

The Monthly Record.*APRIL, 1881.***St. Andrew's Church, Pictou.****THE ANNUAL REPORT.**

A neatly printed pamphlet of 18 pages presents to the Congregation the statement of the past year's financial and working account. It is eminently satisfactory and contains a large amount of information likely to prove beneficial to the congregation. Other congregations might do well to copy the example thus set them by St. Andrew's Church.

First : there is a list of the office-bearers, which facilitates congregational convenience. We miss, however, the division of the town part of the membership into districts for the superintendence of the individual elders, of all the means employed so successfully in our day for the oversight of congregations, there is none so effectual as that of territorial assignment of a particular district to a certain individual. The attention of the minister and the Kirk session is respectfully called to this important matter. A memo. informs us that the Congregation has within its bounds 362 families. An immense number for one minister to superintend. The grass is not likely to grow under the foot of the man who undertakes such a charge. The mention of the number of burials gives a good indication that the past season has not been a healthy one in Pictou. Mr. Gordon the Treasurer, presents a succinct statement of the debtor and credit-

or side of the financial statement. It is brief but clear as a sunbeam. The liabilities have largely accrued during the vacancy of the pulpit, repairs on the Manse forming about half the liabilities. A pull, a strong pull, and a pull together will soon put the liability side of the account in the proper place.

It is a matter of rejoicing that the congregation possesses a Sabbath School Association. Little can be effectually done in these days without united effort. Depend upon it a Sabbath School Association is a necessity in every congregation. The accounts and statistics are explicitly given. There is nothing haphazard in their statistics, no guessing at the average attendance either of Teacher or pupils, all statements made are according to matter of fact. This is as it should be. Mr. Dan Sutherland is a model Secretary.

"The Ladies Society" must have singularly efficient officers. They give a statement of Receipts and Expenditures from April 1859 to the end of the present year. Evidently the members of the "Ladies Society" have not only clever fingers, but business like heads.

"A Dorcas Society" of the working bees, also exists, and dispenses with no niggard hand the bounties of the Congregation. Surely this is in harmony with the ancient practices of the Christian Church. The judicious manner in which the benefactions of the society have been dispensed cannot be too much admired. Nothing stated to offend the most fastidious, and no parade made of liberality, generosity, etc., etc. The minister we are led to