

The whole number of young people receiving instruction in the Sabbath-schools (including the Victoria Mission) and the Bible-classes, is 478. The number of teachers in the several departments is 62.

## The Bible-Classes.

It has always been the desire of the Kirk-Session to encourage the youth of the congregation in the systematic study of the Holy Scriptures. To this end classes have been held for many years on Sabbath afternoons, conducted for the most part by the Ministers of the congregation — though other members of the Session and congregation have at different times conducted such classes — among whom may be mentioned Mr. James Tasker and Mrs. William Reid. Prior to the appointment of Rev. Robert Laing as assistant Minister, Rev. Dr. Jenkins maintained a large and successful Bible-class in the vestry of the Church—the care of which devolved upon Mr. Laing during his incumbency. On Mr. Laing's removal, in March last, the class was divided — Mr. J. Murray Smith undertaking the superintendence of the young women's class, and the Rev. W. R. Cruikshank that of the young men. Both of these are now conducted with a high degree of efficiency. The want, however, of suitable apartments for holding these classes, which meet in the body of the Church, is felt to be a great drawback, and seriously interferes with their extension and usefulness. It is hoped, therefore, that measures may be soon taken by the Trustees to provide the accommodation so much required for the comfort and usefulness of this important branch of the work of the congregation. The number on the roll of Mr. Smith's Class is 27, and on that of Mr. Cruikshank's 15.

There is no more interesting and profitable study to which the young people of a congregation can give their attention than the study of the Word of God ; and it is earnestly hoped that a very much larger number than are now in attendance will come forward and avail themselves of the advantages which the Bible-classes afford them of perfecting their knowledge in the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make them "wise unto salvation." The course of instruction followed in these classes, and in the Sabbath-school, is that of "The International Series of Lessons."

W. R. CRUIKSHANK, } *Superintendents.*  
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