

## 2.—ARREARS.

The prosperity of the Church is not only shown in an increase in the amount paid for salaries, but also in the diminution of arrears; the amount in arrear being \$2368 90 less than last year. The amount is, however, still too large. The Presbyteries of Kingston, Hamilton, Paris, and Chatham, report no arrears; while in Montreal the sum is, \$798 41; Brockville, \$371 70; Toronto, \$245 00; London, \$373 72; Huron, \$493 50; Owen Sound, \$486 71. In the Presbyteries of Ottawa, Cobourg, Ontario, Simcoe, Guelph, Chatham, and Stratford, there are smaller amounts, varying from \$200 00 to \$61 00. In Montreal, Ontario, Chatham, and Durham, the amount of arrears has been very considerably reduced. Your Committee trusts, that before another Report is presented to the Assembly the reduction will be still greater.

## 3. CHURCHES AND MANSES.

It is highly satisfactory to notice the progress in church and manse building. There were reported to your Committee 16 manses, 24 churches, 1 school house, as having been built during the year, at a cost of \$137,006 26, being an increase over last year of over \$20,000. Last year 20 manses and 24 churches were built; thus showing a diminution in the number of manses built, while the number of churches was the same as last year.

It is one of the most satisfactory proofs of the progress which the Church is making, and of the increasing interest which its people take in religious matters, when spacious churches and comfortable manses are seen rising on every hand. Your Committee trusts that the time is not far distant, when every congregation will see it to be both a duty and a privilege to have in connection with each church, a manse in which the pastor may reside in some degree of comfort.

## 4. CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CONGREGATIONAL PURPOSES.

The total amount which has been raised for strictly congregational purposes, is \$398,891 39½, being an increase over last year of \$34,577 10 and an increase over the amount contributed two years ago of \$53,759 42½. While the greater part of this increase is doubtless owing to an increased expenditure on account of church and manse building, it is also owing in some degree, as we have already seen, to the increased amount paid for the salaries of ministers.

## 5. SCHEMES OF THE CHURCH.

Your Committee, in accordance with the instructions of Assembly, inserted in the Financial Statement for this year a column which shows the total amount contributed by each Congregation and Presbytery to the various Schemes of the Church. It was felt that many Congregations contributed somewhat liberally for their own purposes, such as church and manse building and stipend, while comparatively very little was given for the Schemes of the Church generally. To a large extent a congregation is valuable to the Church in proportion to what it does for the Schemes of the Church, and it generally shows the extent of its interest by the amount of its contributions. While some interesting examples might be given of congregational liberality, your committee passes on to notice more general results first.

The total amount contributed for the Schemes of the Church is \$45,572.18½, being an increase over last year of \$2,905.09½. The schemes which show an increase are, the Home Mission, \$1,374.13; Foreign Mission, \$546.43; Widows' and Orphan's Fund, \$264.13; French Canadian Mission, \$2,272.57. On the other hand there is a decrease in the College Fund of \$440.27; Assembly Fund, \$236.08 and in the Kankakee Mission, \$995.63.

It is probable that if these figures were compared with the books of the Agent of the Church, there would be found to be some difference, inasmuch as money is sent to him for a month after the close of the Statistical year, and those congregations which make no report to your committee, will, of course, make their