

ADDENDUM.

Auditors' Report.

To the Executive Committee of the Synod of the Diocese of Ontario:

We, the auditors appointed to examine the accounts of the Treasurer and Clerical Secretary of the Synod of Ontario, for the years ending respectively the 30th days of April, 1878 and 1879, now submit our supplementary report.

It was our desire and intention to have completed our audit immediately after the session of Synod, but owing to the Clerical Secretary's illness, the books were not posted or closed until very recently, and were not, therefore, ready for our inspection.

In our former report we stated the result of our examination of the accounts of the Treasurer, and this report deals with those of the Clerical Secretary.

We wish it to be understood, that no examination which we can make can enable us to certify to the absolute correctness of such accounts as those with which the Synod has to deal. Its invested Capital is composed of debentures, mortgages, bank-stocks, deposit-receipts, and scrips; and its income is derived from the interest on these investments, and from collections and donations. Moneys paid on debenture account can be checked by the debentures and coupons. Payments of interest on stocks, and securities of that character, can be traced without much difficulty; but moneys received on mortgage account can be ascertained by us with certainty only by seeing the receipts or acknowledgements given for them. The collections being printed in the Journal of Synod, are brought directly under the notice of the clergy, and can thus be checked by them. The rule which has been laid down, requiring that the particulars of each receipt given should be entered in the counterfoil of the receipt-book, affords no greater security than that which requires that moneys received should be duly entered in the cash-book. The best safeguard, both for the Secretary and the Synod, is regularity and precision in keeping the books of account.

We regret to have to state that the accounts for the past two years have not been kept as they ought to have been. No regular entries were made of the moneys received and paid out at the time of their receipt and payment. The cash-books of some, if not all, of the funds were compiled shortly before the audit from memoranda in the Clerical Secretary's possession, from the bank-books, and