

375,535 ; an increase of \$51,560, or of 3.90 per cent., being an average of \$7.86 per Member ; an increase of 20 cents on the previous year.

Our total contributions for all purposes, in 1865, were \$225,809, or an average of \$6.44 per member. For 1866, the amount was \$273,949 ; an increase of \$48,140, or of 21 per cent., being an average of \$7.51 per Member, an increase of \$1.07 on the previous year.

These comparative statistics are worthy of note, and furnish us with some interesting facts and references :—

1. That this Mother Church is maintaining a steady rate of increase, from year to year, in Churches, Ministers, Members, and Incomes, at a rate, probably, proportional to the increase of population and wealth in the country.

2. That our rate of increase, in almost every department, is much greater than theirs ; arising, probably, from the fact that we have larger unwrought resources, and not only the natural increase of the population, but, also, a large foreign immigration from which to draw.

3. That the average Eldership and Membership to each Minister is greater in the U. P. Church than ours.

4. That the average stipend is greatly above ours, it is nearly double, and may be accounted for by their much larger average Membership to each Minister ; theirs being 280 and ours 151. From this fact, we may infer that an increase in average stipends depends greatly on an increase in Members.

5. That our average contributions per Member, and our annual increase for stipends are larger than those of the U. P. Church ; ours being \$3.55, increase 20 cents ; theirs \$3.10, increase 10 cents.

6. Their total average contributions for all purposes, per Member, exceeds ours ; theirs being \$7.86, and our \$7.51, but our increase on the year exceeds theirs ; ours being \$1.07, theirs 20 cents.

On the whole, we compare favourably with this home Church. Our average stipend to Ministers is the only item in which we appear to disadvantage. In this respect the U. P. Church is far ahead of us. We are, however, making progress, and may hope that with the blessing of God and our labours, we may, at no distant day, reach to a higher mark.

K.

CONGREGATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETIES.

It is felt by all who are interested in the progress of our church that some other method than that of special collections in the Church on a sabbath is necessary in order that adequate means may be obtained for carrying on with efficiency our various Missionary and Benevolent Schemes. The collection frequently fails to obtain contributions from all the members of any congregation, by reason of the absence of some, the forgetfulness of others and the indifference of many. A wet, a cold, or a hot day will, too, grievously diminish the amount that, under favourable circumstances, might be expected.

The only method that has yet been devised by which to secure that every member of any congregation shall have an opportunity of giving, as God has prospered him, for the Schemes of the Church is that of Congregational Missionary Associations. This agency promotes liberality and does good in many ways. It specializes the work—brings the objects of christian benevolence distinctly before the people. It gives the whole congregation a personal interest in the management and distribution of its own benevolence. It increases the number of workers in the Church and opens a field for the employment of its young members. In every case in which it has