

of justice as well. Neglect to furnish the relief which may be reasonably expected, is a defect in our Christian conduct which should be at once remedied.

It is encouraging that the collections from churches, and individual donations, show a considerable increase last year over the amount received from these sources the preceding year. This is largely due to increased efforts to bring the claims of the Society more prominently before the churches. Year before last church collections amounted to \$264.57, and donations to \$47, or a total of \$311.57. Last year church collections were \$325.10, and donations \$288.07, or a total of \$610.17. It is but just to say that of the donations \$200 came from one man, a man far from rich, who gave to the Society for distribution a certain percentage of an amount of money unexpectedly received.

The income of the Society the past year, from all sources, has been \$2980 49, of this \$1879.68 is interest from invested capital. The Treasurer's Statement, which will be read shortly, will show the items, and whence they have come.

The expenditure of the year has been \$1937.65, of which \$1885 has been paid to annuitants. The Statement of the Treasurer will give the items of outlay in detail.

Nine old ministers, fourteen widows, and a few children under fifteen years of age have participated in the benefits of the Society the past year, in all twenty-nine persons. The funds on hand were not sufficient to make full payment, and, as provided by the constitution, a *pro rata* division was made of the money available. Three-fourths of what should have been paid was given to each. Those who should have received \$120, got \$90; and where \$100 should have been given, only \$75 was received. This should not be so. An additional \$600 would have paid the full amount, and the churches could have easily given that small gratuity.

The Rev. A. M. Facey, for many years a beneficiary of the Society, died last autumn. Before his death he had drawn from the funds \$1414. In his old age and poverty, for he was both old and poor, this amount was no small relief. He had been receiving help from the Society for fourteen and a-half years, and received about \$100 per annum for that period. One of the widows helped by the Society has married again, and, of course, is no longer a partaker in its benefits.

The beneficiaries for the coming year are eight ministers, and thirteen widows. Three of these widows have children under fifteen years of age. The amount in hand with which to begin the year is \$1,042.84. This falls short by about \$88.00 of what is required to meet the claims of the first six months, to say nothing of the incidental expenses of postage, commission, etc. It may be added, however, that before next April another installment of interest on capital will become due. But the interest will not meet all claims, and the churches are looked to for the additional sum required, and we trust God will put it into the hearts of His people to give what is needed.

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