

enlisting specially the sympathies of the lay members of the Church as being one of themselves, and taking common sense views of things, and finally in drawing up this report at a cost of great labour and correspondence and research—and all this gratuitously!

The report is divided into seven parts. The first embraces an historical sketch of the 126 congregations on the Synod Roll, written in an agreeable, lively style, and it is this section which will possess especial interest for the general reader. It covers 108 pages, nearly two-thirds of the entire book, and we expect to hear that the perusal of it has afforded as much satisfaction to many others as it has to us. When we say that we never rose from our seat until we had devoured it all, and that the pages of Dickens or Thackeray never so fascinated us or lured us on oblivious of time into the "Wee sma' hours ayont the twal," some may blame our taste as peculiar, but we would have them judge of it for themselves, and after they have finished it we will be glad to hear from them if they are disappointed. We trust this little volume will find its way into every Presbyterian family, not only in Canada but also in Scotland, as we can fancy this historical *resumé* must possess especial interest for the ministers and people of Scotland, almost all of whom are connected by family or professional ties to this country. There is a broad catholicity about it, which, whilst it is ostensibly got up in the interest of our own section of Presbyterianism, will give it a hearty welcome in the homes of all the other sections as well, as their earliest history is identical with our own. We notice a few important errors in dates, names, &c., in those parts of it with which we are ourselves personally acquainted, but which were probably unavoidable, considering the sources whence the information must have been in many cases obtained. And if any who notice such errors will do what our author asks his readers as a kindness to do, that is, write and inform him on such points, these can be corrected in the second edition, which will no doubt be soon called for.

The second section—statistics of the several congregations—is that which gives it a special value to our own Church. Now for the first time, we are furnished with complete statistics which may be relied upon as a near approximation to the reality. And the importance of possessing such statistics cannot be over-estimated, as

they will put us in possession of valuable data in regard to what may be reasonably expected from the Church in any matter. This section will have particular interest for the elders and managers of each congregation, and in default of their not procuring a copy of the report at their own expense, we suggest that each Session and Board of Managers supply their members with copies at the expense of the congregation. Money could not be more profitably invested, as it would in the greater intelligence and stronger church feeling created, bring in compound interest, very soon repaying the outlaid principal. There is only one item of the statistics collected by the agent that is withheld from the public, and that is, the arrears in which congregations stand to their ministers. Some will be, we daresay, disappointed in this. There was perhaps a justifiable leniency in throwing a veil over these delinquencies in the first publication of statistics. But defaulting congregations cannot expect that they shall be always treated so gingerly, and we trust they will take warning and mend their ways before the issuing of another such Report.

The third section contains General Remarks on the Statistics, on Stipend, Arrears, the number of Families, Communicants, Sunday Schools, Prayer Meetings, Sunday Collections, Home Mission Scheme, Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, Bursary Scheme, French Mission Contributions, Reports, Churches, Manses, Glebes, and Debt, Worship and Psalmody, and Queen's College, which the reader will do well to ponder, for they are both wise and suggestive.

We have next a list of ministers and others who have studied at Queen's College, followed by statistics of that institution and Morrin College, and by general remarks on union with the Presbyterians and our relations to the Parent Church.

The last section of this valuable little book of 172 pages contains a list of all the ministers who have been connected with our Church from its first planting in the Province till the past year, with a notice of the place where they studied, the date of their ordination, and the sphere which they occupied, &c.

The cost of getting up a book embracing so many figures in such a good style of workmanship is so great that it is impossible that it should be sold at a lower price than 50 cents. But, we believe, no on