

IV

The attendance at ordinances has improved during the year. In our last report attention was drawn to a serious remissness in this particular. It is a matter of much gratification, therefore, to notice a change for the better. "They who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." The quarterly visits of the Elders in their respective districts just before each Communion season have a good effect. They entail considerable work no doubt, but the good done both Elders and people is worth more than the sacrifice. In 1882 the attendance sometimes fell down to half the membership ; last year it rose considerably over two-thirds.

V.

The attendance at the prayer-meetings, while on the whole encouraging, and up to average prayer-meeting life, is not in the judgment of the Session, so full or so regular as desirable. The spirit of the meetings has not at all decayed, nor has the number of worshippers decreased ; but it is noticeable that the attendance fluctuates, and that some who once cheered the meetings by their presence do not now give an hour to the Lord, at least in this way, on the Wednesday evening. Making every allowance for domestic, business, and social duties, it is felt that in the brethren's own best interests the prayer-meeting should be more faithfully countenanced. Besides, the exercises are confined to a few. Interest would deepen if it were more a meeting for *prayer* and less a *lecture platform*.

VI.

The work done in the Sabbath School is invaluable. Under the energetic direction of Mr. Gray and Mr. F. B. Allan, aided by an excellent staff of teachers, the efficiency of the school is well sustained. For some weeks in the summer the school reaches perhaps its low-water mark for the year. Our teaching staff is then sadly depleted, and classes are conducted under serious disadvantages. At such a time would it not be a good thing if a few earnest men and women would volunteer to fill the gap? Or, could not the teachers who leave for a few weeks or months secure substitutes till they return? Number of teachers, 17 ; number on the roll, 160 ; volumes in library, 500 ; amount given to Missions, \$50. Literature : *Sabbath School Messenger*, *Sunday School Times*, etc. The Union School, Scotch Line, is conducted under the same vigorous management as last year. Some of the brethren are also doing earnest and useful work in S. S., sixth line of Bathurst.

VII.

The Bible Class has been fairly vigorous during the year. The highest number in attendance has been thirty. More would