

Synods with 40 self-sustaining congregations, 28 augmented congregations, and 155 separate missions; in all, 712 places where regular services are held.

The total receipts for Home Missions from Presbyteries in the west during the year, amount to \$71,327. In addition to this, many congregations are supporting a mission station of their own and it is stated that the work thus done amounts in all to an additional \$40,334.

The report on Augmentation of Stipends showed that in the Eastern Section fifty congregations were aided. The total receipts were \$7,983.68; expenditures, \$7,781.66, leaving a small balance on the work of the year.

In the West, one hundred and forty seven congregations have received aid to the amount of \$26,000. It should have been \$27,000, to enable all the congregations to pay their pastors their minimum salary, but owing to a deficit of \$1,000 the committee was obliged to reduce the grants.

FRIDAY, 17TH JUNE.

This morning, Dr. Mackay gave a report, which was heartily approved, of the visit of the delegates to the Free Church Assembly.

Next came the report of the Committee on Sabbath Observance. This year has been a notable one in this conflict, in connection with the effort to open the Columbian Exhibition on Sabbath, which unfortunately has been successful.

In our own country there has not been much change from previous years. Reports from some of the Synods complain of Sunday travel by rail or steamboat on business and pleasure by members and adherents of our church. Some complain of railways and other public works needlessly violating the Sabbath. Mr. Charlton's bill in Parliament for the better observance of that day has been defeated as on several former occasions. On the other hand there have been distinct gains. Mention was made of a Post Office at Lethbridge which the government had ordered open, but which had been closed in response to the urgent representations of friends of the Sabbath, showing what can be done by earnest, united action.

The Assembly does not believe in unlucky days, for Friday evening is invariably "Foreign Mission Night." The report is a document of 106 pages, and should be carefully studied. Much of its substance has been given from month to month in the RECORD, and will be continued in the months to come.

Suffice it here to say that in the Eastern section, the total receipts for the year were \$26,247.98; the expenditure, \$27,331.82, or more than one thousand dollars in advance of the receipts, while a balance Dr. at the beginning of the year makes the total debt, May, 1893, \$9,466.34. The

Eastern section is struggling bravely with many difficulties. Many of its congregations are not so strong as they were, but hearts are no less willing and we trust that soon this deficit will be wiped away.

In the West, the total receipts have been \$103,407.21, and while the year began with an adverse balance of \$2,608, it closed with a balance on hand of \$9,305, about as much as the Eastern Section is in debt.

In this connection, should be noted the part that the W. F. M. S. has had in this work. In the East they contribute \$5,400, or nearly one fifth of the whole besides what has been done by Women's Congregational Societies not connected with the larger organization. In the West the W. F. M. S. has contributed about \$51,000, nearly one-half of the whole amount received for the year. In both East and west they have done nobly.

Foreign Mission night is usually one of the most interesting sessions of the Assembly and this year was no exception. Dr. Paton, who since 1884 has been in Australia as the agent of the churches there, told of their work in the New Hebrides; of our own missionaries, there were present, Mr. MacVicar from China, Mr. Wilson from India, Mr. Winchester from the Chinese in B. C., and Mr. McDonald from his work among the Pagan Indians in Alberni; while Dr. Elizabeth Beattie, who was for a time in India, and Dr. Marion Oliver who has just returned from that field, looked eloquently from their seats upon the platform.

SATURDAY 17TH JUNE.

This, Saturday morning, was as usual devoted to the reception of the Reports from Colleges.

Beginning with the East, the Presbyterian College, Halifax, report a most successful year, nine students given to the ministry, a debt of \$5,252, removed, a new professor or lecturer added to the staff, and prospects never brighter.

Morrin was declared by its report to be a necessity for the Province as it is difficult to get students from other colleges to settle in Eastern Quebec; but its income of \$7,148, does meet the expenditure. It needs a larger income.

Montreal rejoices in eight added to the ministry of the Church, an added professor and an improved financial position, but is pressing on to better things in the way of securing a necessary increased endowment.

Queen's graduated eleven in theology; has a deficit, the accumulation of years, but will be able to make ends meet when the receipts from congregations are what the reports states they should be, at least \$4900 per annum.

At Knox twenty seven students completed their course. Another professor is wanted, but the contributions of congregations must be