

strength. Had we to care for the spiritual interest of these provinces only, there would be no need of appeal for men or money from us to any other Church. In the province of New Brunswick there is a very extensive home mission field, and in no part of it is there a large homogeneous Presbyterian population as in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

"Our congregations often consist of four, five, or more stations, at considerable distance apart. In each station is a handful of families, composed of immigrants from New England, the North of Ireland, and Scotland, or the descendants of the original settlers, who are struggling to maintain ordinances amid difficulties enough to weary out any but the strongest faith and hope. In some districts recent colonies from Scotland, Ireland, Iceland, &c, have been formed. These newly-arrived bands require every shilling they bring with them to procure the bare necessities of life. Our Church must provide for them the ordinance of religion, or their children must grow up as adherents of Churches less pure than the Church of their fathers, or become through neglect of ordinances, ignorant of and careless about the Gospel altogether. While we gladly welcome such immigrants to our shores, and, as a Church, do all in our power to follow them with the Gospel, we doubt not that parent Churches will also acknowledge their claim, and will follow them with prayer and such ministrations as shall meet their spiritual necessities most effectually.

"What, then, is the work that our Church has to gird itself up for over these maritime provinces? All the interior and exterior work that an independent Church in an independent field has to undertake. We must train our young men for the ministry, and to accomplish this we have to establish and equip suitable educational institutions. As the Government of

Nova Scotia was not in a position to endow a college without our co-operation, we have had to raise a capital sum of about £15,000 for this purpose. This has hitherto prevented us from concentrating our energies on our Halifax Theological Hall. To maintain it in efficiency, at least £1300 a-year are required. We have also a bursary fund to assist deserving students. While the establishment of an institution for the training a native ministry is not so showy as direct missionary work, it is indispensable to our existence. We have, therefore, to a knowledge with special gratitude that the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland pays the salary of one of the professors. Not only for the supply of ministers is the Hall a necessity, but experience has shown that the best catechists we can get are our divinity students, whom we employ for six months of the year.

"To carry on our home mission operations, and to supplement the stipends of ministers in new settlements and weak congregations, we require £2000 a-year. For the assistance of this work given us in the past by the Irish Church, the Free Church of Scotland, and the Established Church, we are most grateful. It is only right to mention here that, though the necessities of our own field are clamant, we do not shut our ears to the cry of the heathen abroad. Our missionaries are to be found in the South Seas, among the coolies of Trinidad and in India. And with regard to our work at home, we are also establishing a Widows' and Orphans' Fund, an aged and infirm Ministers' Fund, and are making strenuous efforts for the evangelisation of our French Roman Catholic fellow-countrymen, besides aiding Bible Society and general colportage work.

"We have no lands, no endowments; no grants from the Government, and we are a new Church, called upon to do everything at once. Our organized congregations, whose membership on an