

our ministers. In this respect, the Returns exhibit large room for improvement, by pointing out, that the proportion of Mansees is as 91 to 203, or 1 to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ —and that of these *fifty* are without the almost essential addition of a Glebe. Your Committee cannot but regret, that

Your Committee cannot but urge these matters most strongly on the earnest and immediate attention of this meeting, and plead the cause of many a ministerial sufferer throughout the Province, whose hands are weakened and heart discouraged, not only by the many trials incident to a Pastoral Charge in this land, but also by a ceaseless contest with the gaunt spectre of poverty.

Not unfrequently, during the past year, have many friends of the Church considered the question, "How will the Synodical Schemes be affected by the depressed state of the country?" The conclusion to which they have come has usually been adverse to their prosperity. It is, therefore, all the more encouraging to observe their favourable condition, as indicated in the Returns. Taking into account the fact, that the Contributions reported are from 203, instead of from 220 Pastoral Charges, as was the case last year, it is pleasing to notice an increase in the following Schemes and to the following amounts: College, \$164 56; Widows' and Orphans' Fund, \$135 67; Synod Fund, \$27, 31; French Canadian Mission, \$323 30; and other Benevolent Objects, \$740 90.

The Foreign Mission shows a slight decrease of \$240 60.

Though the amount, reported last year for the Home Mission Fund, was exceptional, owing to a special contribution from the Montreal Presbytery, yet it still occupies its former position of the most popular of the Schemes, by showing contributions to the amount of \$6666.61. Were the sums raised by the various Stations added to the above amount, and the whole of the Contributions included, which have been unusually late, on account of the Collection for this object having been appointed for the 3rd Sabbath of April, there are grounds for believing that they would have approximated \$20,000.

The whole contributions reported amount to \$225,809 91. Taking into account the smaller number of Returns, 203: and instituting a laborious comparison of the items, the average contribution of each communicant may be regarded as increased from \$6 37 to \$6 50.

Were it possible to obtain the large and varied donations of our people to religious Societies and kindred benevolent objects, it would probably be found, that, in point of liberality, our denomination occupies a very high, if not the highest position.

It was thought desirable to procure for the present financial year, some account of the value of the ecclesiastical property held by our Church, along with a statement of the debt by which it is encumbered. Though the Returns are defective in this respect, yet the value may be generally stated, as \$90,000. This valuable property is, however, loaded with a debt of more than \$12,000, a burden, which must seriously cripple the energies and usefulness of many Congregations, besides diverting into other less desirable channels, considerable sums, which would otherwise have been largely employed for the spread of the Messiah's Kingdom.

Viewed in their general aspects, these Returns indicate progress and prosperity, not indeed to the extent that is desirable, but sufficiently so to lead us to thank God and take courage.

Past expression having shown the impossibility of obtaining correct or complete Statistics, under the present plan, some change in the financial year, is absolutely necessary. Great difficulty has been found in deciding what period should constitute this year. The claims of two periods have been strongly urged—that running from 1st April to 31st March, and that extending from 1st January to 31st December.

The Synod being unable, for want of time, to decide on any change of the Statistical Year, it remains the same as last year, viz: from 1st May to 30th April.

Toronto, June, 1865.

JOHN GRAY, Convener.

No.	Presbytery.	No. of Stations Supplied.		Ministers.		No. of Communicants.	Addition by Examination and Certificate.	Diminution by Death Removal, etc.	No. of Baptisms.	No. of Religious Classes.		No. of Week-day Meetings.	Pastoral Visitations.	No. of Elders.	No. other Office-bearers.	Volumes in Libraries.		No. of Sittings in each Church.
		Regular Charge.	Not Regular Charge.	On the Roll.	Reporting.					Sabbath School.	Bible Classes.					Congregational.	Sabbath-School.	
41		Regular Charge.	Not Regular Charge.			2750	463	2900	284	1400	695	42	97	199	139	676	4760	2025
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