

III. *The Sunday School.*—As indicated in our last Report, the division of the School into departments for the three distinctly marked classes of scholars attending it—namely, non-readers, juniors, and advanced Scholars—is found to be productive of the most valuable results. By this means we have been enabled to carry out, with a fair measure of success, the idea of forming the respective classes of scholars of similar ages and attainments. This arrangement has also had the effect of simplifying the work of the teachers, and at the same time rendering it more effective.

The statistics of attendance for the past year is as follows, viz. :—

General School—Average attendance of Boys .....	83
General School—Average attendance of Girls .....	113
Non-Reading Classes—Average attendance of Boys .....	37
Non-Reading Classes—Average attendance of Girls .....	34
Bible Class—Average attendance of Males .....	57
Bible Class—Average attendance of Females .....	42
Total average attendance .....	366
Average attendance of Teachers in all the departments .....	34

V. *The Schemes of the Church.*—During the past year the Session adopted the principle of collection by schedule. Owing chiefly, as we believe, to the special demands made for other objects—and to which reference will presently be made—we cannot say that, as yet, this system has proved a success. Very few schedules were returned in proportion to the number issued. The Session, however, remain unshaken in the belief that the principle is essentially sound, and that only exceptional circumstances have prevented it from being—as it has been in so many other places—a success amongst us. We confidently look forward to a successful operation in the future, and we believe that, by the adoption of this mode of collection, systematic giving, as distinguished from the impulsive toll at the Church door, will be fostered.

VI. *The Home and Foreign Missionary Record* is still supplied to every family in the congregation which is willing to take it.

VIII. Our great work of the year has been the movement to secure Endowment. By all who understand our ec-

clesiastical system, this has been long recognized to be an imperative demand of our congregational position. In our last Report we referred to it as a matter which we might “expect” the Congregation to grapple with during the year. We have now to report that it has been grappled with, most successfully. The response to our appeal was most hearty and cheering. The total sum required to liquidate the debt on the Hall, purchase the Feu-duty, and secure Endowment, was about £4,200. Of this sum £1,500 was promised by the Endowment Committee, £750 was most generously voted from the Baird Trust on conditions to which no one could possibly object, and the remaining sum had to be raised from other sources. The subscriptions from the Congregation were such that we felt warranted, in conjunction with the Managers, in placing the matter in the hands of our Law Agents, and we hope that in the course of a few weeks we shall receive Decree of Disjunction and Erection, and St. Mary's Chapel will reach the status of St. Mary's Parish Church. We believe that this consummation will be gratifying to all friends of the Congregation, and it is with peculiar pleasure that the acting Session feel warranted in referring to it

AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED, YEAR 1874.

Ordinary Revenue .....	£ 760 7 7
Subscription for School Hall .....	5 9 10
“ “ Endowment Fund .....	1,012 11 4
“ “ Assn's Schemes .....	32 4 6
Col. for Assembly's Schemes .....	94 5 0
“ Sabbath Schools .....	22 15 10
Subscriptions for Session Fund .....	78 4 6

£2,065 18 7

Add sundry School Contributions, and other sums not included in above, say .....

30 0 0

£2,035 18 7

CURIOUS FACT IN CONNECTION WITH THE AUCHTERARDER CASE.—Among the claims for the loss of patronage which came up for hearing before Sheriff Barclay at Perth on Monday, was one by the Earl of Kinnoull as patron of the parish of Auchterarder. On his Lordship's agent being called on to produce his title, it appeared that no title had been made up for 150 years. The presentation to the parish which issued in the “Auchterarder” case, and was one of the immediate causes that