

Steel the thanks of the Assembly for his exceedingly interesting address.

✻ The 100th Psalm was then sung by the Assembly with heart and voice, led by Mr. McLaren the choir-master of Crescent St. Church.

HOME MISSION REPORTS.

DR. COCHRANE, CONVENER, entered into explanations at length on the Report of the Committee on Home Missions, (Western Section,) which, having been previously placed in the hands of members in pamphlet form, was held to be read. He said that the Committee had begun the year with gloomy forebodings, but the liberality of the people had enabled them to come before the Assembly at this time, and for the first time in the history of the Church, free of debt and with a small balance on the right side of the ledger. They had commenced the year with an indebtedness of \$11,050, and for a time felt that they must altogether abandon some of their mission fields and curtail the salaries of their missionaries in others; but so hearty and generous had been the response to their appeals, the entire indebtedness had been cancelled, while the claims for the year were also fully met. For this they were thankful to the Great Head of the Church who had inclined His people to give so willingly; thankful also to the Presbyteries of the Church for their valuable assistance, and to the congregations and individual members of the Church who had so nobly responded. The contributions from all sources for the past year amounted to \$46,869.77. The balance on hand is \$116.99. The committee gratefully acknowledge their obligations to the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland for a grant of £250 stg., towards their Home Mission work, and another of £150 towards the maintenance of Manitoba College: also grants of £100 each for the same from the Presbyterian Church of Ireland—making in all \$2,905.72 from the Home Churches. The donations and special contributions amounted to \$6,396.59, of which \$3,600 came from Montreal, \$726 being balance of ministerial contributions to the deficit of last year, and \$750 from the PRESBYTERIAN RECORD. The report gives detailed statistics of 126 mission fields, exclusive of Manitoba—in which alone there are already upwards of *ninety* preaching stations. The number of families supplied with ordinances in these stations is 4,343, the number of communicants, 4,844. The total amount expended by the Committee in these 126 stations was \$22,532.23. The Supplemented Congregations—exclusive of Manitoba—were *eighty-five* in number, who received during the year \$10,753.29, in sums ranging from \$25 to \$275 each. The numbers of mission-

aries reported are as follows:—Ministers and Licentiates, 35; Theological Students, 70; Student Catechists, 25; Lay Catechists, 9. Total 139. Honourable mention is made of the abundant labours of the Theological Students under the auspices of the Missionary Societies of Knox College, Queen's College, and the Presbyterian College, Montreal, respectively, and of the very considerable sums of money raised by each in behalf of the mission work of the Church, over and above what passed through the hands of the Home Mission Committee.

MR. J. M. KING moved the deliverance on the report, conveying the thanks of the Assembly to the Committee, and especially to the Convener; acknowledging thankfulness to Almighty God for the success which had attended their efforts, and those of the Student's Missionary Societies; expressing gratitude to the Home Churches for their valuable aid, and, generally, approving of the recommendations contained in the report.

Fourth Day.

THE REPORT FOR THE EASTERN SECTION was given in by Dr. WATERS at a subsequent sederunt and adopted. An extended notice of this most interesting report will appear next month, along with that of the Board of French Evangelization and other matters.

AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.

MR. JAMES MIDDLEMISS, Convener, read the report of the Committee for the Western Section of the Church. The receipts for the year were \$5,331, the expenditure, \$5,665. The estimated expenditure for the current year was \$7000, and it was feared that unless an effort was made to increase the revenues there must inevitably be a reduction in the larger annuities. The chief cause of anxiety was in reference to the irregular payment of the ministers' rates. An amalgamation of the funds, East and West, had been considered by the Committee, but they judged it to be impracticable at present. The report, which was a very carefully prepared and judicious one, embodied a number of valuable suggestions for the improvement and management of the Fund.

PROFESSOR GREGG directed attention to the necessity of punctuality on the part of ministers in the payment of their rates.

MR. MACLEAN SINCLAIR, Convener, read the report of the Eastern Section. The income of that Fund last year was \$1603 from all sources: the expenditure, \$1383. Mr. Sinclair made an admirable appeal on behalf of the Fund, quoting the sanction of Scripture, and shewing that the principles upon which it was founded were alike politic and reasonable. He urged its liberal support, not as a