

The University of Queen's had, in all, 556 registered students, viz., in Arts 300, in Medicine 125, in Theology 33, in Practical Science 5, in Law 3, or allowing for those registered in more than one faculty, a total number of 533.

The receipts have been less than in the previous year, and those in charge earnestly ask for increased aid in carrying on their work.

Knox College, Toronto.

The number of regular theological students in attendance during the past year was seventy-eight. Of these twenty-eight completed the final year, twenty-seven the second year, and twenty-three the first year. Besides these, there were the students in the preparatory classes.

The College suffered a great loss in the death of Professor Thompson; and now Rev. Dr. Gregg has retired at the ripe age of seventy-eight years. The appointment of a successor to Dr. Thompson was before the Assembly, but was postponed for another year pending a readjustment of the course of study.

Manitoba College.

During the past year the students in Arts numbered 152, and in Theology there are now thirty-one attending the summer session. At the close of last year's course, nine students completed their studies for the ministry. While the expenses of the institution have been increased by the summer session, the income from Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritime Provinces, has been \$285 less than in the previous year. The vast importance of this College to the Home Mission Work of the North West, and the necessity for hearty support from the older Provinces was strongly urged. At a later stage in the Assembly, Dr. King stated the glad news that a cheque for \$5,000 had just been received from Sir Donald Smith for the College buildings, and that they were now free from debt.

The whole number of students for the ministry graduating from our Colleges during the past year was sixty-two, and the most of them are now at work as ordained missionaries or pastors. Collegiate work has not the romance of missions, but it lies at the foundation of solid progress in the Church. In supporting these Colleges two things should be remembered: first, that most of the cost has been furnished by local gifts and bequests that would not have been given to other Church purposes, and that a comparatively small annual collection from each congregation will keep them running; and second, that these centres of Church life are of very great benefit to the different districts where they are located; their teaching staff is usually a centre of activity in good work, while the students do much in carrying on mission work in fields within reach, during the college sessions.

Dr. Cochrane called the attention of the Assembly to the excellent work of Brantford Ladies'

College in a brief statement which was cordially received.

HOME MISSIONS.

This subject naturally follows colleges, and Thursday evening was devoted to it.

The Eastern Section.

The report of the Eastern Section was presented by Rev. John McMillan, convener, followed by Rev. A. Gandier. Besides the twenty-two ordained men whose names were on the roll at some time during the year for the supply of vacancies, there have been twenty-five men laboring as ordained missionaries, for part or all of the year. Fifty-five catechists were employed during the summer and ten during the winter. Rev. James Ross, superintendent of missions in the St. John Presbytery, which is the "North West" of the Eastern Section, has done a grand work in organizing and stimulating mission stations. His appointment has proved a great success both in the upbuilding of mission fields and in financial results from these fields.

The receipts for the year were \$12,281, expenditure \$12,101, the debt of \$2,855 at the beginning of the year, being reduced to \$2,077 at its close.

The marked advance in liberality is well shown by the fact that ten years ago and for a number of years previous, the giving of the Eastern Section for Home Missions was about \$1,000 per year. Since that time it has steadily increased until it is now over \$12,000 per year, for that object.

Home Missions, West.

The Home Mission Report, West, was presented by Dr. Cochrane. Its array of facts and figures can scarce be condensed. The Home Mission work of the Western Section divides into three parts, viz. the older fields of Quebec and Ontario, the district of Barrie and Algoma, and the great North West. In the first, those in older settlements, often surrounded by Roman Catholicism, there is sometimes little seeming progress, but these weaker fields must not be abandoned. In the second, the wide territory north of the Great Lakes, there is a new country slowly filling up. In the Presbyteries of Barrie and Algoma are about fifty-two mission fields, while in the single Presbytery of Algoma there are over one hundred mission stations.

In Manitoba and the North West the work goes forward by leaps and bounds. In 1881, fourteen years ago, we had, West of Lake Superior, neither Synod nor Presbytery; now there are 2 Synods and 13 Presbyteries. Then there were 2 self sustaining congregations; now there are 57. Then there were 23 missions, containing 110 stations; now there are 168 missions containing 782 stations. Then there were 1,153 white communicants, now 17,130. Then their total contributions were \$15,100, while last year they gave