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Teachers.	No. of Female Teachers.	Scholars on Roll.	Average Attendance.
20	252	4307	2977
3	...	30	*25
4	5	166	85
4	6	96	46
5	7	94	60
9	10	127	97
6	6	110	80
2	1	14	10
3	1	30	24
3	5	70	50
4	5	60	50
4	4	72	44
1	3	30	30
1	3	25	20
1	...	14	*11
3	...	76	50
5	2	80	64
4	8	104	61
4	9	120	75
2	1	36	30
3	5	67	22
2	1	38	30
2	3	30	*25
1	3	16	*12
6	2	70	*50
6	4	100	
4	3	95	
5	4	60	
8	353	6137	3978

derived from the average of 40 and on stations, the rate, of teachers sees, upwards of

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APPENDIX J; REPORT ON A HYMN BOOK. 83

supply the want felt by so many, and render fuller and more complete the Psalmody of the Church,—a work in which, it need hardly be said, we have been anticipated by almost every section of the Christian Church, without exception of creed or form of worship.

Your Committee had published, during the previous year, a small volume of Hymns, with a view to afford ministers and others in the Church the opportunity of exercising their judgment upon the Hymns which stood highest in general estimation, believing that a publication of this kind would create a more general interest and enquiry than could possibly have been accomplished in a private way, by the labours of a Committee, however active and zealous. Your Committee have reason to believe that, in taking this step, they acted judiciously, and that the subject has been under the consideration of many in the Church.

At the last Synod the Committee was increased to sixteen members. The attention of this large Committee has been drawn, during the recess, to two points: first, to the Hymns in the published volume, with a view to exclude any that might be considered inferior or unsuitable; and second, to the selection of such Hymns as might with advantage be added to the collection. Several members of the Committee have given themselves heartily to the work, and it is hoped that a careful judgment will be obtained from all of them in the ensuing year, for the advantage, as well as safety and confidence, which attends united opinion.

It is probable that, from various reasons, a number of the published hymns will be laid aside, and a few others will be added to the collection. Copies of some excellent Hymns have been going the round of the Committee for the last three months—rather a formidable and difficult journey, scattered as the members of the Committee are from Chatham in the West to Quebec. The Convener has not the slightest idea, as this report is being drawn up, where they are, but he lives in the hope that they will find their way home again in the course of the coming year, with great benefit from their travels. The opinion of all members of the Committee is solicited on each Hymn, the Convener pointing out its general character and reputation.

It is very difficult to form a collection of Hymns of sufficient copiousness to answer the purpose, and fairly to represent the Hymnology of the Church, without swelling the collection to undue bounds. It is easy to make a small collection, for we then take the few best, about which there can scarcely be a difference of opinion. It is as easy, by gathering the necessary materials, to form a large collection. Both in Great Britain and in the United States, there are collections numbering from one to two thousand. A latitude of this kind is entirely foreign to our ideas; while, on the other hand, too narrow a limit would deprive the work of the comfort and completeness which are sought by adding to our Psalmody. When it is required to pass over a number of good Hymns, there is great difficulty in making a selection.

Your Committee hope in the course of another year, with due care and attention, to arrive at a harmonious and safe judgment with regard to the Hymns which may be advantageously employed by us, and crave that time for the further consideration of the matter.

In furtherance of the object, the Convener sent a series of papers on Hymnology to the *Presbyterian*, that through its pages the Church might know both the character of the hymns in the published collection and the spirit which has ruled in its formation. From these articles it will have been seen that the Hymns given are a limited and select number of the best productions of the first hymn writers, and that inferior authors have been passed over. A good Hymn will occasionally be found proceeding from a common-place pen; but it is better as a rule