

REPORT.

The time has again arrived when it becomes the duty of the Synod's Committee on Sabbath Schools to submit their Annual Report. Three years have now elapsed since the Synod caused special attention to be directed to Sabbath School interests and Statistics. In the first Report, that for the year 1857, it is stated that the Committee "only received thirty-three replies;" while some of these reported no Sabbath Schools. In the second Report, that for 1858, the Committee state that they "have received answers from forty Sabbath Schools." For the year 1859, your Committee have to report answers from forty-three Sabbath Schools, and of more than that number they have heard.

The number of scholars on the Rolls of the 43 reporting Schools is found to be 3,628, with an average attendance of 2374½. This would give on the Roll of each School 84, and an average attendance of 55. Throughout the whole there is during the year an increase of 209 scholars, and a decrease of 32, making a gain of 177. In these Schools we have enrolled 194 male teachers and 172 female, making a total of 366 teachers, or at the rate of over 8 teachers for each School.

Obviously these numbers do not represent the actual numbers of our Sabbath School Teachers and Scholars; they only exhibit the attendance of those Schools which have complied with the instructions of the Synod. Of the Schools heard from this year, 11 are either new or not previously reported. From the Minister of our Church at Brock, the Committee learned that while he had found it impracticable to have a Sabbath School, he was in the habit of teaching a week-day Bible Class. From Osnabruck the Minister writes, that owing to distance, there is no Congregational Sabbath School, but that a large proportion of a Union Sabbath School is composed of his young people. There are many other instances referred to in the replies, of the children of our Church attending Union Sabbath Schools.

In addition to the numbers named of Sabbath Scholars, the Return from St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, informs us—"There are two Bible Classes in connection with the congregation; one meets on Saturday, attended by 100, increase as compared with last year, 27. One on Sabbath, attended by 23. Total, 123." St. Andrew's Church, Quebec, also reports an increase of 10 as compared with last year in the Bible Class, making the attendance to be 60.

Of the Schools that reported last year, 7 with 462 scholars' names on the Roll, have not been heard from this year. A notice in the *Presbyterian* of March last, shows that on the 1st of January, 1860, there were on the Roll of St. Andrew's Church, Hamilton,