

It is said that about \$35,000 annually is expended by the American Presbyterian Church in mission work among the Mormons.

THE General Assemblies of the U. S., North and South, are becoming more friendly. This year the South for the first time since the war anticipated the North in sending friendly greetings.

THE Congregationalist body in the United States has 3745 churches, with a membership of 384,332. Sabbath School scholars 444,628. During the past year the increase of membership was 1702, Benevolent contributions, \$1,032,272.32. Decrease from previous year, \$66,419.

THE income of the Home Mission Society of the American Baptist Church during the past year was \$255,032 being \$60,650 in advance of the previous year. Their debt has also increased by \$11,581 during the year being now \$29,955.

It is hoped that the Supplementing Report given in these pages will receive the earnest prayerful attention of all. Forty of our ministers laboring in the more scattered parts of the church, will have their salaries cut down this year by one-fourth of their supplement, unless the strong congregations come forward to help the weak. Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ.

THE following gentlemen have kindly consented to act as honorary agents for the MARITIME PRESBYTERIAN:—D. Macgregor, publisher's agent, 145 Hollis St., Halifax. D. H. Smith & Co., Stationers, Y. M. C. A. Building, Truro and J. McK. Beattie, Stationer, corner Water & South Market Sts., Pictou.

Dancing.

The Chief of Police of New York city, says that three-fourths of the abandoned girls in that city were ruined by dancing. Young ladies allow gentlemen privileges in dancing for which, if taken under any other circumstances, these gentlemen would be reported as improper persons. It requires neither brains, good morals, nor religion, to be a good dancer. It will not mix with religion any more than oil will mix with water.

As the love of the one increases, the love of the other decreases. How many distinguished Christians are eminent dancers? As certainly as the atmosphere around the thermometer at zero will freeze things, as certainly as the wind will drive the boat, so certainly will dancing freeze religious sentiments out of the soul. It will drive its devotees away from the church; it is a wind that blows in that direction. In ancient times the sexes danced separately. Alcohol is the "spirit" of beverages. So sex is the spirit of the dance; take it away and let the sexes dance separately, and dancing would go out of fashion very soon.

Parlor dancing is dangerous. Tippling leads to drunkenness, and parlor dancing leads to ungodly balls. Tippling and parlor dancing sow to the wind, and both reap the whirlwind. Put dancing in the crucible, apply the acids; weigh it, and the verdict of reason, morality and religion is, "Weighed in the balance and found wanting."—*Christian Statesman*.

I Dare not Idle Stand.

I dare not idle stand,
When upon every hand
The whitening fields proclaim the harvest near;
A gleaner I would be,
Gathering, dear Lord, for Thee,
Lest I with empty hands at last appear.

I dare not idle stand,
While on the shifting sand
The ocean casts bright treasures at my feet;
Beneath some shell's rough side
The tinted pearl may hide,
And I with precious gift my Lord may meet.

I dare not idle stand,
While over all the land,
Poor wandering souls need help like mine;
Brighter than brightest gem
In monarch's diadem,
Each soul a star in Jesus' crown may shine.

I dare not idle stand,
But at my Lord's command
Labour for him throughout my life's short day;
Evening will come at last,
Day's labor all be past,
And rest eternal my brief toil repay.