

Rev. Joseph Whyte briefly supported the amendment after which the amendment was carried by a large majority.

At the Friday afternoon Session, after reading of minutes, the first business was the report on Statistics, which was presented by Dr. Torrance. He began by expressing satisfaction at the nature of the report to be presented. It shows with very slight exceptions great prosperity during the past year.

The average contribution for stipend per family throughout the Church was \$8.52, a decrease of \$0.12 on the preceding year; and per communicant \$4.40, decrease, \$0.27; for all strictly congregational purposes, \$19.52, increase \$1.81; and \$10.23 per communicant, increase, \$0.66; for the Schemes of the Church, \$3.42 per family, increase \$0.52; and \$1.80 per communicant, increase, \$0.24; and for all purposes \$24.40 per family, increase \$2.20; and \$12.86 per communicant, increase \$1.63.

Your committee continue the report of income for all objects, with increase or decrease (only 1 year) for each year since the Union in 1875, and it will be seen on looking over it that for no year has there been as great an increase in all that period as in 1888, being nearly \$16,000 more than in the preceding year, which took the lead of any of the others.

Total Income.	Increase.	Total Income	Increase
1875-76 \$982,672		1882-83 \$1,422,783*	\$13,035
1876-77 986,115	\$3,443	1883-84 1,453,624*	30,841
1877-78 1,030,386	44,271	1884-85 1,558,218*	104,594
1878-79 1,110,381	79,995	1885-86 1,580,818*	22,600
			Decrease,
1879-80 1,162,154	51,773	1886-87 1,533,517*	47,301
			Increase.
1880-81 1,245,495	83,341	1887 1,930,252*	106,735
1881-82 1,409,748*	164,253	1888 1,942,723*	212,471

Complaint is made that a number of large congregations in cities did not report the single persons apart from families connected with the congregations. The committee has been startled that the books in the Sabbath school library have decreased during the year to the tune of 10,000. Where can the books have gone to? Are they all torn up? There were grave difficulties in the column for colleges. Six columns could not be spared.

Dr. Cochran moved the reception and adoption of the report. He paid a high tribute to the Convener. He said that a number of sermons could be preached on it. He would like the minutes to be taken home and read by the ministers and elders. He has seen piles of minutes lying at the seat of Presbytery in March following: "That the General Assembly receives and adopts the report with recommendations and orders it to be printed in the appendix to the minutes of the Assembly; further thanks the committee and especially the convener for the very elaborate and comprehensive report presented; expresses its gratitude to the great Head of the Church for the very encouraging growth of the Church and the increase of liberality in supporting the various departments of work, both home and foreign, and presented in the report." Dr. Robertson seconded the resolution. He explained apparent falling away in the North-West. The difference is owing to a change in the mode of calculation. He complained that the returns made by sessions and those reported by the treasurers of the Church are not at all the same. The returns of Drs. Reid and Warden and Mr. Morrison are alone reliable. The Rev. D. S. Fraser spoke to the report. He thought that instead of the head line being "amount expended" it should be "amount contributed." In that case a congregation would not be credited with what is borrowed for Church building. Dr. Reid did not think that the second recommendation would easily be carried out. There were remarks by Dr. M. Fraser and Mr. Scott. The resolution was agreed to. The Moderator conveyed the thanks of the Assembly to Dr. Torrance.

Dr. Chamberlain was then permitted to speak for a few minutes on missions in Brazil. His credentials were read. He made a very eloquent and fervent appeal for missionaries for this country. For 300 years Rome has had Brazil and it has been without the Gospel. He was once called upon to visit a Baron and he never had a Bible or a Testament; if the high classes are so the lower cannot be any better. Thirteen millions call to you for the Gospel. The slaves are liberated now, the edict took place last year, since then 100,000 emigrants have entered by one port. Hence it is not the thirteen millions that call but the multitudes that are to go in there. The infant Church in Brazil has all the problems you have here. Hence it is that the cry is so loud for aid.

Dr. Torrance then presented the annual report on the Distribution of Probationers. Only three Synods are at the present time under the jurisdiction. The Committee ask to have their operations confined to two Synods, as these are the only ones true to the Scheme. These are the Synods of Toronto and Kingston, and Hamilton and London. Dr. Laing moved the adoption of the report. He referred to the disappointment felt that so few have given hearty support to the Scheme. If it were heartily supported it would be a great boon to the Church at large as well as to the probationers. When the first recommendation was moved, Mr. Lee, of Sherbrooke, wished the Presbytery of Quebec to be under the Scheme. An amendment was moved to refer the work to the Synods; while the Assembly's Committee be a committee of transfer.

The Moderator ruled this out of order. Mr. White, of Ottawa, explained why his Presbytery did not ask for supply. The congregation found supply for themselves. After some discussion on the understanding that the Presbyteries of the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa would in future give a heartier support to the Scheme, the recommendation was withdrawn, at least for this year.

The second, as it depended on the first, also was allowed to drop.

The third was agreed to, and the report as amended was then adopted.

Six elders were then appointed to assist at the communion on Sabbath afternoon. These were, Messrs. Laird, Vidal, Pantou, Roger and Kilgour.

Dr. Gregg read the report of the Hymnal Committee. Three times as many were sold last year as the year before. A tonic-solfa edition was issued. Steps have been taken to add fifty hymns to the Sabbath School Hymnal. Over \$1,600 was received for royalty and use of plates. Special thanks are due to Rev. Mr. Anderson, of Musquodoboit Harbour, who while in Europe superintended the issue of the tonic-solfa edition. Dr. Gregg asked to be relieved of the Convenership which he has held for eleven years.

An overture from the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa was read, asking for the enlargement of the Sabbath School Hymnal and the enforcement of its more general use. Dr. Campbell, of Montreal, supported the overture. He thinks that even as it is the Hymn Book has done much good. It has removed inferior books and improved the taste of the children. Mr. Gibson, of Ottawa, spoke of it also, urging the addition of a number. He reported that several schools were dissatisfied, and some had dropped it, while others were waiting to see what the Assembly would do. He mentioned several hymns that would be suited to lessons we have had, and they are not in the book. He would like not less than one hundred new hymns.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Friday evening there was a large attendance as it was Foreign Mission night.

Rev. Dr. Wardrope, Convener, submitted the report of the Foreign Mission Committee. He was sure that any little difficulties that may exist in the work at present will be speedily removed. The work begins in our homes and congregations extending throughout the Dominion, and then to the uttermost parts of the earth. The

work among the Indians of the North-West is most encouraging, as was shown by quotations from the reports of Rev. Hugh McKay.

There are seven missionaries, seventeen reserves, twenty-three preaching stations. The Indians under our care number 3,500. There are 178 communicants, thirty-seven additions during the year; eleven mission schools and fourteen teachers.

References were made to the difficulties in Formosa and it was stated that the committee in deference to the requests from the field there had resolved to continue Mr. Jamieson's labours there for another year.

There is a deficit of \$9,000 in the fund. He hoped that a special effort to wipe out \$5,000 of that debt would be made during the year. We ought to be thankful for what God has enabled us to accomplish and there is abundant reason to hope that we may speedily see greater things than these.

In the New Hebrides, eighteen missionaries are employed and two others are on their way there.

Estate is the scene of the labours of Rev. J. W. McKenzie, of the Canadian Church, and Rev. D. McDonald, of the Victoria Church. Mr. McKenzie's report states that the year past has been one of the most encouraging and satisfactory that he has yet seen. The accessions from heathenism have not been numerous, but there has been much spiritual growth among the converts. They have been more alive to the importance of a holy life, more sympathetic with their missionary, more ready to receive instruction, and more willing to go forth, when qualified, to teach the heathen on surrounding islands. Mr. McKenzie devotes much time and pains to the work of instructing young and old, and especially to training those who are to become teachers of others.

The work on the Eromanga Island was never more encouraging. The converts are doing all in their power to help on the work of the mission.

Mr. Annand reports encouragingly from the Island of Santo. The people are friendly, but their ignorance is so dense that some time must be expected to elapse ere the best results can be seen. A good many are now coming under instruction, and a few attend Sabbath service, but no marked change has yet taken place.

All the missionaries speak cheerfully of the advance of the good cause throughout the whole group. Mr. Robertson says: "It is simply delightful to note the changes in the field since we arrived in the New Hebrides in 1871. Encouraging reports come from nearly all the stations. Epi has a population of 10,000, and Mr. Fraser has fourteen teachers at work, and he asks for many more." Mr. Annand says: "On Nguna, where Mr. Milne laboured seven or eight years without the least encouragement, there are now 360 members in full communion." In 1888 he baptized 120 adults and fifty-seven infants. With Mr. Fraser on Epi the work is very hopeful.

The Foreign Mission Committee present an extract of the report of Rev. A. B. Baird on the work carried on amongst the Indians of the North-West, which is admitted to be so lucid as to give all necessary information. It says:—

Our mission work among the Indians of Manitoba and the North-West has, during the past year, made steady progress. In some reserves the growth has been more marked than in others; but in all, the past year has been one of advancement, not indeed as great as our wishes, but as great as from our experience we had any reason to expect. In some cases it has been beyond our expectations; in all it has been full of encouragement to our faithful and devoted missionaries, to be "steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord," as they have been taught by experience "that their labour is not in vain in the Lord."

While the spiritual necessities of the adult Indians have occupied the time and thoughts of our missionaries to as great an extent as ever before, our chief work has been with the young. Our confidence in the wisdom of the course indicated a year ago has been deepened. It is in the school, and especially in the Industrial School, that the great work of the Church for the elevation of the Indian must be. In the Industrial School the children are withdrawn for long periods—and the longer the better—for the degrading surroundings of their pagan homes and placed under the direct influence of all that is noblest and best in our Christian civilization. They are taught the elementary branches of an English education, and in addition, the boys are trained in farm work, tilling the ground and caring for cattle, and in some instances in the elements of carpentry and smithing, and the girls in knitting, sewing, baking, cooking and general housework, and are all taught to sing the psalms and hymns of the Church in English or Indian, sometimes in both, and to commit passages of Scripture to memory; while the day is begun and ended with reading the Word, and prayer round the common family altar. From scenes like these results of the best kind are springing, and we may confidently expect that the generation trained under these influences will be immeasurably superior to their parents, and that in a comparatively few years our work as missionaries to heathen Indians will be accomplished.

An important feature of our mission work during the past year has been the extension of our Industrial School system to fields where no such schools previously existed. And this will naturally occupy an important place in our report. Three of these schools were opened during the past year at Birtle, the Crow Stand and the File Hills respectively. The first of these was opened early last October.

The committee tell of the continued progress in the work of the Gospel in the Island of Formosa. The subjoin an account of the present state of the mission, as transmitted in a communication from Dr. McKay of date March, 1889. It is as follows:—

(1) Number baptised since the report of March, 1888, 112; (2) number of deaths during the same time, 43; (3) number of increase, (4) number of deaths year's total, 2,650; (5) number of living members, 2,719; (6) number of elders, 75; (7) number of deacons, 71; (8) number under suspension, 43; (9) number excommunicated, i.e., suspended for an indefinite time, 2; (10) number of chapels, 50; counting Rev. Giam Cheng Hoa, preachers, 51; (11) nearly two dozen students in Oxford College.

In contrasting, as is his usual custom, the present with the past, Dr. McKay says:—

Seventeen years ago to-day I landed at Tamsui. It was a Saturday, too. No friend, no house, no converts, no preacher, no students, no home. Little do Canadians who never travelled a dozen years ago know what it is to bear being dubbed as a "Colonist," "Green Canadian," "Wonder if he has his skates?" "Ignorant backwoodsman," etc. Things have changed. The world is really moving on, and my beloved native land—broad, vast and great—is taking her place amongst earth's greatest nations. Right or wrong, I find intense pleasure in contrasting things. Well, then, this eve in Oxford College, according to previous arrangement, we all met to hear a debate. The subject was "Christianity versus Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism." Twenty-four preachers and students took part, i.e., twelve on each side. A preacher who is a B.A., i.e., a graduate, led on "Confucianism," and had three supporters. A preacher who was a leading Buddhist also had three to support him. A preacher who was a Taoist priest had three by his side. Thus four were dressed in Confucian style, and four were dressed in Buddhist style, also four like Taoist priests. The hall was decorated beautifully by the students and a Mr. Aminoff, of the American Bible Society. He is a Finn—a Lutheran—and was here last year. He worked hard and put up figures of sewed leaves thus:—

1872 — 1889,

17 Years.

Converts, 2,719.

Mr. and Mrs. Jamieson were also cheerfully employed all day assisting.

In view of satisfactory representations the committee has decided to retain Rev. John Jamieson in Formosa.

In speaking of the Honan Mission, which has not yet been occupied, the missionaries being diligently engaged in acquiring a knowledge of the language, the committee add: At present Mr. Goforth and his family, Dr. and Mrs. McClure, and Mr. McGillivray, are at P'ang Chia Chuang, in the Province of Shantung, about 450 miles from Chefoo. Here the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions have for some years had a station and are carrying on various branches of mission work, and, while our missionaries are devoting their main attention to the acquisition of the Honan dialect of the language, they are, at the same time, endeavouring to obtain an insight into the methods of carrying on the work among the people. Dr. Smith is still at Chefoo, studying the language, and in the Mission Hospital of the American Presbyterian Board, acquiring skill and training in the treatment of the natives. Miss Sutherland is also still at Chefoo. She has sent to the committee her resignation, on personal grounds, to take effect from the first of September next. The committee, while very much regretting that Miss Sutherland's connection with the committee should be severed, feel that the reasons for her resignation are sufficient, and have accepted them. All our missionaries are experiencing the difficulty of acquiring satisfactory knowledge of the language. They do not, however, despair, but feel it a great trial of their patience to be unable to do anything towards enlightening the myriads whom they see in darkness about them.

Since the Assembly of last year, Rev. G. McKelvie, M.A., and Rev. T. Buchanan, M.D., have been sent out as missionaries to Central India, the former supported by St. Paul's Church, Montreal, and the latter by St. Andrew's Church, Toronto. Misses Elizabeth Beckett Scott and Jennie Columbe Sinclair have also been sent to the same field. These will soon be followed (D. V.) by other two young ladies, Misses Jamieson and Harris. The Canadian staff is as follows: Rev. J. Fraser Campbell, Rutlam and Indore; Rev. J. Wilkie, M.A., Indore (in Canada); Rev. W. A. Wilson, M.A., Neemuch; Rev. G. MacKelvie, M.A., Mhow; Rev. J. H. Buchanan, B.A., M.D., Oojein; Miss Rodger, Indore; Miss I. Rose, Indore (in Canada); Miss Elizabeth Beatty, M.D., Indore; Miss Marion Oliver, M.D., Indore; Miss E. Beckett Scott, Indore; Miss J. Columbe Sinclair, Indore. The year had been characterised with wonderful success all along the field.

The committee speaks in terms of great gratitude of the noble work carried by the Woman's Foreign Mission Society. The following statement shows its numerical strength:

Total membership in Mission Bands.....	4,085
Members in Auxiliaries.....	10,144
Members of General Society.....	2,749
Total membership.....	14,350
New Presbyterian Societies.....	4
New Auxiliaries.....	62
New Mission Bands.....	36
Total Presbyterian Societies.....	25

The Committee adds: The arrival of the Society at this stage of progress, while it is a ground for thankfulness, can only be regarded as an earnest of wider extension and more permanent usefulness in years to come. The possibilities of usefulness and of zealous activity within the scope of the various Presbyterian societies and their workers, who can measure? The good already accomplished through them in utilizing the resources of the Church, in calling forth local talent, in developing business capacity, in encouraging trusty and remote societies, and in establishing new centres of interest, is acknowledged on every hand; and to its Presbyterian organization, perhaps, more than to any other human instrumentality, the society looks for future expansion and success.

The following is the financial statement:

Receipts from all sources.....	\$72,039 15
Balance from last year.....	9,961 43
Total.....	\$82,000 48

The expenditure was as above total. Among the receipts of the year were \$29,700.57 from the Women's Foreign Mission Society (western division).

The following are the estimates for the current year.

New Hebrides.....	\$ 7,000 00
Trinidad.....	13,000 00
St. Lucas.....	5,000 00
Demarara.....	1,000 00
	\$21,500 00
WESTERN DIVISION.	
North American Indians.....	\$19,000 90
CHINA.	
Formosa.....	\$18,000 00
Honan.....	10,000 00
INDIA.	
Education of ladies, Kingston.....	\$ 900 00
Rates to widows' and orphans' fund.....	56 00
Proportion of agent's salary.....	650 00
Expenses of meetings, etc.....	1,300 00
Interest to Mrs. McIlhenny and Mrs. Johnston.....	610 00
Possible outlay in connection with extension of work.....	1,500 00
Debt.....	\$5,000 00
Total estimates.....	\$85,016 00
	106,516 00

Mr. John Charlton, M.P., moved the reception and adoption of the report. This he said was the age of missions. He sketched the unfolding of the missionary enterprise since the beginning of the present century. The vast populations of eastern lands rendered the work one of stupendous magnitude, and it can truly be said that as yet we had only made a beginning in the work for the evangelization of the world. The duty of carrying on the work rests on the Christian Church. In the first century the religion of Jesus Christ overran the Roman Empire and that without missionary societies, organizations and paid service. The work is a difficult one because it is a difficult thing for us to realize the brotherhood of man. Commerce is spanning the earth. It is a still higher duty to Christianize the world. We ought to keep peace at least with the extension of commerce. Christianity is the basis of civilization. J. Russell Lowell had rebuked a sceptical sneer at a banquet by stating that no place where Christianity could not be found would be safe to live in. The testimony of all impartial observers is more reliable than statistics and tabulated results. The blessings imparted by missionary effort as shown by competent testimony was a complete refutation of recent criticisms on Missionary Endeavour. He spoke in commendatory terms of the Woman's Foreign Mission Society. The growth of this organization, he said, was marvellous. The expectations of the committee in obtaining an increased income during the current year he hoped would be exceeded. The more religion you export the more you will have still remaining. Ten times more money was spent unnecessarily, much of which might be devoted to the spread of the Gospel. The work in which the Church was engaged would be a blessing to Canada, to America and to the world.

Rev. Alexander Falconer, Pictou, N.S., seconded the motion for the adoption of the report. His remarks were principally confined to what had been done and what is now doing in the Eastern section of the Church. It had been the pioneer of Canadian Missions. At its inception there had been a discussion between the claims of Foreign Missions and those of their college. The former triumphed and everything else had gained by the triumph. The South Sea Mission had been productive of glorious results. Now that it was nearer to the Australasian and Scottish Churches no more missionaries would be sent, but those there now must be supported. Having spent eight years in Trinidad he could bear testimony to the work that educationally and by the preaching of the Gospel was being done amongst the coolies there. If there was a deficit in the West-

* Exclusive of Mission Stations which, so far as reported, have raised for the year \$42,862, an increase of \$10,674.