

SYNOD OF MONTREAL.

This Synod likewise furnishes a full and carefully prepared report. Comparing it with that of last year, it shows great progress in the attention given to this important subject. "The large number of returns," says the Convener, "is one gratifying feature of this year's report. These number forty-five as compared with thirty-two last year." This increase is mainly in the Presbytery of Montreal, in which there were received 25 returns instead of 15 as last year. In the Presbytery of Brockville also, there is a very marked increase, viz : 7 instead of the 2 of last year. In the Presbytery of Ottawa, there were 11 returns, being a decrease of 3. In the Presbytery of Kingston, 3 returns—same number as last year.

PRESBYTERY OF MANITOBA.

Your Committee have much satisfaction in referring to a report from this Presbytery, in which it is stated that returns have been received from 4 Sessions. This, it is believed, is the first regular report of this kind that has come from that new, important, and interesting field. It leads us to realize more vividly that, far remote as our brethren there are from the present main centres of our operations, we are all "one in Christ Jesus." The report is accompanied by a letter from the Presbytery's Committee on the State of Religion, assuring us of the Presbytery's readiness to co-operate with us in furnishing all the information in their power, and in seeking to secure a fuller report for next year.

From a conjunct view of these reports, your Committee gather that there has been a gratifying increase in the membership of the Church during the past year. Fuller information regarding this will be given in the report of the Committee on Statistics.

FAMILY WORSHIP

is generally observed by heads of families in communion with the Church ; but, from some quarters, the sad report comes that it is neglected. In almost all congregations, it is feared, there are dwellings of professing Christians in which there is no domestic altar ; and your Committee would recommend that, especially in Synodical and Presbyterial conferences on the State of Religion, Ministers and Elders should stir each other up to a faithful and affectionate dealing with heads of families, in whose houses there is no family worship.

THE TRAINING OF THE YOUNG

in the nurture and admonition of the Lord is attended to in many of the homes of our people. It can hardly be hoped that such a thing will be much thought of where there is no family worship. But your Committee are persuaded that even parents who do pray with and for their children need, in the most of cases, to realize, more vividly than they have ever done, the duty and the privilege of bringing their children to Christ—of seeking to induce them to give their hearts to Him in the days of their youth.

SABBATH SCHOOLS

are all but universally maintained in our congregations. In most of them the teachers are sustained in some good degree by the sympathy and co-operation of the members of the Church. The Shorter Catechism is used in the schools, but it is said that, in some localities, the scholars, even the