

## SUMMING UP.

Dec 23. Balances on hand.....	\$1075 89
Balances due Treasurer.....	1335 34
Balances now due Tr.....	\$249 45

Our intended remarks on Finance we have thrown into the form of facts and figures. If these do not speak to the church with effect, and show the need of greater system and punctuality in giving to the Lord's cause, no words of ours will.

A glance at the figures given will show a debt under the head of Dayspring, Education, Acadian Mission and Synod Fund of above \$1300, all, with the exception of Synod fund, arising during the past half year. To many this statement will be rather startling, while others will say, "let the Treasurer take the surplus of one fund to meet the exigencies of those which are deficient."

This has been the practice in the past, and within certain limits, it is allowable and convenient; but the preceding statement shows conclusively that nothing of this kind can be done, in the present case. There is no fund with a surplus worth mentioning. Even Foreign Missions and "Dayspring," if regarded as one interest, and treated as a partnership, are insolvent. And not only so, but the Foreign Mission fund, apart from all connection with "Dayspring," will be worse than empty when these lines are being read, for while they are in fund \$456 there is a half years salary of one missionary, \$625 to be paid January 1st.

But this is not the chief difficulty. For the payment of our New Hebridean Missionaries the money has all been remitted, and the friends of missions will soon make good what is needful to meet Mr. Morton's salary and any other demand which will come upon this fund during the year. The main difficulty is to make good the promises of Synod to its weak charges, by the prompt payment of supplements. It was understood all round at Synod, that the collections for the Supplementary fund should be general if not universal *before the end of the year*. Besides, full notice was given in November *Record* that while \$1500 were payable at the end of the year only \$225 were in fund, and that the contribu-

tions of *all* would be required, if we would honourably meet our engagements. The time of payment is within one week and we have only one fourth of the sum required, and no surplus from which to draw. Sums may have been raised which have neither been forwarded nor reported, but making allowance for these, \$1000 are unquestionably required at once. Is it then a time for Sessions and Presbyteries "to put off" and let the matter "lie over," when their delay is bringing dishonour on the Synod, a reproach on the liberality of our people, and disappointment to some of the most deserving ministers of the church?

The Treasurer while feeling in a dilemma has an almost invincible repugnance to write to the ministerial brethren who are as fully entitled to their respective supplements as the ministers of Halifax, St. John, Pictou and Colchester to their salaries when due, that they must wait indefinitely for payment. Before doing so he would

1. Invite some four or five gentlemen with capital on hand, to lend \$200 each for one month, volunteering it of course, and remitting to the Treasurer.

2. Request all sums collected to be forwarded immediately.

3. Recommend that where Sessions are waiting on some concerted action to emanate from the Presbytery, that such Presbyterial action should take place immediately, and collections be made in January.

4. That according to the reiterated directions of Synod collections be taken universally.

If this were done it is probable that our debt would at once disappear. The great hindrance has been the *want of united action*. We have passed resolutions in Synod, but there has been no concert in carrying them out. Within the last two years one church\* has paid in three collections, amounting to \$209.83, while some of no mean ability have given nothing; many have given liberally twice, but a large number has as yet contributed but once.

5. The Treasurer would ask the co-operation of all teachers of Sabbath schools.

\* Chalmers' Church.