

Connecting its correspondent's totals, it shows statistically a gain of 1,000, instead of a loss, and justly says a more correct view may be gained by taking longer than annual periods, as one year may be only an ebb tide. Taking, therefore, periods of five years each, we gain the following:—

Five Year Periods.	Average Number of Churches.	Average Number of Members.	Average Number received by profession.	Average Number of Ministers.
1862-66	2,696	258,570	9,054	2,575
1867-71	3,028	297,667	15,444	3,027
1872-76	3,388	332,391	16,118	3,270
1877-81	3,681	378,040	16,973	3,555

We also append statistics from five of the older, and the same number of the newer States, all speaking of general advance:—

	1st Congregational Church, organized.	1862.		1872.		1882.	
		Chs.	Membs.	Chs.	Membs.	Chs.	Membs.
Cleveland ..	1843	4	646	5	875	10	2,074
Chicago	1851	7	937	12	2,792	12	4,562
Milwaukee ..	1841	4	634	5	718	5	821
Minneapolis ..	1857	1	78	2	355	5	1,052
St. Louis ..	1852	1	254	4	435	6	1,366
		17	2,549	28	5,175	38	9,875
Illinois		208	13,616	251	19,577	246	22,842
Iowa		150	5,112	207	11,165	236	15,365
Missouri		4	322	64	2,736	72	3,953
Kansas		36	695	78	2,725	197	5,885
Minnesota ..		59	1,338	76	3,557	145	7,055
		457	21,083	676	39,760	896	55,100

with the spirit of purity on which Congregationalism has ever sought to build its liberty, that when the struggle became financially hopeless, pastor and church broke up the mere local relations, and closed their career as an individual church rather than resort to mountebankism or to donning the world's quack garbs and rejoicing in their excellent fitting qualities. A church closed with honour can lay juster claim to Congregational sympathy than a church financially flourishing at the cost of principle and truth. "The kingliest kings are crowned with thorns."

In the College Report, as printed in the Year Book, occurs the following: "No application was received from any candidate for admission." The number of students given is nine, of whom one, Mr. G. Robertson, is now settled in the pastorate at Georgetown, and another, Mr. G. Skinner, at Kincardine. Should no applications be received this year, we have but seven students preparing for the work of the ministry under our College auspices, and of these, one "desired to continue his course at his own charges." We have vacancies sufficient to take all the students we have, leaving none for Mission work. Churches and pastors should rise to an apprehension of the gravity of the situation. Where are the labourers?

The Report also speaks of certain negotiations in progress with the English Colonial Committee regarding a Principal, buildings, and finance. We regret that a definite conclusion has not been reached yet, and that another year must pass ere the expected "new departure" can be witnessed. We have great hopes that Mr. Hall's visit as Missionary Superintendent to our churches will be a means of general revival. Then will it be seen that a primary denominational consideration will be the College. We must move onward in this particular or die. Truly, we must; and it is worse than folly, it is criminal, to ignore that fact. What can our churches do in the College matter? Much. They may first consider it. How many think or care about it? Let the answer be given. They may know that if a man is to be brought from populous Britain, or enterprising America is laid under contribution for the Principalship, such an one will not, ought not, to be

THE closing of Wesley Church, Montreal, which we notice in our columns, has been commented on by a Toronto paper as indicating a decay of Congregational principles. We would distinguish between things that differ. When Mr. Roy frankly and fearlessly, though some would say unwisely, uttered his thoughts and found the denomination in which he then was too narrow for such utterances, it was strictly Congregational for him and his sympathizers, being believers in Christ Jesus, to form them into a Christian Church, with all its prerogatives and responsibilities. When a debt was incurred of \$40,000 or more, the action passed into the region of a business speculation, and rose or fell in accord with the laws which regulate the same—that was not Congregationalism. It was in accord with Congregationalism to strive to lift the adventitious burden, and the devoted little band who thus through five years maintained an unequal strife, deserve our sympathy and our confidence. And we claim it as in strict confor-