

is onward and upward—pressing on to the things that are before. It is an intolerable affliction to any Church that her leaders of thought should be trained by men who have so far failed to interpret the laws of being as to refuse to discuss and give a fair hearing to new interpretations of revelation or new theories of inspiration. But on the other hand it is equally unfortunate when teachers are so enamoured with theological novelties that they are ready to endorse them and embrace them before they have been established within even reasonable reach of certainty. It seems to go for little with them that the labor of centuries, and of the world's brightest intellects is represented in the theological creeds of to-day. All that is lightly dismissed, without the patient research that could fairly estimate the value of such results, and not the results but the suggestions of other men put in their place. It seems to us as if that were the least desirable extreme of the two. We believe Professor Thompson has been able wisely to reverence the past, and yet hold himself in readiness to consider fairly any new propositions, and accept what commend themselves as true. The suspension of his work is a very serious loss to the Church, and we trust that after a season of rest he will be able to resume his duties. The College Board met last week and appointed Rev. D. M. Ramsay of Mount Forest, and Rev. J. McD. Duncan of Tottenham to take up his work during the second term of the session. These gentlemen are well chosen, their record in the College was distinguished, they are known to have kept up their studies in the interval, and they will no doubt fill the gap as well as can be reasonably expected in the circumstances.

Foreign Mission Fund.

Dr. Reid has received up to the 1st of November for Foreign Mission work \$8,884.13, and has paid out \$45,110.74, leaving a deficit at that date of \$36,226.61. The W.F.M.S. are putting forth even a little more than their usual and commendable efforts this fall, judging by the number of speakers applied for to give addresses at Thanksgiving and other services. But does it need to be said again that the funds of the W.F.M.S. can only be applied to work amongst women and children, and that none of it can be applied to the other and greater part of our Mission work? Hence we are dependent on the congregational gifts. Unless they exert themselves there must be serious embarrassment. It will be remembered that two candidates were declined last May for want of funds, and it will be seen by the report of the Executive of the F.M.C. that four students of Knox College, who are to graduate next spring, have applied for appointment to the Foreign Field. What are we going to do with these six who offer their services? How often for years has the prayer ascended throughout the Church that the Lord would raise up men to go forth with the Bread of Life to the heathen, that know not Christ? Now when men come and offer themselves will the Church accept the responsibility of declining to send them? It is a serious responsibility. Is it not easily within the power of the Church, *now, this year*, to say, that we shall not only maintain, but extend the work by sending out as many qualified men as will apply? Not long ago, seventeen young men, if I mistake not, applied to the F. M. C. of the Free Church of Scotland, to be sent forth. The Committee did not know what to do. They had not the money, yet they

did not dare refuse and they threw the responsibility on the General Assembly. The General Assembly was in the same perplexity as the Committee, but they did not dare decline and they were sent forth trusting God for the funds. Will the Church not *command* the Committee to send forth these candidates and give expression to that command by replenishing the treasury? Shall we not hear from the Church without delay?—R. P. MACKAY.

Auld Kirk Moderator. Rev. Dr. Daniel MacLeod, of Park Church, Glasgow, the editor of *Good Words*, is to be nominated as Moderator of the next General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. Dr. MacLeod is a brother of the famous Dr. Norman MacLeod of the Barony Church, the friend of Canon Kingsley and Dean Stanley. The MacLeods of Morven have given some of the most useful as well as brilliant ministers to the Church of Scotland which she possessed this century.

Donations for Home Missions. We have pleasure in announcing at the request of Rev. Dr. Cochrane, receipt of the following sums for Home Missions from the Church of Scotland:—Edinburgh—St. George £50, a member of St. Michael £5, members of St. Bernard £32 12s 3d, Morningside £50; Anwoth—Sir Wm. Maxwell, Bart., £10, Rev. Wm. Black £1; Jas. A. Campbell, M.P., of Stracathro, Brechin, £25; Jas. Paterson, Rock Hill, Dennistoun, Glasgow, £5 5s; a friend of Colonial Church for Church and Manse Building Fund, £100; Queen's Free Church, Aberdeen, contributed £25; and Belhauen U.P. church, Glasgow, £50.

Foreign Missions. At a meeting of the Executive of the Foreign Mission Committee held on the 15th inst., Dr. Smith, Mr. Goforth and Mr. Slimmon were present for conference as to the situation in Honan, and as to whether Mr. Goforth and Mr. Slimmon should go out immediately. Although they expressed themselves as ready to go, it was thought better to delay, inasmuch as the British Consul strongly advised that no foreigners should travel inland in the present agitated state of the country. Further communications are expected at an early date. Letters from Honan report all quiet there. The ruin caused by the flood is indescribable, the country is covered with wreckage, and the destruction of the crops means awful distress for some time to come. Mr. Gauld writes that in Formosa occasional rumors of war cause excitement, but nothing, so far, to seriously injure the work. The Commander-in-Chief of the troops at Tamsui, has for some time been living in Oxford College, which was lent him by Mr. Gauld, inasmuch as the building was not in use. It has resulted in very friendly relations with that officer, and so far protection to the Mission. Miss Oliver and Miss Campbell are to sail from New York on the 22nd inst., for India. Four students of Knox College, who are to graduate in the spring, made application to be sent as Missionaries. The fields are crying out for more men, and yet when men ask to be sent, shall we be unable to send them?

Our Premium Bible.

By special arrangement with the publishers we are able to offer to our subscribers, both old and new, the Teacher's Bible described at length in our literary column of this week's issue. This Bible is without exception the most complete Teacher's Bible yet published,