

profession of their faith, and ten by certificate from other churches. Twenty-eight were removed from the roll—fourteen by certificate, six without certificate, and eight by death, leaving at the close of the year 567 upon the roll. Thirty-four baptisms were administered; eighteen marriages were performed; and twenty-six burials recorded. Death visited many homes in the congregation during the year, showing no respect to persons, removing both the babe of a few days, and the aged veteran who had gone beyond the period of life allotted to man. The circle of the eldership was invaded, and our highly esteemed and universally loved Captain Samuel Gibson entered into his rest. The obituary list is appended to this report. To all the members of the homes thus bereaved the Session extend their sincere and prayerful sympathy, and commend them to Him who "healeth the broken in heart and bindeth up their wounds." "Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort, who comforteth us in all our tribulations, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

The Sabbath School continues its good work among the children and young people of the congregation. The labors of the teachers and officers would, however, be crowned with more abundant success if the parents would co-operate with them to the extent of seeing that the children are regular in their attendance, and that the lesson is studied at home. The prayer of the Session is that parents may be aroused to the importance of a religious education for their children, and that we may early witness in our congregation a revival of parental and filial piety.

The Session are pleased to note that the General Assembly is again prepared to furnish Diplomas to those reciting the Shorter Catechism, and committing to memory portions of Scripture. We trust there will be many successful competitors in the Sabbath School and Bible classes.

The various departments of church work have been carried on during the year by the different organizations, which will report individually. To each and all the Session express their gratitude for their diligence, and commend their work to the practical sympathy of the congregation.

Respecting the liberality of the congregation, we observe that the average-giving to the schemes of the church is yet very low, indicating that the many allow the few to give. While the Century fund has made extra demands upon us, let us not be unmindful of our privilege in contributing something to the missionary and benevolent schemes.

The session are pleased with the growing efficiency of our choir under the able leadership of Mr. Henri K. Jordan, and recognize how valuable an adjunct our service of praise is to Divine worship.

In closing this report we would place upon record our sense of the goodness of God in permitting our beloved and late pastor, Dr. Ure, to see the close of a half century in the ministry of the church, having reached his jubilee period last October. Through failing health Dr. Ure retired from the active work of the ministry ten years ago, and has spent the interval in quiet retirement in our midst. Though unable to conduct public services, he still ministers to the afflicted and sorrowing, speaking words in season to them that are weary, and lifting the burden from many a heart. May the Lord continue him with us still, and bless him evermore.

JAMES A. ANDERSON,
Moderator.

A. STRAITON,
Session Clerk.