

show that in these vitally important departments of the Congregation's work, satisfactory progress has been made. It is gratifying to know that there is a deepening interest in all these branches of the Church's activity, and that the fruits of the earnest, prayerful labour bestowed upon them are contributing in so marked a degree to its strength and vitality. The attendance at all the meetings in these departments has been good, and shows an encouraging increase.

At the beginning of the year, it was decided, with the hearty concurrence of the Temporal Committee, to appoint a separate Treasurer for your contributions to the Schemes of the Church; and Mr. M. McKinnon was appointed by the Session to that office, and to aid the lady collectors in their work; and the Session is glad to know that your contributions during the year reach a higher figure than during any year of the past; and yet the Session note that this gratifying result has been attained more by the increased liberality of a few, than by any corresponding addition to the number of contributors; and they repeat the regret of last year, "that there are still so many on the lists of the lady visitors who have not contributed anything for the promotion of Christ's kingdom at home and abroad;" and they cherish the hope that these friends, during the present year, will see it to be their duty and privilege to do something to aid the church in carrying forward the great work which is before her in the wide and hopeful fields that are open to her, both in our own and heathen lands. Let us fear to expose ourselves to the curse which fell upon those who "came not to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty."

The thanks of the Congregation are due to the lady visitors, who have, with faithful and self-denying labour, distributed the *Record* and received your contributions; and also to Mr. McKinnon, for his careful supervision of the work and his labours as Treasurer. A report of your contributions will be submitted by him to you.

And now, Brethren, we exhort you to be more diligent in the use of the means of grace, more humble and holy in heart, more faithful and self-sacrificing in labor to promote the Master's cause, more prayerful, more Christ like. The time is short; our account must soon be rendered. "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest." "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves in your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost; keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life."

J. DURIE,

*Clerk.*

F. W. FARRIES,

*Moderator.*

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