

member was seventeen cents; if this amount were brought up to an average of twenty cents, the Ordinary Fund would be placed in a thoroughly satisfactory position, and the hands of those who are actively engaged in the work of the College would be greatly strengthened.

"We beg respectfully to urge upon the congregations the claims of Knox College, where so large a number of our ministers have been educated, and on whose continued prosperity we must largely depend for the supply of ministerial labourers in the fields of usefulness that are every year opening up in connection with our Church.

"By order of the Board of Management,

"DAVID INGLIS, *Convener*.

"Hamilton, 13th Dec., 1868."

### FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The collection for Foreign Missions is appointed by Synod to be taken up on the third Sabbath of March. But, as many congregations which have Missionary Associations may be making their annual appropriations about this season, we deem it necessary now to make some statements which may influence them in determining the amount they should give to Foreign Missions.

For a number of years, a large balance was lying idle in the hands of the Treasurer of the Foreign Mission Fund. This was the result of collections taken up when there were no missionaries employed. While this balance remained on hand, it was scarcely to be expected that the necessity of contributing liberally to the Fund could be very strongly felt.

It is well that it should now be distinctly stated that this large balance no longer exists. For several years, the expenditure of the Committee has exceeded its income. Last year the income was only \$4,341.18, while the expenditure was \$5,790.05. This year, unless the collection is more liberal, the disparity will be still greater. The balance of \$3,360, reported to the Synod in June, has already been paid out, and *the Treasury is now empty*.

In accordance with the instructions of Synod, a second missionary, Rev. W. Aitken, was, in the month of October, sent to British Columbia, where we trust he is now engaged in ministering gospel ordinances to our destitute fellow countrymen.

The Committee have also been authorised to send a third labourer to the Red River, where an additional missionary is urgently required to meet the wants of that colony. It is hoped that a minister will be sent to this important field in the spring.

To meet the expenses of the Red River, British Columbian, and Saskatchewan Missions, a sum of \$7,500 or \$8,000 will be needed this year. In other words, the collection will require to realize nearly twice as much as it produced last year. The Church has, moreover, pledged itself to engage in a mission to the heathen. The work already begun among the Red Indians is certainly not all that the Church contemplates in this department.

But unless the collection for this year is much more liberal than any which has been heretofore received, the Committee, instead of entering on new fields, will be compelled, however reluctantly, to abandon some portion of the work already undertaken. It lies with the Christian people to say whether they are prepared for a retrograde or a forward movement.