

Fund, which needs all it can get.

III. There is still a number circulated gratuitously to advertise it in places where it may not be known. That number is being lessened and this year will be reduced to a minimum.

As a church there are two departments of work before us that call for vigorous and immediate action.

The Foreign Mission Fund has had large drafts made upon its Funds for the last few months, meeting the usual expenses in the New Hebrides and Trinidad, while the receipts have not been large. True, many of the congregations have yet to make their collections, and in making them should know the condition of the Fund and the work to be done. As shown by the "State of the Funds" in our first page \$6102.12 are required to square the Foreign Mission Fund proper, while the Dayspring and Mission School Fund is behind to the amount of \$

Comment is needless. Facts are what people need to know. "If ye know these things happy are if ye do them."

The other department of work in which special interest and effort is needed is that of aiding weak congregations. For the particulars with regard to this we refer our readers to the communication on another page.

We have received a note enclosing seven dollars as a thank offering for Foreign Missions. Two dollars of this is from the first salary of a school teacher, and the remaining five dollars from a "Friend."

Also an anonymous note from Fall River, enclosing five dollars, viz., three dollars for Foreign Missions, and two for Home Missions.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of two dollars monthly from "a member of United Church," for Foreign Missions.

## SENSATIONAL LITERATURE.

(For the Maritime Presbyterian)

A number of incendiary fires have lately occurred in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Their origin has been traced to four boys about 14 years of age, the sons of prominent and worthy citizens. Reading sensational literature of the dime novel type inspired these boys to set fire to buildings. Although they planned their work with a good deal of cunning, at length they were found out. Upon being discovered they said they liked to see the fire engine come out and so started the fires. This is but a single example of the evil of pernicious literature upon the youthful mind.

There is not a little of this vile stuff pouring into these Maritime Provinces. Pretty cromos induce many to subscribe for periodicals without making any enquiry as to the reading matter. Often, however on their pages are written tales poisonous to the soul. Every family should be supplied with a good newspaper, and surely fifty cents expended on the Record and Maritime Presbyterian would prove a wise investment. During the long winter evenings, and at the beginning of a new year good reading matter should be provided for every house. Parents can easily make a wise selection, and not grudge a little expenditure in this way. Books and periodicals educate for eternity, and what we read helps to mould the character. Be not induced to subscribe for any paper offering chromos, unless you know some thing of its literary character.—*Com.*

The act of giving is described by Paul (2 Cor. viii. 7) as a grace. Only think of it, "As ye abound in utterance so abound in this grace also." What a blessed thing it would be in this America of ours, in which the gift of tongues seems to have been so lavishly bestowed, if Christians generally were as fluent in giving as they are in speech.—*Rev. W. M. Taylor, D.D.*

An old printer states, that when the late Rev. Charles Stovel was a journeyman baker he objected after his commission to work on the Sabbath, and could not procure a situation, being driven to break stones on the road. He was doing this when his predecessor in the pulpit took him by the hand and procured him admission to Stepney college.

In the estimate of Christian life it is not the few exceptionally great things which are reckoned, but the many ordinary little things.