

## SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The estimated number of S. Schools in the Church is 1622. The teachers and officers are estimated in round numbers at 10,000 and the scholars at 100,000. Of these schools only 1003 have sent reports, so that it is impossible to gain an accurate knowledge of our Sabbath School work. The Committee submitted the following recommendations which were adopted by Assembly :

1. That all Presbyteries exercise closer oversight of the Sabbath-schools.

2. That superintendents and teachers be exhorted to seek, first, to bring the children of the Church into living union with Christ and the communion of the Church, and not to forget the training of the young to assist in the work and support of the Church.

3. That Presbyteries and Sabbath-schools be recommended to adopt and use the series of Records and Reports prepared by the Assembly's Sabbath-school Committee.

4. That Presbyteries be instructed to appoint Standing Committees upon Sabbath-schools, and that it shall be the duty of these Committees :

(a) To obtain a complete list of the Sabbath-schools within the bounds as soon as possible, to keep a register of these schools with the addresses of the superintendents; to forward to the superintendents such circulars or blank forms as may be issued by the Assembly or the Synodical Committee, and to collect reports from all Sabbath-schools immediately after the close of the calendar year.

(b) To furnish the Convener of the Synodical Committee of the bounds with a copy of register of schools and superintendents' addresses, and to prepare an annual report of the Sabbath-schools within the bounds.

5. That Synods be recommended to appoint as their Committees the Conveners of the Presbyterial Committees, with a Convener appointed by the Synod, and the Synodical Committees be instructed to procure and preserve the names and addresses of all Conveners of Presbyterial Committees.

6. That the Assembly's Committee be instructed to prepare and issue, not later than the month of November, the circulars and blank forms for Sabbath-school reports, and to get these recommendations

and instructions printed in convenient form for the use of Sabbath-school Committees.

## OBITUARY.

On the 19th of June, Mr. Jacob Dillman, Meagher's Grant, passed away, in the 96th year of his age. He was born at Petpiswick Harbor, Halifax Co., in the year 1790, and came to Meagher's Grant when 14 years old. He sat for a time under the ministry of the Rev. James Murdoch, who came to Nova Scotia in 1766. Mr. Murdoch, after reaching this country, preached for a short time at Windsor, when he was unfortunately drowned in the Musquodoboit River. Mr. Dillman thus heard preach one of the first Presbyterian ministers who came to America. He also saw his body taken from the river and carried to the house. He was ordained a deacon in the Congregational Church over 46 years ago, by the Rev. S. Markland, then settled in Middle Musquodoboit. When the Rev. John Sprott commenced his visits to the Grant, Mr. Dillman always assisted him in dispensing the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Shortly after the settlement of the Rev. E. A. McCurdy at Musquodoboit Harbor he was ordained an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

His last sickness continued two weeks and gradually he sank, breathing his last without a struggle. His end was peace. Often during his illness he repeated the sixth and seventh verses of the first chapter of the first epistle of John, and asked his daughter-in-law to remember them when he was gone.

On the day of his funeral the Presbyterian Church in the Grant was filled to its utmost capacity. The Rev. Robert Laird conducted the service, and preached from Ps. xc : 12, an impressive sermon.

"Mark the perfect man and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace."

—CON.

Two new Presbyteries were formed at the General Assembly. One is the "Presbytery of Indore," including our missionaries in that field in India, with the native pastors and elders. The other is the Presbytery of Columbia, in British Columbia. Thus is the work extending and strengthening.