

As will be seen by the statement on the preceding page, the receipts above expenditure on the Foreign Mission Fund, were on the first of April, \$3090.37, and on the Dayspring and Mission Schools Fund, \$1494.19, in both, \$4584.56. In one month from that time, or a fortnight from the time this reaches our readers, the accounts for the year are closed.

The receipts for the month of March were \$1443.36 and if April does not bring in any more there will be a deficit of \$3000. True a part of this adverse balance was carried over from last year, but the greater part belongs to this year's accounts.

There is yet time for friends of mission work who have mites or talents to spare for that purpose to hand their contributions to their minister, or send them to the agent of the Church, before the close of the accounts in the first of May.

Rev. John McMillan of Truro, has accepted the call to Chalmers' Church, Halifax.

Rev. Andrew Burrows, of Truro, has accepted the call of the Presbyterian Church, South Boston.

Rev. E. Bayne of Murray Harbour, P. E. Island, has accepted the call of the congregation of Middle Musquodoboit, of which the venerable Dr. Sedgewick has been so long the pastor.

The congregationalists of the United States appointed in 1880 a committee of twenty-five, to draw up a creed embracing the current belief of congregationalists. It has now been published. It consists of twelve articles and is notable, chiefly for *what it does not teach*. Joseph Cook in the prelude to one of his Monday Lectures in Tremont Temple, Boston, has spoken plainly and forcibly regarding it, warning the church against its dangers. As tending to undermine the great and fundamental truths of evangelical Christianity. It is a matter for thankfulness that it does not represent the current belief of the great body of the congregationalists of the United States and that some of the members of the committee refused to sign it.

ASSEMBLY EXPENSE.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada will meet in Toronto on the first Wednesday of June, and its approach suggests a subject which will be more deeply impressed upon the Eastern Section of the church with every passing year, viz., The burden of expenditure in connection with meeting of Assembly.

According to the minutes of the last General Assembly the Presbyteries in the Synod of the Maritime Provinces will appoint at least forty ministers and forty elders as representatives to the next Assembly.

A fair estimate of the travelling expenses is *fifty dollars each, making in all \$4000 (four thousand dollars.)*

In some Presbyteries a collection is taken to defray the expenses. In others, each delegate pays his way out of his own pocket, while in a few instances a congregation pay the expenses of its pastor. In the first case an additional collection is made to the many already taken for the schemes, and to some extent interferes with, and injures them. In the second only a portion of the ministers who may be receiving the larger salaries, and a very few of the elders throughout the church are able to attend. The truth of this latter statement may be seen by comparing the lists of elders chosen to attend Assembly every year. The necessary tendency is to give a monopoly of the privilege to a few, and those who most need the stimulus and benefit of the meeting are denied it by their circumstances.

A further result is that but a small proportion of the delegates attend. Last year, 1883, eighty-four were appointed by the Presbyteries in the Maritime Synod, and only about one half, forty-four were present, and while we have *nominally* a representation in Assembly of *one-fourth* of our ministers, and an equal number of elders, we have really owing to the cost of attending, but one-eighth.