

elders travelled hundreds, some of them thousands, of miles to this meeting, not only without fee or reward, but actually at their own expenses. This has been the case for ten successive years. It is not for earthly reward that men thus spend and are spent.

OUR STATISTICS.

For the information of such of our readers as may not have the opportunity of perusing this interesting volume we have prepared the following summary of our statistics which afford a fair index of the life and work of the Church during the past year:—

Year by year our Church is growing in the grace of liberality. In the first year of our history as a united church our reported contributions amounted to \$982,672. In the succeeding year there was the meagre increase of over \$3000. In the fifth year our income summed up \$1,162,154,—an increase of about \$180,000 on the first year. Let us now look at the second five years. We start in 1880-81 with \$1,245,495. In 1884-85 we attained to \$1,558,218. The aggregate increase during the second five years was \$476,064. The difference between the income of 1875 and 1885 amounts to \$575,546—considerably over half a million dollars. This we think highly creditable and most encouraging. No doubt the ebb-and-flow of trade affects contributions to church objects; but it will be seen that in no year since the Union has there been an actual going back upon the record of the preceding year. Contributing of our substance with liberality and regularity is not religion indeed, but it is a very good index to the spiritual condition of the church. A dead, or dying, or careless church will do little to show her interest in the agencies of the Gospel at home or abroad. In 1875-76 the total stipend paid was \$442,320. The amount paid this year was \$643,888.—an increase in ten years of more than \$200,000. Ten years ago the amount expended on churches and manses was \$282,174. This year the total was \$398,439. There is still more notable progress with respect to the Home and Foreign Mission Funds. In 1875 these were, Home Missions, \$25,947; Foreign, \$17,832. This year for the two objects, Home Missions proper and Augmentation (which till recently were under the one name) we received over \$64,000; and for Foreign Missions about \$40,000. There has been a very substantial increase in the revenues of all the schemes of the church.

If we compare the returns of the Presbyteries in 1875 with those presented to the last Assembly, we are met with the same gratifying proofs of progress, extending to all the schemes. It would be interesting to indulge in details illustrative of this statement, but space does not permit.

There are now returns from 38 Presbyteries before us. The contributions per family and per communicant range all the way from the \$6.00 per communicant in Pictou Presbytery to Newfoundland with its \$27.21 per communicant. The answer to our roll call is as follows: Truro, \$7.15; Sydney, \$20; Victoria and Richmond, \$6.80; Halifax, \$15.19; Wallace, \$7.10; Pictou, \$6.00; P. E. Island, \$8.66; Lunenburg and Shelburne, \$12.18; St. John, \$19.22; Miramichi, \$9.13; Newfoundland, \$27.21; Quebec, \$12.40; Montreal, \$20.54; Glengarry, \$13.37; Ottawa, \$17.11; Lanark and Renfrew, \$9.80; Brockville, \$11.74; Kingston, \$20.42; Peterborough, \$14.00; Whitby, \$10.50; Lindsay, \$11.14; Toronto, \$20.60; Barrie, \$8.50; Owen Sound, \$7.21; Saugeen, \$8.31; Guelph, \$8.90; Hamilton, \$13.04; Paris, \$9.55; London, \$11.00; Oshawa, \$11.37; Stratford, \$8.29; Huron, \$12.26; Maitland, \$9.44; Bruce, \$7.85; Sarnia, \$10.34; Winnipeg, \$20.44; Rock Lake, \$9.69; Brandon, \$10.96. Were we to give the rate per family the results as relates to Presbyteries would differ very considerably. The highest rate per family is from Montreal with \$43.84. Next comes Toronto \$43.70.

The average contribution for stipend, per family, over the whole church, is \$8.53—an increase of 33 cents on last year. The rate per communicant is \$4.96. There has been a decrease of 3 cents per communicant in the contributions for the schemes of the Church—the average being \$1.50. For all purposes the average rate per family was \$21.70; per communicant \$12.62. The Presbyterians represented in the General Assembly willingly tax themselves at the average rate of a dollar and five cents per month for religious objects,—for sustaining Gospel ordinances at home and sending the Gospel to the heathen. We do not wish for a moment to belittle the liberality of our people; but, after all, the average of one dollar and five cents per month is not what we should aim at. Many give to the limit of their ability, as the Lord has prospered them: the trouble is that very many are almost wholly forgetful of this duty. If all would give their share no one would be unduly burdened. There were added to the number of communicants during the year 14,033. But there were removals also, and these numbered over 8000: leaving a gain of 6000. Baptisms reported 9,478 infants, and 792 adults. These do not include the converts in heathen lands. Ruling elders and other officers in the Church number nearly 12,000. There are but 383 communicants reported in the Presbytery of Newfoundland. The next weakest is Sydney, with 673. The largest Presbytery is that of Toronto with over 10,000 members. Total reported membership of the Church 123,444. Ten years ago the figures stood 88,228. At that time our ministers numbered 579. They now number 714—exclusive of professors and retired ministers. Of vacant congregations there are 159 being 46 more than last year. These figures furnish material