

An increase of 2,380 has taken place in the number of families belonging to her, over the previous year; the number now being, as reported, 30,940. The increase in the number of communicants is given as 5,539; the total being 56,241. It is gratifying to observe that all the Presbyteries, except one, report an increase in the number of those receiving religious instruction in the Sabbath School and Bible Class. We may take it for granted that fully 50,000 young persons are attending these institutions, and are thus being prepared to become, if spared, intelligent and active followers of the Lord Jesus. The total income of the Church for the year was, as reported, \$667,274.29, a considerable increase over the preceding year. Our space will not allow of our referring to the items in which this had been made, nor can we dwell on the increase in the stipend paid ministers, amounting to \$254,550, or upwards of \$16,000 in excess of the amount promised. It is to be regretted that there are some cases of arrears, and that there has been a falling off in contributions to some of the Schemes of the Church, while there has been an increase in others.

"Very useful tables have been printed with the Report; but perhaps there is none of these that will be more frequently consulted than those showing the average raised by Presbyteries per family and communicant throughout the bounds, and the general average. From the latter, we learn that each family has contributed more than eight dollars, and each communicant more than four dollars and a half, for stipend; and that the average contribution per family for all purposes was \$21.61, and \$11.83 per communicant. No one will say that this was all the late Canada Presbyterian Church could have done, but it shows that she is not destitute of the spirit of liberality.

"We observe that the Committee, in drawing up their Report, have confined themselves to the returns supplied by Presbyteries, and not made any estimate for non-reporting congregations. Such an estimate was at one time presented, but has been omitted, we learn on referring to past reports, for some years. On the propriety of this there will be difference of opinion. Our own view is, that the wiser course is for the committee to refrain from giving any estimate. Let the courts and office-bearers of the Church do their duty, and such will not be required. At best they are only conjectural. If supplied at all, let them come from Presbyteries.

"The Committee have judged that the occasion was an appropriate one for collecting and exhibiting the progress of the Church since the Union in 1861, and tables

have been compiled for this purpose. These are pregnant with instruction, and furnish ground for fervent thanksgiving and praise to her King and Head. We read that since the date given, there has been a clear gain of 28,450 in the membership, or more than 2,000 each year; that the amount paid as stipend has been \$2,224,526.49; that \$4,547,159.72 have been raised for congregational, and \$5,415,025.25 for all purposes. The number of ministers has increased from 223 to 339, and the stipend paid from \$104,144.41 to \$271,336.23, or an average in one year of \$467, and in the other of nearly \$800. The amount raised for congregational purposes has increased by \$390,550.67, and for all purposes by nearly a million dollars."

### YOUR CHARACTER.

I hold very stern opinions with regard to Christian men who have fallen into gross sin; I rejoice that they may be truly converted, and may be with mingled hope and caution received into the Church; but question, gravely question, whether a man who has grossly sinned should be readily restored to the pulpit. Caesar's sin must be beyond suspicion, and there must be no ugly rumors as to ministerial inconsistency in the past, or the hope of usefulness will be slender. My belief is that we should be very slow to help back to the pulpit men who, having been once tried, have proved themselves to have too little grace to stand the crucial test of ministerial life.—*Spurgeon*.

It is hard to exaggerate the injury done to religion by the unworthy walk of professors, especially should they be office-bearers in the Church. Your duty is to set an example of all purity, charity, honesty, open-mindedness, liberality, the virtues that should adorn the Christian character.

The noble theory of Christianity is often grossly scandalized in the East by the habits of ungodly Europeans, while the lives of such men as Donald McLeod, Henry Lawrence, Nicholson, and Edwards, told mightily on the natives. There is no doubt that the reckless life, the dissipation, and the scepticism of no inconsiderable section of the Europeans residing in the land is the greatest obstacle to the spread of the gospel in India.