

REPORT

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The Session of Knox Church, Ottawa, *Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation, held Jany. 14th, 1892.*

DEAR BRETHREN,—According to their custom, the Session takes the opportunity which the Annual Meeting of the congregation affords, to submit to you a brief statement of the work committed to their supervision and care, and in doing so, it is our first duty to make mention of the loving kindness of our God, and of the goodness and mercy with which He has followed us through the year that has closed. For He has upheld us in our weakness, raised us up when cast down, comforted us in our sorrow, cheered us amid difficulties, woven the bow of hope and promise across every dark cloud of discouragement and despondency, and given us some tokens of His favors upon our work. "Among the gods, there is none like unto Thee, O Lord; neither are there any works like Thy works." And with thankful heart's we bear this witness to His covenant-faithfulness, "Hitherto the Lord hath helped us."

Throughout the year the Congregation has felt the influence of the organization, by the Presbytery, of the new congregation and Mission Stations within its bounds. These have had the effect, which the Session anticipated and pointed out to the Presbytery, of causing the withdrawal of some families, and the occupation of localities from which was derived a considerable proportion of our increase in times past. We cannot but regret that, against the protest of the Session, and their impressed judgment of what was best in the interests of the whole Church, the growth of the congregation has been thus seriously hindered. But whilst by these changes the congregation has been injuriously effected, and its prospects of growth been made less bright and hopeful, yet the outlook is by no means discouraging, though it does imperatively call for greater zeal and more concentration in the work of increasing its numbers and augmenting its powers.

The death roll of members and adherents of the congregation has been larger than usual, being 12 in all, 7 of whom were members in