congregations increased from 400 or 500 to 864. And besides, the average supplement has risen from £53 in 1849 to £74 in 1868.

So far as the United Presbyterian Church is concerned, we are persuaded that some fuller statement is required, and know of nothing more satisfactory than the subjoined article, slightly condensed from the December number of the U. P. M. Record. It is carefully written by the Rev. Robert S. Scott, the Home Secretary, and will doubtless be read throughout the the body with interest and good effect:—

For some time previous to the close of the year 1865, the attention of the Home Committee of the Board of Missions was earnestly directed to the state of stipends in the smaller congregations on the roll of the United Presbyterian Synod. and to the