

Thus we have had to send our portion into the granary of God, and this year too we must give up some of our number.

"Who of us death's awful road,
In the coming year shall tread,"

God only knows. The certainty that we must part with some loved one, or that we ourselves must go, and the uncertainty as to whom the message will come, must give force to our Lord's words, "Blessed are those servants whom the Lord when He cometh, shall find watching—Be ye therefore ready also."

To the bereaved families we extend our heartfelt sympathy, and earnestly pray that the God of all comfort may sustain them in their sorrow and loneliness.

COMMUNICANTS.

The return made to the General Assembly last year gave the number of communicants on the roll as 260. Since then there have been added to the roll, by profession of faith 11, and by certificate 17, in all, 28. At the same time there have been removed by death, 5, and by certificate seven, without a certificate 8, in all 20, making the total now on the roll 266.

CHURCH SERVICES AND SEALING ORDINANCES.

We thank God that the greater part of our people are not unmindful of the commandment, not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together, on the Lord's day. The Sabbath services have on the whole been well attended. It is true that there are those among us who remain away from church for a little rain, or something just as trivial. Yet we have abundant cause to thank God that the example of our fathers has still its influence. May we so live in regard to church ordinances that our children may be able to speak of us as we do of our fathers.

Whilst we have no cause for complaint as regards the Sabbath services, we are sorry to say that we still feel that the mid-week prayer meeting is neglected by the men who are members of the church. It is too bad that of the 90 men who are members in full communion more than 75 per cent. of them do not attend a prayer meeting. In this we are no worse than our neighbors, but that does not make matters any better. If we have services among us which experience declares profitable, we ought not, without reason, to bring discredit upon them in the eyes of our children. It would be a new thing in human nature for the children to honor that which the parents despised, and count that profitable which the fathers set at naught. There can be no doubt, but that the path of the child of the future, or man of the future, will be much harder than in the past. We ought not then to make it harder by our neglect of an ordinance which God has signally blessed. If, as it has been said, the prayer meeting is the index of the spiritual life of the church, then indeed, do we need the spirit of God to quicken us lest we have a name to live and yet be practically dead.