

The State of the Funds shows the necessity for earnest and vigorous effort in connection with Foreign missions. The work is extending and prospering, good news comes both from the New Hebrides and Trinidad. The very success that God is giving is calling us to renewed effort. As the work is widening, and God giving the increase, we must not stay our hands.

The balance against the fund is now over \$7000. True, a great part of this is owing to the fact that the whole expenditure for the New Hebrides for next year amounting to about \$4500 was forwarded to Australia a few weeks since, but apart from that there is a great need for earnest effort, in order that our giving may equal the need. If we all who can, give a little more than we did last year, the accounts may be easily balanced at the first of May, the close of our Financial year.

Next year is a centenary year for Presbyterianism in the Middle and Northern part of Nova Scotia. In 1786 the Presbytery of Truro was formed, the oldest one in the Dominion of Canada. It consisted of three ministers with their elders, and may be called the parent of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, which is now made up of 36 Presbyteries, 826 pastoral charges, 1,687 churches or stations, 68,421 families, and 118,330 communicants. The Presbytery purpose celebrating their centenary in a fitting manner.

Pictou Presbytery though it does not date its organization, may date its origin from next year. In 1786, Rev. Dr. McGregor came to Pictou, the first minister to preach the gospel regularly in Northern Nova Scotia. The first Sabbath after his arrival, he preached at what was then called the Harbor, just above Pictou town, the second Sabbath at the East River, and the third at Middle River, and for nine years his congregation was Pictou County.

At first it was proposed to build one

central church on the Middle River, but the second year after his arrival two churches were built, one on the Middle River for West Pictou including the Middle and West River, and Harbor; and one near the Albion Mines for East Pictou.

The Annual Communion was dispensed for several years at the Middle River, which was, with the Harbor, the oldest settlement, and was thus looked upon as the centre of the vast congregation. Thither the tribes went up. The chief centre for the business of the congregation was the Harbor, Pictou.

In 1801 this extended charge was divided into three congregations, the Harbor, Middle and West River, and the East River, the two former, having each one chief centre, the latter consisting of two congregations, called Upper and Lower Settlements.

During this century, the little one has not become a thousand, but one congregation has become sixteen or seventeen.

It would be well for the Presbyterians of Pictou, as well as those of Colchester to celebrate their centenary by a fitting public acknowledgement of the goodness of that Lord that has led them and blessed them through all these years.

Mr. and Mrs. Annand, who have been for several weeks in Ontario, he, addressing meetings nearly every night, she, addressing women's meetings several times a week, have returned to their friends in Gay's River, Hx. Co., for rest and to spend their Christmas. They will probably visit some of the congregations in Truro Presbytery early in the New Year. They are doing an immense amount of work in the way of visiting the churches.

Presbytery of Pictou met in New Glasgow, Dec. 11th. A call was presented from West River and Green Hill to Rev. J. F. Forbes, signed by 300 communicants and 130 adherents.

We regret to state that the health of our esteemed Agent of the Church, Rev. Dr. McGregor, is in no way improved.