Trustees' Report

The Board of Trustees of the Church and Manse properties of McNab Street Presbyterian Church, beg to report as follows:

In accordance with the instructions of the Congregation your Board instituted arbitration proceedings to compel payment by the T. H. & B. Railway of the damage caused by the Railway to the Church property in consequence of the building of the Railway upon Hunter Street. The proceedings proved very tedious and expensive, and it was only on the 5th December last that we were informed by the Church Solicitors that the matter had been definitely settled. At a meeting of the Trustees held on that day at the office of Mr. Chisholm, a statement of receipts and disbursements in connection with the arbitration was submitted. From this statement, a copy of which is hereto annexed, it appears that out of the $1000 damages eventually secured by the Church as the fruits of the arbitration, the net amount coming to the Trustees after repaying to the Church Treasurer all interest paid by him on moneys provided for taking up the first award and the disbursements of the Church Solicitors not recovered from the Railway Company is $693.57.

The Trustees, while thankful that the Congregation have escaped the very heavy costs entailed by the arbitration, were unanimous in condemning the costly and tedious procedure provided for ascertaining damages in such cases, the manifestly unjust and harsh construction placed upon the law bearing on such cases as viewed from the property owners' standpoint, and lastly the vexatious conduct of the Railway Company in indulging in numerous, unnecessary and futile appeals, resulting only in delay and expense to both parties.

Your Board desires to heartily thank those members of the congregation and others who voluntarily gave evidence in the arbitration on behalf of the Church, and in many ways assisted the Church in its fight against the Railway Company.

The Church Treasurer was instructed to refund all interest paid by him to the Bank of Hamilton upon the moneys borrowed to pay the arbitrators' fees and take up the first award, and out of