

desire for the growth and prosperity of the Church is greater than ever. May our God be with us still. May he bless our office-bearers, our members, our Congregation, and our families. May he shed the rich dew of his love upon our young people. May he prepare us all to live and work for him, and, therefore, to die in faith, if death shall come to any amongst us, so that living or dying, we may be the Lord's.

I am, my dear friends,

Your affectionate pastor,

J. FREDERICK STEVENSON.

EMMANUEL CHURCH, *January, 1878.*

REPORT OF THE CHURCH BOARD.

The duty once more devolves upon your Board of presenting their annual Report of the life and work of the Church, during another year of its history. And, at the outset, your Board regard it as matter for gratitude to God, and congratulation and encouragement among ourselves, that brotherly love and harmony have prevailed, and that no root of bitterness has sprung up to cause trouble and division. And whilst the year now past has been characterised by this peace and harmony, it has yet been marked by steady growth in the numbers attending the public services of the Church, and by an enhanced appreciation of the valuable pulpit ministrations of our beloved Pastor. It is also matter for thankfulness, that Pastor, Office-bearers, and people, have been blessed with so large a measure of health and strength for the discharge of the duties devolving upon them, and that death has made so few inroads upon our numbers.

The Pastor used his summer vacation in paying a visit to his native land. Accompanied by Mrs. Stevenson, he sailed for England on July 7th; and both returned in health and safety, after pleasant and rapid passages both ways, on the morning of Sunday, September 9th. On the evening of Thursday, September 13th, a happy meeting of reunion and welcome, on the part of Pastor and people, was held. During the absence of the Pastor,