

### Remarks on the Statistical and Financial Table of the Synod of the Lower Colonies for 1864.

The Table for 1864 published now in the Record by direction of Synod, shews 96 Congregations, 85 of these having settled Pastors, and eleven being vacant. The returns published are from 86 Congregations. Of the ten from which no report has been received, six are vacant, and one of the four ministers not heard from, has been absent from his Congregation in the Parent Country. No fuller return or reply to the proposed enquiries has ever been submitted to Synod, and yet the Committee deeply regret that it does not make a nearer approach to completeness. Numerically more than one tenth of the number of our Congregations are unrepresented by any figures in the table, but it is probable that the addition of one tenth would exhibit the full strength of the body, with the exception specially of the column of 'Adherents.' In this column will be found fifteen blanks, so that we have only the estimated number of the adhering population of 81 out of 96 Congregations.

A summary of all the more important columns is herewith submitted, shewing the total of adherents, families, churches, &c., in each Presbytery, and the grand total in the right hand column.

Under the head Financial a second summing up may be noticed, running along the base line. This is gained by adding all the columns above, except 1st, 3rd and 4th, (which do not express payments) and the sum exhibits the total amount raised by each Presbytery for all religious purposes; and and the grand total of these will be found to correspond perfectly with the sum obtained by adding the amounts of the respective funds carried out on the right hand column.

Outside of all, to the right, the statistics of 1863 are given for the sake of comparison.

Ample room for remark remains, but the committee do not feel justified in occupying a larger space in the columns of the Record. They are of opinion that these figures may be profitably studied by the office-bearers and members of the Church, and that Presbyteries and Boards may use

them profitably in prayerful and persevering efforts to bring the Church to a much higher standard both as respects work for Christ and contributions to his cause.

PETER S. MCGREGOR,  
Convener of Committee  
and Synod Clerk.

Halifax, Oct. 21st, 1864.

N. B.—The Synod Clerk regrets that the displacement of a few lines in the printing office last year, and which escaped notice until too late for a remedy, entirely misrepresented some congregations, more especially in the Presbytery of Pictou. He trusts that the present table will be found strictly accurate.

### THE RECORD FOR 1865.

The *Home and Foreign Record* is offered for 1865 on the same terms as heretofore; namely, *Sixty cents*, (3s.) for copies addressed singly; and *Fifty cents* (2s. 6d.) when five are mailed to one address. For every ten copies ordered to one address an additional copy is sent free. Thus if you pay for *Twenty copies* we send you *Twenty-two*. If you pay for *Thirty* we send *Thirty-three*, and so on.

The *Subscription List* for 1864 will, as usual, be cancelled at the end of the year. The orders for 1864 will not stand for 1865. A new list is opened every year, and no names are placed on the new list without orders.

Makes up your Lists for 1865 and forward them to the *Witness Office*, Halifax, as early in December as possible.

The cancelling of the old lists occasions inconvenience in a few instances, which we regret; but the general rule has worked admirably, and it will be found less irksome every succeeding year.

The present circulation of the *Record* is larger than has ever been attained by a religious publication in these Provinces; but there is still much room for improvement. The *Record* is as cheap and carefully filled as any Church organ with which we are acquainted. We have to ask Ministers, Elders, and all who are interested in the success of the Redeemer's cause in connection with our Church to exert themselves to increase the circulation of the *Record*.