Members of the Birk Session

FOR THE YEAR 1886.

REV. A. B. MACKAY, Moderator.

F. W. TORRANCE,
JAMES ROSS,
DAVID MORRICE,
JOHN STIRLING,
PETER NICHOLSON,
HUGH WATSON,
W. C. MUNDERLOH,
JOHN G. SAVAGE,
HUGH CAMERON,
F. W. KELLEY,
A. MACDOUGALL,

ARCHIBALD McGOUN, Clerk of Session.

In looking back on another year, the same lights and shadows that checker all the past are again seen. Our Father has brought forth no strange providences for our portion. The joys and sorrows of which all are partakers have come and gone at His bidding; the darkness as well as the brightness, the burden as well as the strength, the mourning as well as the music; therefore the great question for each of us is:—What use have I made of them? Have they brought me into closer fellowship with Him? Have they led me to lean more absolutely on His strong arm? to follow more unfalteringly the leading of His loving eye? to consecrate myself more absolutely to His service?

During the year, 31 Baptisms and 15 Burials have been registered, and after the annual revision there remains 518 names on the Communion Roll. Though the epidemic of smallpox has been raging in the city, we have cause to thank God that our only connection with it, as a congregation, has been in our endeavors to help those who were afflicted—inasmuch as no one belonging to the Church has been stricken by the disease. The heartiness with which you responded to the appeals for help was most gratifying.

Last year I referred to some hopeful signs of a deepening interest in spiritual things, and I urged you to cry to Him who knows all our needs, "Visit this vine." It becomes us, therefore, to record with thankfulness, the answer to our prayers, in the good work of grace that has been done among us, and which is still in progress. Many