

Rev D. Inglis

Rev J. Kemp.

"A REVIEW" REVIEWED.

THE Rev. A. F. Kemp, A. M., of Windsor, has published, first in the *Sarnia Observer*, and afterwards in a pamphlet, "A Review of the State and Progress of the Canada Presbyterian Church since the Union in 1864." The pamphlet has been very widely circulated throughout the Church, and beyond its limits. Its design is to show that since the Union the growth of the Church has been arrested, to point out the causes of decay, and to suggest the remedies. In reviewing this publication, no reference will be made to the personalities, which it unhappily contains, on the ground that the discussion of such subjects, in the columns of a newspaper, or the pages of a pamphlet, is contrary alike to good taste and to the good order of our Presbyterian Church government.

The alleged fact that there has been a sudden and marked arrest in the increase of the ministry, the membership and the revenue of the C. P. Church, Mr. Kemp attempts to prove by arguments resting on certain comparative tables, embracing the periods from 1855 to 1859, before the Union, and from 1862 to 1866, after it.

It may here be noted that he speaks throughout the pamphlet of the Presbyterian Church of Canada as the Free Church, and to avoid confusion this last name will be used in the reply.

The tables in reference to the ministry are as follows :

FREE CHURCH.		U. P. CHURCH.	
Ministers on the roll in 1855.....	104	Ministers on the roll in 1855.....	50
" " " 1859.....	143	" " " 1859.....	66
Increase in 4 years	39	Increase in 4 years.....	16
Average increase per annum.....	9.75	Average increase per annum	4
or 9.40 per cent.		or 8 per cent.	

The average annual increase for the two Churches will thus be 8.87 per cent.

CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.	
Ministers on the roll in 1862	231
" " 1866	248
Increase in four years	17
Average increase per annum.....	4.25
or 1.85 per cent.	

Mr. Kemp's argument, founded on these tables, is, that while "the two Churches before the Union increased at the average rate of 8-87 per cent. per annum, the C. P. Church increased by only 1.85." Again he states that "had the C. P. Church after the Union increased at the same rate as the two Churches before the Union, we should have had 80 additional ministers instead of 17."

This mode of dealing with statistics may be tested by applying it to the population of Upper Canada.