

sometimes in the face of considerable discouragement, kept the work agoing, until the Endowment is now no longer a problem: time and patience will both be necessary to give the final touches of success, but success is sure to come.

The method of collections, the same as pursued in the case of the Endowment fund of Knox College; which was exceptionally successful, is applied to the Aged Ministers Fund, and experience has shown that it is better to pursue a plan which secures that which is promised, than rush through large subscription lists with no adequate means of collection.

The state of the Endowment Fund shews that the subscribed capital is \$140,819,61 with a paid up capital of \$122,384,91 and if you add what is now practically on hand from the Wright bequest, the subscribed capital will be over \$148,819 and a cash capital of over \$130,000—May this year be one of unwonted prosperity for the Aged Ministers Fund.

Foreign Missions.

In Foreign Missions, the year just closed, of which a report will be presented to the General Assembly, has had its sorrows and anxieties as well as encouragements. It is fresh in the memory of the Church that a few months ago a cablegram announced the death of Mrs. Malcolm and Miss Lucinda Graham M.D., which intelligence sent a thrill of pain to the hearts of thousands, especially of the smaller circle who personally knew the worth of these excellent missionaries.

The Honan Mission was further weakened by the affliction and return of Rev. J. Fraser Smith M.D., whose services in the past have been invaluable, and who will yet it is hoped be permitted to take his place in the ranks of that faithful and heroic band. The war cloud, has also had its depressing effect. In Honan, however no disturbances took place, and it was expected that peace would have been restored without any serious injury to either of our missions, but in the last days these expectations have been disappointed by the serious uprisings in Formosa. How far the property of the mission and the native church has been affected remains to be seen. Let us hope that the results will be less serious than our fears, and that in the end the Church in Formosa, will be the gainer, by an escape from the corruptions of Chinese officialism, into the more constitutional and progressive regime of the Japanese Empire. If the General Assembly should carry out the recommendation of the Foreign Mission Committee, our Jewish Mission in Haifa, Palestine, will be closed and Dr. Webster transferred to the Syrian Protestant College in Beirut. It will be a disappointment to many should we not have a Mission in Palestine, after so many years of advocacy, and yet it is all important that with so great a work to do, there should be the strictest economy in the expenditure of money and men, and that overlapping at every point should be avoided.

It will be to the Assembly a satisfaction to have such favorable financial statements, from the different Committees, and yet it is to be regretted that there is an annual appeal towards the close of the financial year in order to avoid a threatening deficit. Better organization—more systematic and conscientious giving on the part of our congregations, providing an ample and perennial supply, is the ideal, not yet reached

in the administration of any of our churches. That can only be reached by the development of a higher tide of spiritual life through the regular ministrations of the pulpit. The sooner that is attained the better for all concerned. It is a satisfaction to the whole Church that the Foreign Mission has appointed additional workers to both India and Honan. The growth of the work, and the applications of so many of our young men, are providential calls to which the Church must give heed. Not to do so would be a refusal to reap the harvest from our own labors and, what is more serious a refusal to listen to the call of the Holy Spirit's voice, as He speaks through the spiritual instincts of the young men in training in the Colleges of the land—Woe be to the Church should the still small voice be silenced.

We trust this Assembly will surpass all others in the successful transaction of business, and especially, in the impulse imparted to all the Church's work at home or abroad.

An Urgent Call.

The Church has long been praying for open doors among the heathen. But too often when God has opened doors, the Church has failed to supply the men and the means to enter them, and sometimes the doors thus widely opened have swung too again, and the opportunity has been lost. This seems like a mockery of God, and the Church should either cease asking for open doors, or bestir itself to enter them when the prayer is answered.

The last word from India is, in a letter from Mr. Russell, that a very wide door has been opened for work among the Bheels, the aboriginal people numbering from half a million upwards within our field, among whom we have so long been vainly wishing to plant a Missionary. The special urgency now is, that if we do not at once enter this widely opened door it is likely very soon to close so that we may never again have the opportunity.

The Foreign Mission Committee have just sanctioned the planting of a new station at Dhar, and the question now is, whether they will feel warranted with the funds at present in their hands to undertake the planting of an additional station. Nor is the abandonment of Dhar to be thought of. There also, the circumstances are such that if we do not now enter, we are likely long to regret it. The only other course is to put forth special effort to raise necessary funds for the planting of both stations.

Who, of the Lord's stewards will in this call recognize His voice? What is there in our personal expenditure that we can better do without, than the Bheels can do without the knowledge of Christ. They are a simple, densely ignorant people, as yet only partially Hinduised, and very much depends upon our beginning to work among them before they have more to unlearn. One gentleman has offered \$200 to help in meeting this emergency. Will others please communicate at once, either with Rev. J. Fraser Campbell, or with the Secretary of the Foreign Mission Committee while the General Assembly is in session in London.

Rev. Dr. Middle- In the last number of the PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW was published an article by Rev. Dr. Middlemiss on the subject "Follow-