

from it, to the Sustentation Fund. They have had therefore to encroach so much upon the latter that they are unable to pay their Pastor's salary a quarter in advance, as they ought to have done, as the congregation have always undertaken to do; and which their feelings of self-respect, as well as their knowledge of what is right, should stimulate them to carry into effect. In their last Report the Deacons referred plainly, and at some length, to the short comings of the General Fund, and they feel humbled at the thought of having again to recur to the subject. In present circumstances they desire to say but little, and would therefore merely express the hope that the congregation will at once devise some method of increasing the revenue of this Fund, so that the current expenses may be promptly met, and the necessity for all such begging appeals as the present, avoided in future Reports. The indebtedness of the congregation past due and unpaid, is now as follows:—

Quarter's Stipend, up to 1st August.....	\$350 00
Balance due Treasurer, on both Funds.....	92 70
	\$442 70

In addition to this, provision must be made, for payment of a bill of carpeting, for galleries, and side aisles, amounting to \$63 55.

The sums collected since last Report, on account of the old building Fund, amounts to \$774; after paying all the demands against the Committee, the Treasurer was enabled to hand a surplus of \$262 12 to the Treasurer of the Committee appointed for the erection of galleries.

The various synodical collections have been attended to in their order, as well as the contribution for Knox's College. The collections for the Presbytery's Home Mission, a scheme with great claims upon our support, has been neglected; but the Deacons trust that the Congregation will make up for this omission, by a liberal contribution to its funds at an early date.

The expenditure of the poor's Fund has exceeded by a small sum the amount of the collections in its behalf. In this connection the Deacons would notice with pleasure the praiseworthy efforts of the Ladies' Association, who they believe, have (by donations of clothing and other things) been the means of alleviating no little amount of suffering, during the past trying winter.

The Treasurer of the new building Fund has handed to the Deacons, an abstract of his receipts and expenditures to this date. While reserving details until the next annual statement, when the account can be presented in a completed form, the congregation is furnished with the present state of the Funds as follows:—

RECEIPTS.	EXPENDITURE.
Amount received on account of Subscription.....	Amount paid Contractor to date.....
" " from Treasurer of old B. Fund.....	" " Architect in full.....
\$ 770.75	\$1122.50
262.12	51.00
\$1032.87	\$1173.50

The total amount subscribed, including the sum received from late Treasurer, is \$1728—the cost of the erection of galleries, &c., being \$1787, leaves a deficiency of \$59 still to be made up.

The Deacons would close their Report by giving expression to feelings of heartfelt thanksgivings to God for His great goodness to us in the past, and while they gratefully acknowledge that there is much in the condition of the congregation that affords ground for congratulation; and not a little that affords ground for hopeful feelings, and earnest expectation of better things to come, in the fact that its labours for the upbuilding of Christ's kingdom, have not been, to human sight, altogether unsuccessful; that its various meetings, even during the absence of our Pastor, in his fatherland, have been solemn, interesting, and well sustained, and that the harmony and cordial feeling subsisting amongst its members remains unbroken; yet with candour it must be felt that congratulation disappears when we think of how few there are amongst us who give evidence that they are "seeking the way to Zion," when we think of the numbers all round us, who are travelling in the "broad path"; and when we think how little we are doing to reclaim them, or to throw around them the safeguard of Christianity. That the Deacons, in these remarks, may not be considered as overstepping their province; they would only further add an expression of their desire to join with every sincere servant of their arisen Lord, amongst their brother members, in earnest aspirations, that the period may soon come, when all our members will, each for himself and herself, realise their individual responsibility in this respect; when, not the minister alone, or the minister, the office-bearers, and sabbath-school teachers alone, but the congregation as a whole, shall be actively and earnestly engaged in works of Christian beneficence and usefulness.

All which is respectfully submitted

On behalf of the Deacons' Court,

A. F. SKINNER,
SECRETARY.

Note.—By request of the Annual Meeting, the Constitution adopted by the congregation some time ago, has been printed, and is distributed along with this report, among the members.