

THE HOME & FOREIGN RECORD

OF THE

CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

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HOME MISSION FUND.

Attention is directed to the notice from the Convener of the Committee, which appeared in the December number of the Record. It is understood that, in general the contributions in aid of this fund will be through missionary associations, or by subscriptions. Where a collection is given it should be taken up at once. The day formerly appointed was the 3rd Sabbath of January. It is hoped that funds will be remitted without delay.

A REVIVAL NEEDED, AND WHAT IT WOULD ACCOMPLISH.

Many things indicate very plainly, and very painfully that a revival is needed in the church. We need a revival to draw forth, from among our younger christians, candidates for the christian ministry. In almost every church in Britain, as well as here, and perhaps in none more than in our own, there is a lamentable lack of labourers. Congregations are vacant, missions are languishing, ground remains unbroken which might be cultivated, just because labourers are few. It is not that there is a scarcity of young men, for other professions and departments of work are overstocked. For any vacancy in connexion with business, there are scores or hundreds of applicants. In part, the scarcity may be attributable to the very inadequate stipends which ministers receive, and the trials and difficulties with which ministers have to contend. But were there a revival of religion, were the young men of our congregations to be brought powerfully under the influences of the Holy Spirit, undoubtedly more of them would be led, in spite of difficulties and privations, to give themselves to the work of God, and to the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We need a revival too, to counteract the strong tide of worldliness which is setting in, especially in our towns and cities. We feel that the question of amusements for the young is a difficult one, and we do not mean to say that everything of the kind is wrong, and is to be put down. But, taking the most liberal view of the matter, it must be admitted that our young people are in great danger of being led into habits and practices to which their fathers and mothers were not accustomed, and which, especially in the extent to which they are indulged in, cannot but prove unfavourable to the growth of true piety, yea to the growth even of that sober-mindedness which we would like to see characterising our sons and daughters, who in a few short years, if spared, will be men and women, the workers in the church, and in the world, the parents, the trainers, and guides of another generation. Balls, yea and the card-table will be found in quar-