

Annual Meetings.

ST. GEORGE, ONT.

The annual meeting of the Presbyterian congregation, St. George, Ont., was held on Thursday, Jan. 20th. The pastor, Rev. D. Y. Ross, M.A., presided. Reports of a very encouraging nature were received from the Session, Sunday school, Christian Endeavor, Gordon Mission band, W.F.M.S., the Managers' and Ladies' Aid Society. The attendance at the church services has been good. The Sunday school reports an increase in membership and attendance, also the Endeavor Society has had instructive and well attended meetings. The Ladies' Aid Society had a successful year. After paying for some necessary improvements, they had a balance of \$150, which was reserved to assist the managers in paying off the debt. The Manager's report was also an interesting one. The debt of \$500 with which they started the year has been reduced to \$150. And it is expected that this will be removed by a special effort very shortly. The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society reports an increase in interest and attendance, and shows a balance in aid of the work of \$33.

PORT HOPE.

The annual meeting of the First Presbyterian church, Port Hope, was held Jan. 27th. In the absence of the pastor, (Rev. Dr. Smith) who was suffering from a severe cold, R. A. Mulholland, Esq., the chairman of the Board of Managers, presided. After the usual devotional exercises, a letter was received from the Session, in which feeling remarks were made of the losses the church had sustained during the year by death. The financial report presented by the Treasurer, showed the revenue to be ample to meet the working expenses of the church for the year, and were about \$180 more than the receipts of 1896. Reports from the various societies connected with the church were also read, and without exception were of a most encouraging nature.

BLACKHEATH.

The annual meeting of Blackheath Presbyterian church was held on Thursday evening, Jan. 18th. The pastor, Rev. D. B. Marsh, presided. Reports from all branches of the church were encouraging. Since Mr. Marsh's induction, four years ago, the congregation has made rapid and substantial progress. The church membership has been doubled. The amount contributed to the Scheme of the Church increased nearly three times. Nine new elders have been ordained, three new libraries purchased, so that each Sabbath school has its own library. One church has been renovated and relighted. A new organ has been purchased; Ladies Auxiliary, Mission Band, and Christian Endeavor organized. The best of feeling and harmony exists between pastor and people.

MOUNT FOREST.

The members of the Presbyterian church, Mount Forest, held their annual congregational meeting recently. The annual report shows the number of families in the congregation to be 178, and the total number of members 324 after the withdrawal of a number of families to the Bethel congregation, Farewell. The financial report of the Board of Managers places the expenditures for the year at \$2,448.44 and a balance due treasurer of \$164.06. Encouraging reports are made by the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, the Bickell Mission Band, Y. P. S. C. E., Ladies' Aid and Sabbath School.

CHALMERS' CHURCH, QUEBEC.

The annual meeting of the congregation of Chalmers' Church was held in the lecture room of the church.

The chair was occupied by the Rev. Donald Tait. Very encouraging reports were read from the Session, the Board of Management, the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, the Sabbath School, the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and the Mission Band.

In the report of Session, reference was made to the fact that the contributions made to missionary and benevolent objects were much larger for the year now ending

than in any previous year in the history of the congregation. The report of the Board of Management was very satisfactory, showing that after paying all liabilities there is a balance on hand. The Sunday School supports a pupil at the Mission Schools at Pointe aux Trembles. The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor has liberally contributed to the support of Home Missions, and the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and the Mission Band have sent valuable boxes to Central India and Trinidad.

The congregation contributed for ordinary congregational purposes \$3,402.93, and for missionary and benevolent objects \$3,027.54.

From the above statement it will be seen that the congregation spent almost as much on missionary and benevolent objects beyond its own bounds, as was contributed for congregational purposes. The total amount raised for all purposes was \$6,430.47.

HINTONBURGH.

The annual report of Bethany Presbyterian church, Hintonburgh, shows a highly satisfactory state of affairs.

Fourteen new members were added to the congregation during the year, 4 by certificate and 10 by profession of faith. On the roll are 99 members, representing 56 families. The adherents of the congregation represent over 40 families. On the book are registered 10 deaths, 11 baptisms and 3 marriages. The Sabbath school work steadily increases. On its roll are 180 scholars, 18 teachers and officers. The average attendance at the Sabbath school is 122, and the attendance on January 16th, 1898 was 173.

TAVISTOCK.

The annual congregational meeting of Knox church, was held in the basement on Wednesday evening. Dr. Steele presiding. Very encouraging reports were received from the Ladies' Aid Society, the Y. P. S. C. E., the Willing Workers and the Church Session. During the year nine new members had been added to the communion roll, the membership at present being ninety-two. The total sum contributed during the year for all purposes was \$596.00. Of this sum \$161.00 was paid for mission purposes and \$156.55 went towards the removal of the Church debt which is now reduced to \$275.00.

FERGUS.

The annual meeting of St. Andrew's church was held in the basement of the church. The pastor presiding.

The Session reports shows that they had received during the year by certificate 18, and on profession of faith, 11, total 29; removed by certificate, 15, leaving an increase to the roll of 14. Membership as reported last year, 307; membership as reported at date, 321, number of families added during the year, 9; number of families removed 3, total number of families connected with the congregation, 159.

The managers statement shows receipts of \$2,177, including \$200 borrowed, \$160 due Treasurer, and \$407 subscribed for church debt. All has been expended. Missionary Association, \$300; Sabbath School, \$130, Y. P. S. C. E., \$40, Mission Band, \$21, Ladies' Aid, \$203; Woman's Foreign Mission, \$144.

WOODSTOCK.

The annual congregational meeting of Chalmers' Church was held in the lecture room and was well attended.

Rev. Dr. Mackay conducted the devotional part of the meeting.

Geo. Innes was elected to preside over the business meeting.

The Session reports showed that 55 members had been added during the year making the total membership 412.

The report of the monthly contributions for missions showed the sum of \$221.15, a gratifying increase over the previous year.

The Ladies' Aid report showed \$126 thus raised.

Before the meeting closed some 40 names were added to the membership of the society.

The report of the W. F. M. S. The sum of \$101 had been raised during the year. The Heart and Hand Mission Band has raised \$33.67. The Y. P. S. C. E., reported that society is in a flourishing condition, sixteen of the members having united with the church during the year.

The S.S. and B. Class had raised \$229.71. The contributions for the poor amounted to \$43, and Mrs. McLeod had donated \$40 more for this purpose.

The report from the Board of Trustees was of a very encouraging kind. There had been raised for all purposes during the year \$2,391, and for the work of the congregation \$2,115. The ordinary revenue this year showed an increase of \$149.50 over the preceding year and there was no debt on the congregation, as the small liability of \$63 was more than met by available assets.

The cemetery report showed receipts during the year of \$193 and expenditure of \$547.

LINDSAY.

The annual business meeting of St. Andrew's congregation was recently held. The financial statement and annual reports showed a gratifying increase in the work of the congregation and the several societies in connection with the church. The receipts for the past year exceeded the expenditure by nearly one hundred dollars. As the seating capacity is now inadequate for the accommodation of the constantly increasing membership, it is quite probable that during the coming year a school building will be erected. By this arrangement the auditorium of the church can be considerably enlarged, and a pipe organ placed in the church without encroaching on the seating capacity. A substantial addition was made to the Rev. J. W. MacMillan's salary by a unanimous vote of the congregation.

COLLINGWOOD.

At the annual meeting of the Presbyterian church, Collingwood, Rev. Dr. McCrae presided. Reports of a most encouraging nature were presented from all the different organizations of the Church. There was an addition of 91 new members during the year. The organ debt was completely wiped out, and \$1,000 was paid on the Building Fund. Altogether the Church is in a most prosperous condition. A special effort is to be made to increase the weekly offerings by envelope this year. The meeting was largely attended.

SOUTHSIDE CHURCH.

At the annual meeting of the congregation of Southside Presbyterian church, Toronto, the pastor, Rev. Wm. McKinley, presided. The review of the work for the year ending December 31st, as given in the various reports presented, showed very satisfactory progress. The statement from the Session gave the following facts with regard to the numerical strength of the congregation:—Number of families, 102; number of communicants, 178; number received, 35; number removed, 20; baptisms, 12, amount raised for missions and benevolent objects, by congregation, \$130; by the W.F.M.S. Auxiliary for the women's department of Foreign Mission work, \$47. The receipts for congregational purposes were \$1,649.36. The expenditure was \$1,577.50, leaving a balance of \$61.86. The Sabbath school report showed that the total number of scholars on the roll of the school and Bible class was 281, with an average attendance of 218. The number of teachers and officers is 26. Encouraging reports were also given by the Ladies Aid, W.F.M.S. and Y.P.S.C.E.

PARKHILL.

At the annual meeting of the congregation of St. Paul's church, Parkhill, there was a good attendance. The reports were favorable and showed that the church is in a prosperous condition. It was decided to make an effort to wipe off the church debt and nearly \$1,000 was subscribed at once for that purpose.

EDMONDVILLE.

The annual meeting of the Edmondville church was held on Jan. 14th the pastor Rev. N. Shaw in the chair. All the reports