

Mission Fund at the time of the meeting of Synod last year, that fund at the time of the adjournment of Synod was unusually low. We are happy to say that, owing partly to the absence of some of the preachers causing a diminished expenditure, and partly owing to the liberal contributions made since, the expenditure of the Board has been within its income. But there are now demands upon the Board which will in all probability absorb all the funds on hand.*

In conclusion, the Board would remark that never did it appear to them that we were more urged and encouraged to engage in the Home Mission work. The circumstances of the Province seem clearly to indicate, that its inhabitants are about entering upon a career of material prosperity, such as they have not enjoyed for some time. In almost every quarter there are the indications of a new energy being infused into our commercial operations. The construction of our public works in some sections of the province is inducing a large influx of population, and that too of a character which may well fill with anxiety the minds of those who desire the moral and spiritual welfare of its inhabitants. The activity produced by these works while being constructed, is no doubt in some degree temporary, yet the demoralizing effects may not so readily pass away. And the construction of these works is not only the indication of public improvement, but will prove a stimulus to it for the future. There is a prospect, too, that the relief of our mines and minerals from monopoly will yet add to our worldly prosper-

ity, and may soon introduce another element into our population, calling for evangelistic effort. It cannot but be observed also, that the intercourse between this Province and other portions of the world, especially the United States, has, during the last few years, largely increased. This calls loudly for our efforts in two ways—to endeavour thoroughly to imbue with Christian truth the minds of the young, who are in such numbers going abroad, that they may carry with them that gospel which will be their own preservation amid the moral dangers to which they are exposed, and which will also, as they go abroad, make them the means of diffusing abroad the light of the world; and secondly, to guard against our Province being flooded with the errors and the immoralities so prevalent in other lands. The openings of divine Providence, the necessity laid on us to retrieve past neglect, all speak the same language. God, too, is calling us loudly to increased effort in the work of Foreign evangelization. The heathen perishing excite our sympathy—great success should encourage our faith, and the fields white unto the harvest should give fervency to our zeal. Yet the stream can never rise higher than the fountain, and Foreign Missions must bear their proportion to the Christian principle, and the love of souls which burns in the church at home, as well in its breadth as its extension. The survey of the field abroad, as well as of the field at home, alike call upon us to be up and doing. Let us prosecute the work in the spirit of dependence upon the Great Head of the Church, saying with the Psalmist: "Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto thy children. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; and establish thou the work of our hands upon us, yea, the work of our hands establish thou it." And assuredly while looking at the past, we shall have to say, "The Lord hath been mindful of us," we shall have occasion to add, "he will bless us."

* We regret to say that this fear has been realized. By the drafts made on the Home Mission Fund, since the report was written, that fund has been entirely exhausted, and the Board are left without a farthing to meet the expenditure of the coming year. This is a state of things which loudly calls for the attention of the church.—ED. REGISTER.

Foreign Missions.

LETTER FROM MR. GORDON.

TAHITI, March 14th, 1857.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—

I am happy to inform you that the

"John Williams" arrived here on the 12th inst., and will leave for the other islands this evening if the wind shall be favourable. The passengers are all in the enjoyment of pretty good health, and the