

Report of the Trustees

*of St. Paul's Church, for the year 1883, submitted to the Congregation
at the Annual Meeting on 14th January, 1884.*

The Trustees, in laying before the Congregation this report of their management of the finances of the Church, have much pleasure in noting that the transition stage, through which the Congregation was passing when the last two reports were made, has now happily ended. The Congregation enters hopefully upon a new year under the ministration of the Reverend James Barclay, M.A. who accepted the call of the Congregation, and, having been inducted to the charge on the 11th of October last, has since entered upon his duties with much success, and with satisfaction to all.

The Trustees desire in this report especially to record their deep sense of the help which the Rev. Dr. Jenkins has rendered to the Congregation during the past year and they hope long to see him among the members of St. Paul's.

It will be observed, by reference to the accounts herewith, that the special expenditure of the year caused by the recent vacancy, and by the necessary operations of the Committee charged with the choice of a minister, has been heavy, but this fortunately will not, of course, recur, and next year's accounts will consist nearly exclusively of regular and known items of expenditure.

The amount received from pew rents has been slightly in excess of that of last year, and the Trustees are glad to note that they have been paid with greater punctuality than heretofore, the arrears of the year being only six per cent. From pew rents, at the present rates, no great increase can be expected, as only 17 sittings are available unlet, beyond the free sittings which are 56 in number. Several members of the Congregation have, however, expressed a desire to contribute to the increased expenses of the Church, by voluntary additions to their pew rents. While no alterations are intended in the existing rates (although these are lower than in many of the city Churches), this mode of contribution to the general fund is commended to the consideration of those whose views it meets.

In the plate collections the Board notes with satisfaction an increase of over four hundred dollars, which has been entirely within the last months of the year, and is due doubtless to the larger and more regular attendance at services since the termination of the vacancy. The Trustees hope that a continued increase in this branch