

THE  
**Home and Foreign Record**  
 OF  
 THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE LOWER PROVINCES

NOVEMBER, 1871.

**OUR CREDIT AT STAKE!**

Our congregations have increased in number faster than they have grown financially. We have a larger proportion of weak congregations than in times past, and there are some both among the stronger as well as among the assisted, who do not assume their proper position as regards support. That we are advancing in liberality is undeniable, but the growth is not uniform. Some congregations are doing well while others of the same numbers are doing but little. Some men are doing nobly and others meanly. Some give a proportion of all that the Lord gives them, while others shrink from any such calculation, and dread the disclosure which such a reckoning would make. Meanwhile the demands of our Foreign Mission and Supplementing funds increase, and the outlay for circulating the French Scriptures among the Acadians is an addition, the outgrowth of the last few years.

Hitherto, it must be acknowledged, there have been generally one or two schemes in debt to the Treasurer, but the surplus in the Foreign Mission Drawer, rendered it easy for the Treasurer to meet any such occasional deficiency, the only effect being that that fund was deprived of some interest which to which it was entitled. But in our last number it was clearly shewn, that by the time our Missionaries should have sailed, and the salaries for 1872 be forwarded, that drawer, hitherto so highly favoured, would be emptied, and cash borrowed from some one in better circumstances.

This has happened, and the duty of the Treasurer is to lay the fact before the church, and to repeat it till it commands attention. But the special difficulty is that when F. M. goes a borrowing, several neighbours instead of rushing to its relief in gratitude for the past, are constrained by their own need to join the begging expedition, and soon all others are brought to the verge of insolvency, or compelled to stop payments. Now there are at present five in that insolvent condition. Passing by for present the Synod and the Current Education fund, whose depressed condition seems to be chronic, we lay the state of the other three before the church.

**FOREIGN MISSIONS.**

All demands of salaries and of all other expenses of the Mission have been paid till the end of 1871. All travelling expenses and outfit of the outgoing Missionaries until they reach their destination, with some trifling exception, have been met. The salaries for 1872, however, have been met only in part. Four hundred and sixty pounds have been sent to Dr Steel, instead of six hundred, and yet \$1100.63 are required to balance the account.

**SUPPLEMENTING FUND.**

May 31. In debt.....	\$450 19
July 1. Paid by order of Synod, by a draft on Home Mission Fund.....	450 19

Receipts at Synod and since:	
From Congregations.....	\$628 63
From Col. Com. Free Ch	436 67
Payments made at Synod and since..	1319 88

In debt.....\$204 50