

The Records. The monthly issue of the PRESBYTERIAN RECORD is 50,000 copies; that of the *Children's Record* 23,000 copies.

The General Assembly resolved as follows:—

1. As the PRESBYTERIAN RECORD is the organ of our Church, established by the Assembly for the spread of information regarding Home and Foreign Work; ministers, sessions and managers are urged to see that so far as is practicable a copy of the RECORD is placed in every Presbyterian family.

2. As the *Children's Record* is the only paper published by our Church for the young, and the only paper for the young with information regarding our Mission work, the Assembly urges upon ministers, sessions, and Sabbath School teachers the necessity of introducing it into all our Sabbath Schools.

3. That missionaries be asked to furnish to the RECORD and the *Children's Record*, from month to month, as they may be able, items of news regarding their work among the heathen, that the interest in Missions may be deepened by being thus brought into living contact with the Mission Field.

May the Assembly's resolution be carried out. The RECORDS belong to no company or individual, but to the Church. Every member of the Church is a shareholder. There is no other way in which, for so small a price, one can get so much good reading, or so much information about the work of the Church. For the kind words of commendation that come, and for the help and co-operation without which the RECORDS could not be successful, we give hearty thanks. Let us aim together for an increased circulation of another ten thousand for each of them in the near future. With a little united effort it can be done. Sample parcels of any size will be sent free to all who wish them.

Rate of giving. The rate of giving of the past last year. year is given in the Statistical Report as follows:—

The average contribution per family towards stipend paid by the congregation alone was \$8.85, a decrease of two cents on the preceding year, and per communicant of \$4.61, a decrease of three cents.

The contribution per family for all strictly congregational purposes was \$18.37, an increase of forty-three cents; and per communicant \$9.58 very nearly, showing an increase of eighteen cents.

For the Schemes of the Church each family contributed, on an average, \$3.21, a decrease of one cent, and each communicant \$1.79, an increase of one cent each.

For All purposes the average contribution per family was \$22.71, being twenty-seven cents of an increase; and per communicant \$11.81, an increase of nine cents.

S. S. Lesson Helps. The Lesson helps prepared by our Sabbath School Committee, are, the *Home Study Leaflet*, which has reached a circulation of 17,000; the *Home Study Quarterly*, 4000; the *Home Study Teachers Monthly*, (taking the place of the *Teachers Preparation Leaflet*) 2000. Sample copies of any of these will be furnished on application to the Convener, Rev. T. P. Fotheringham, St. John, N.B. Mr. Fotheringham has freely given a great deal of hard labor and earnest effort to the Sabbath School work of our Church, and is having the satisfaction of seeing in it solid steady progress.

Sabbath Schools. The Report for Sabbath Schools shows that about 70 per cent of the schools in our Church have sent in returns. To the figures herewith given the other ten per cent may be added to give an approximate idea of the whole. In the returns the schools given are 1,333, with 17,527 teachers and officers, and 153,613 scholars. 1,238, or about 66 per cent., of the schools are open the whole year, the remainder being open from six to eleven months, the average being eight months. The number of scholars attending public worship in the Church is given as 59,053, but little more than one-third of the whole. The amounts raised by the S. Schools are reported as \$22,003, of which \$45,749 was expended on the schools themselves; and \$23,087 given to the schemes of the Church. This latter sum is divided as follows:—Foreign Missions, \$3,428; Home Missions, \$7,556; French Evangelization, \$7,270; while \$5,146 were given to other Schemes.

Children at church. Or rather, children *not* at church. Almost startling are the figures in the Sabbath-school report presented to Assembly, showing that of the 153,013 scholars attending the Sunday schools, only 59,053, a little over one-third, attend public worship in the sanctuary. Surely this is a sad showing for the future. With rare exceptions, such as in some outlying schools where the church is far away, the children that can attend Sabbath school can go to church. Childhood is the time when their church going habits are formed, if ever formed. Many of them as they grow older will drop out of the Sabbath school, and if not trained to regular church going, they are not likely then to fall into it, and will probably lapse into home heathenism. Great as is the work done by the S. School it is of even greater importance that the young be trained in regular habits of church going. Like other habits it must be learned in childhood if it is to be for life. Even though the children may understand but little in church, a habit of attendance on public worship will prove of infinite value to young men and women as they leave home to go out into the world. It will keep them from bad companions, from Sabbath breaking, and keep them near to where the Saviour passes by.