

things for us, whereof we are glad. It is true that we have felt the pressure which rests upon every department of financial activity; we have also, in common with the community, suffered somewhat in removals from the city, but these things have not hindered the year from being one of encouraging material prosperity to the congregation. We have made substantial advancement financially and numerically, and for this result we desire with you to return our devout thanks to GOD, from whom cometh down every good and perfect gift.

There has been a good deal of sickness during the year, perhaps not more than might be expected from the size of the Congregation, but in a number of cases the illness has been sudden, unexpected, and severe; and in some of the homes the cloud has darkened into the shadow of death. To all those who have been thus afflicted we offer our heartfelt sympathy. At the same time we feel that we have peculiar cause for thankfulness in that none of those who have been bereaved have been called upon to sorrow as those who have no hope; and that sorrow has been always tempered with resignation to the will of GOD, even where the blow has fallen most heavily.

As the Congregation are aware, the SESSION has been enlarged by the addition of five to the Eldership of the Church. The presentation of this Report is the first official act of the SESSION since these brethren were ordained. We believe that this addition to the Session will be a benefit to the Congregation in every department of its work, and for the comfort of the people; as it will enable the Elders to overtake the visitation of their districts more conveniently, and especially as they will