

increased to make this possible. There was a very slight deficit on the work of the year which is not desirable.

Manitoba has a new building, much better facilities for work, and is deep in its new experiment of a summer session. From the older provinces it has received \$4,193 a little larger revenue than the previous years for which it is thankful, and hopes for more to follow.

Several other reports were received, of which more anon, and the Assembly adjourned till Monday, taking a Saturday half holiday

MONDAY, 19TH JUNE.

The Report on Sabbath Schools was considered. The committee report a two-fold work;

(1) That of the Sabbath Schools of the Church, with an enrolment of 150,000, 45,000 of whom commit passages of Scripture in addition to the Golden Texts, 54,000 learn the shorter Catechism, and 16,000 are communicants.

(2) The scheme of Higher Religious Instruction under which last year there were about 1000 studying, 448 of whom came up for examination, with excellent results.

Let it be especially remembered that the S. School is in no way a substitute for home instruction, but simply an aid to it. Upon the parent rests the first and chief responsibility for the religious instruction of the young, and faithful S. S. workers are doing what they can to supplement this work.

Following the consideration of the spiritual wants of the young came that of the temporal needs of the aged, the ministers who have spent life and strength in the work of the ministry, and for whom in common justice, the Church and country, who have profited by their labors, should provide.

In the Eastern section the total receipts have been about \$4000, and the expenditure \$3,590. There are 17 annuitants, receiving from \$100 to \$200 each.

In the West the receipts for the ordinary Fund were \$18,770 and those for the Endowment Fund \$21,340. The whole endowment now reaches \$128,900. More than 250 congregations in the West have done nothing for this important Fund during the year. Eleven annuitants have died, and ten are coming on, so that the number will be about the same. The number of annuitants during the year was 76, receiving from \$100, to, in a very few instances, \$275.

French Evangelization occupied the evening, 2 pastors and 4 missionary colporteurs labored in Ontario; 1 pastor and 2 missionaries in New Brunswick; and 18 pastors, 12 missionaries, 7 missionary colporteurs, and 26 teachers, in Quebec. 39 congregations and mission fields with 96 preaching stations have been supplied. Connected with these were 600 Protestant

families. 2 new fields were occupied. About \$6000 was given by the people, 760 scholars attended the Sabbath Schools.

Prejudice against the workers and their work, seems to be giving way, the desire for knowledge is growing. The work though slow is encouraging and sure.

TUESDAY, 20TH JUNE.

The consideration of the Temperance Report. Ninety-five per cent. of all the sessions reporting, favor a prohibitory law, and the Assembly renewed its testimony of former years, that nothing short of prohibition rigidly enforced by the proper authorities should ever be accepted as final and satisfactory. The Assembly also without expressing any opinion as to the wisdom of the plebiscite soon to be taken in Ontario and P. E. Island urges all the members and adherents of the Presbyterian Church who have votes, to cast them for prohibition, and earnestly asks all friends of temperance to use all right means to secure the largest possible majority in favor of that measure.

WEDNESDAY, 21ST JUNE.

There was presented to-day, the Report on Statistics, one of the most important documents that comes before the Assembly. Figures! Figures! Figures! But they tell facts, and to Dr. Torrance for his painstaking arithmetic for so many years, the church is deeply indebted. But its consideration this year, as too often heretofore, was put off towards the end of the Assembly, giving neither it nor its compiler fair play. Henceforth a time is to be fixed for receiving it and a session of each Assembly devoted to its consideration. The total givings of the church during the past year for all purposes as summed up in that report, were \$2,039,121, over two millions of dollars. The number of families connected with the church is 93,487; communicants 173,037; pastoral charges 997.

The subject of church union came up in the form of a memorial from the Presbytery of Toronto which asked for a committee on the subject of union with the Congregationalist body. The Assembly in view of the late action of the Congregational Union, judged it better not to take any action in the direct line of this memorial, but decided to appoint a committee, on the general subject of union, with instructions to hold themselves ready to confer with any body or bodies that may be appointed by any other Church or Churches should the way be opened up for conference.

The Report of the Hymnal Committee called forth considerable discussion, and the more from the fact that a new and revised edition of the Hymnal will soon be issued. There were proposals to insert, instead of the whole of the metrical Psalms, selections from them of the parts more commonly sung. The Assembly however decided to retain the Psalter complete, and arrangements were made for issuing the new Hymnal.

On Wednesday night, near the "keystone" the Assembly closed in the usual way, after a largely attended, quiet, useful meeting, and the near four hundred delegates, went forth, carrying what of inspiration and help they had gathered, to the work of another year