

THE HOME & FOREIGN RECORD

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HOME MISSION CONTRIBUTIONS.

The time appointed for making collections for the Home Mission Fund of the Synod, was the third Sabbath of last month. In most congregations, however, this important department of the church's operations is not left to depend on a single collection, which might occur on a day most unfavourable, and so be utterly inadequate, but is provided for by special contributions raised by annual subscriptions or monthly payments. In some places associations for this purpose are in successful operation, and the sums thus raised have exceeded expectation. In one congregation there is one subscriber of \$100 for Home Mission and College purposes unitedly, and several of \$50 and \$40. In not a few congregations there are numbers of our church whom God has signally prospered in business, and who, if asked, would esteem it a privilege to give of their abundance for the extension of the church and the supplying with gospel ordinances of many who as yet are unable to do what is necessary for that end in their own localities.

The operations of the committee embrace 47 supplemented congregations, which but for aid thus rendered would be most partially supplied or wholly given up, and 153 Mission Stations, which without aid would be most inefficiently worked. The expenditure of last year was \$9465.51. As the grants this year have been in some instances increased, and the number of stations is now greater, the expenditure should not be less than \$12000 this year. This amount spread over a membership of not less 45,000, can surely be realised without difficulty. And if every communicant aim at contributing his share, (at least thirty cents), while others cheerfully contribute according to their ability in large sums, our Treasury will be full.

It is earnestly hoped that means will be taken to give every member and adherent an opportunity of contributing something, and for this purpose suitable collectors should be looked out in every congregation and appointed by Sessions.

THE NEW YEAR.—WEEK OF PRAYER.

By the good hand of God upon us, we are brought to the close of another year ; and it is a becoming duty, to pause for a little, and think of the increased obligations under which we are laid to our Great Preserver, who throughout the year has been our sun and shield. It has been a year of many mercies—of peace and plenty. A year which will form an era in our history, marking, as it does, an entrance on a new and higher stage of national existence. We have to thank God for our continued peace and