

completeness, a glance backwards for four years shows encouraging progress.

Some apprehension was felt in 1886 by the cautious and timid among us, lest the financial responsibilities to be met in the new church should prove too formidable for our people. But the results of the past four years have even in this respect been on the whole gratifying. Without any very great effort, such as most congregations throughout Canada have had to make in like circumstances, without demanding any considerable sacrifices on the part of our adherents, both the ordinary running expenses of the church and the interest of the debt have been provided for,—at least the shortage has not amounted to much. More revenue might easily have been raised, quite enough to satisfy every obligation from year to year, provided all our people had done their duty,—done what they could easily have done by a little forethought and management,—as many did theirs. Perhaps sufficient efforts were not used, or pressure brought to bear upon them, so that a larger number of families, obtaining religious privileges among us, are not known as contributors to ordinances in the Treasurer's books, than will be found probably in any Presbyterian church in the city. A distribution of the work among the Trustees, whose chief duty it is to devise ways and means of providing an adequate revenue, and take the necessary means to secure that end, would doubtless help to remedy this faulty state of matters. If each of them would take the oversight of a district of the congregation, and make it his business to confer with the adherents of the church within that district, as to the needs of the church, and as to what each could do towards providing for those needs, as well as to the best method of doing so effectually,—the few hundred dollars a year required, according to the showing of the accompanying financial statement, to meet all our obligations, I have no hesitation in saying, would be easily raised. When those that are not known as contributors have first been conferred with, and their cooperation secured,—then the balance needed, over and above, will be taken up and distributed readily among those who are doing their part in a praiseworthy manner, but who will increase their givings by the small advance required to put our finances on a satisfactory footing. Even then, we shall not be under the strain that nine out of every ten congregations in Canada are conscious of, from year to year.

Dear brethren, I anew invoke your hearty cooperation in the work of our church. Look upon it as God's chief agency for furthering the cause of truth and righteousness among us. You are copartners in the concern. You do not take in more than half of what is implied in church connection, when you think only of your own pleasure or even profit, as a reason for church attendance and support. Our church is a witness for the truth in the city. It is thereby the providence of God, as it has been for upwards of a century. Is it needed? Is it