

COMMENDATION AND COMMENT

THE compiler's work is completed and the YEAR BOOK for 1888 goes forth as a record of work done for the Lord Jesus Christ. This record is one for which we, as a denomination, have reason to thank God and take courage, there being scarcely a department of our work in which there has not been a forward movement.

There is no report from the North-West Convention in the YEAR BOOK. This is to be regretted, but there was no help for it under the circumstances. The North-West Convention was held a considerable time after the Ontario Convention, and no copy was sent.

It will also be noted that there is no table of the meetings of Associations for 1888. Our Associations are in a transition state. Some have accepted the changes of bounds, names, etc., proposed last summer, others have not. The result is that in the minutes of a few, the time and place of meeting are given, but not in the minutes of the others. In this state of things it was impossible to form a table.

The tables which appear in the book have been carefully prepared. A postal card was sent to every church in regard to which there was any doubt. These cards generally brought satisfactory replies.

The editor is sorry to have to call attention to a few omissions and printer's errors which each one can easily supply or correct. On page 123 the words "Toronto Baptist College," have been omitted above the word "Faculty." On page 129 the word "University," should be "Hall." In the heading of pages 124, 126, 128, "McMaster University," should read, "Toronto Baptist College." There is an error in the numbering of the pages from page 56, but the index has been made to correspond.

Detailed Home and Foreign Mission contribution lists do not appear. A copy has already been supplied by the Home Mission Society, to each family in our churches, and the Foreign Mission Society has its report ready for distribution.

The progress made during the year is encouraging. 2,214 were baptized, the present membership in Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba, and the North-West, being 31,301. Twelve churches have been organized, and twenty-four places of worship have been dedicated. May the next year show a still greater increase.

JOHN STUART.

3160542