

Society having more money than it knows what to do with, conveys an impression of its financial position which is, to say the least, inaccurate.

Last April a sum of \$10,000 was handed to Rev. Dr. Reid to enable him to pay the salaries and other necessary expenses of our missionary women for the current year, as far as it would go. This transaction was in no sense a loan to the Foreign Mission Committee. It was merely a discharge of indebtedness at the beginning of the year instead of at the close. This sum will help to meet the estimates for the present year. There is also in Dr. Reid's hands \$4,662.08, unexpended from last year on account of unavoidable delay in the erection of buildings in India, the money having been set apart for that purpose in last year's estimates. And there is \$2,092.94 received this year now in the Bank.

It will thus be easily seen that unless Auxiliaries and Bands remain faithful and loyal to the terms of the constitution, the Society will not be able to meet the liabilities incurred in its behalf by the Foreign Mission Committee and the work of the Lord will suffer accordingly.

Presbytery of St. John.

Rev. J. SUTHERLAND was elected moderator. Mr. Hawley declined a call to P. F. I. Matters connected with Nashwaak and Stanley were before the Presbytery and occupied a good deal of time. The congregation has been recently visited by a committee of Presbytery who reported matters as extremely discouraging. Politics had led to divisions and strife. A motion to dissolve the pastoral tie was carried. From this resolution Dr. Bruce, and Messrs. Fotheringham and McNeill dissented and Mr. Mullin (the pastor) and Mrs. McKee and Bennett appealed to the General Assembly. Rev. Joseph Barker tendered the resignation of his charge at Richmond, Carleton Co. The congregation at Ilocabec and Waweg ask for moderation in a call. Rev. James Ross was appointed Superintendent of Home Missions. Mr. Ross presented his report for last year.

Presbytery of Pictou.

The Presbytery of Pictou met in United Church, New Glasgow, on Tuesday. Mr. Henderson reported that he had moderated in a call at St. Paul's, that the call had come out in favor of Mr. J. G. Potter, Southside, Toronto, was signed by 210 members and 122 adherents, was accompanied by a guarantee of \$900 stipend and reasons for translation. Presbytery agreed to meet in Union Church, Hopewell, Thursday, Feb. 14th, at 3 p.m., for the transaction of regular business and at 7 p.m., for the induction of Mr. Macnicol. Mr. John Maclean, Salt Springs, called attention to the fact that there were several lumber camps in that vicinity which required supply of preaching. Provision was made for supply. Presbytery held an interesting conference on Temperance. Ministers and elders from all sections within the bounds reported as to the progress of temperance during the past year. The tone was hopeful and suggestions were made as to the proper methods of forwarding the cause which will doubtless prove valuable to temperance workers.

Presbytery of London.

The London Presbytery met in Knox church, St. Thomas, on the 5th January, W. Miller, Moderator. Mr. McDonald presented a call from Aylmer and Springfield in favor of Mr. W. H. Anderson, a minister without a charge. The call was duly entertained and accepted by Mr. Anderson. His induction was appointed to take place on the 24th January. Leave was given to Messrs. Sawars and Clark to moderate in calls at St. Andrews, London, and Knox church, London South. Mr. Talling gave in his resignation of St. James' congregation, setting forth the desire of the congregation to retain Mr. Talling's services, the Presbytery agreed to let the resignation lie

on the table till next regular meeting. It was agreed to leave the arrangement for conference at the May meeting in the hands of the Committee on State of Religion. The Treasurer's report for the year was read—on behalf Mr. Gordon—by Mr. Clark. The report was duly audited, and showed a balance on hand, after paying all indebtedness, of \$188, the report was duly received and adopted. The Treasurer's resignation was also received and accepted, and Mr. D. C. Johnston was appointed Mr. Gordon's successor. Messrs. Clark and Talling were appointed a committee to draft a minute of appreciation of Mr. Gordon's services, and of sympathy with him in his present affliction. A circular on "Prison Reform" was read, Messrs. Clark, Talling and McDonald were appointed a committee to consider the same and report at next meeting. A paper by Mr. Henderson on the management of Temporalities in Rural congregations, was tabled and read. It was agreed to receive the same and consider it at the conference during the meeting in May. It was also agreed that the subject of apportionment of moneys to congregations for the schemes of the Church, be discussed at the May meeting. Mr. Henderson to introduce the subject. Thereport on "State of Religion" was given in by Mr. Cook; the same was received and adopted, and ordered to be transmitted to the Synod's Convener on the subject. Deputations were appointed to visit and receiving congregations and report at the March meeting. The Presbytery adjourned to meet in First Presbyterian Church, London, on 19th February at 11 a.m., and closed with the benediction.—GEORGE SUTHERLAND, Clerk.

Presbytery of Truro.

The regular bi-monthly meeting of this Presbytery was held in the parlor of St. Paul's Church, Truro. The following brethren being present were invited to sit as corresponding members: Revs. J. D. McGillivray, R. Cumming, J. Layton, J. A. Greenless, H. Patnam and A. McLean. A unanimous and cordial call to Rev. W. McNicol of Upper Londonderry, was forwarded by Pictou Presbytery from the congregation of Union Church, Hopewell. Mr. McNicol, accepted the call, and on motion duly made and seconded it was agreed to acquiesce in his decision, and transfer him to Pictou Presbytery—his connection with his present congregation to cease on the second Sabbath of February. Rev. J. McLean was appointed interim moderator of the session of the congregation of Upper Londonderry. Rev. A. Gray was appointed moderator of the session of Portapique and Bass River in the absence of Mr. Ness during the winter. On motion of Mr. D. S. Fraser it was agreed to hold a conference on Temperance and the state of religion on the Monday evening preceding the next regular meeting of the Presbytery. After attending to various matters of local interest the Presbytery adjourned to meet in conference in Truro, on the third Monday evening of March and on the following Tuesday morning at half past nine o'clock in the forenoon.—T. CUMMING, Clerk pro tem.

Presbytery of Halifax.

The Presbytery of Halifax met in Chalmers' hall. Colberg road church was granted the full privileges of a pastorate. Rev. Dr. Forrest was authorized to moderate in a call whenever so requested by the congregation. Rev. Mr. Fisher's resignation of Lawrencetown was accepted. It was agreed that his pastorate should end in February, and supply for the congregation for the succeeding months was arranged. The synodical commission on Newfoundland matters acquainted the Presbytery of the intention of the Newfoundland Presbytery of seeking affiliation with the Presbytery of Halifax. Conference on the matter indicated willingness that such affiliation should take place. Rev. Mr. Thompson, of Upper Masseydohoit, reported the organization of a congregation at Cariboo Mince. Elders have been elected and duly ordained and a Kirk Session formed. Reports from the mission stations were presented and

passed. Rev. Mr. Allan, of Waterville, was at his request permitted absence for two months or so from his pastorate. The afternoon sederunt of the Presbytery was taken up with the discussion of the Assembly's proposed new book of church praise. Every recommendation of the hymnal committee was agreed to, most of the recommendations unanimously, the rest by goodly majorities.

Presbytery of Toronto.

The regularly monthly meeting of this was held at St. Andrew's church on Jan. 5th. The Moderator, Rev. W. G. Wallace presided. The call to Rev. J. C. Potter, of the Southside Presbyterian church, to the pastorate of Sunnybrae, Nova Scotia, was considered, and Rev. L. H. Jordan, of the Presbytery of Pictou, N.S., spoke in favor of the transfer. Rev. J. Chisholm also endorsed Mr. Jordan's arguments. Objections were raised by representatives of the Southside church, and the matter was left in the hands of Mr. Potter for his decision. He decided that, although he appreciated the call extended to him, he felt that, all things considered, he was compelled to decline it.

The committee appointed to deal with the proposed formation of a new Presbyterian Church in South Parkdale reported that, judging by the information which they had gathered, there was no hope of the petitioners of Parkdale church amalgamating with the Fern avenue church, and therefore recommended the organization of the petitioners into a congregation to worship for the present in Cowan avenue church for a period not exceeding two years and be empowered to procure a permanent site south of Queen, east of Elm Grove to King, along King to Cowan avenue, and thence to the lake and west of Dufferin. It was recommended that these points be submitted to neighboring sessions, and a special meeting of the Presbytery on Feb. 21st to settle the matter.

Rev. D. J. Macdonnell spoke strongly against the proposed establishment of a new congregation south of Queen street. He moved to the effect that the establishment of a third congregation in Parkdale was inadvisable, that no reasonable objections to amalgamation had been advanced, and that in consequence the Presbytery adhere to its original resolution, that such of the Fern avenue congregation as may choose, and the petitioners, worship in the Cowan avenue church for a period not exceeding twelve months, and that an evening service and Sunday school be held in Fern avenue church, until a permanent school-house can be built on a site a little north of Queen street, and not further east than Macdonnell Ave., this site to be eventually occupied by a church for the accommodation of the present Fern Ave. congregation and the petitioners of Dunn Ave. church.

Rev. Dr. McLaren advocated the adoption of the report of the committee.

Rev. J. Martin introduced an amendment advocating that the petitioners be permitted to organize and occupy Cowan avenue church for a period not exceeding two years the permanent site to be left for future consideration, the same to be decided on before eighteen months, and that the question of amalgamation with Fern avenue church be left in abeyance. The matter to be decided before the site is definitely fixed.

After considerable discussion the amendment was finally adopted as the main motion. Rev. Dr. McLaren moved in amendment that all words after "abeyance" in the last clause be struck out, and the motion as amended was finally adopted. The date of the special meeting was also changed from the 21st to the 26th, and it was decided that it be considered as a regular meeting of the Presbytery for the transaction of business.

A call to Rev. A. McMillan, of the Mimico church, to Deseronto, was considered, and members of both congregations were present to state their views. The call was then put into the hands of Mr. MacMillan, who expressed a wish that he might be granted time to consider the matter. His request was unanimously granted.